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ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

Callie T. Dietz
State Court Administrator

August 12, 2014

Honorable Carol Murphy, Presiding Judge
Thurston County Superior Court
2000 Lakeridge Drive SW, Building 2
Olympia, WA 98502

Honorable Betty Gould
Thurston County Clerk
2000 Lakeridge Drive SW, Building 2
Olympia, WA 98502

Honorable Karen Valenzuela, Chair
Thurston County Commission
2000 Lakeridge Drive SW, Building 1, Room 269
Olympia, WA 98502-6045

Dear Judge Murphy, Ms. Gould, and Commissioner Valenzuela:

Thank you all for responding to my request on behalf of the Superior Court Case Management System (SC-CMS) Project Steering Committee to determine Thurston County's preferred approach for document management in the new Odyssey Case Management System. In summary, we learned that 1) the court prefers to implement the integrated document management system (DMS) that is part of the state's contract for the Tyler Odyssey product; 2) the County Clerk prefers to remain with their current DMS product utilizing the Link-Only ("Pointer") option; and 3) the Board of County Commissioners needs more information about "the full financial impact of both options."

Judge Murphy said in her August 8, 2014 letter: "We are hopeful that we can move forward as a Pilot Site with the understanding that we will need to agree on one of the two imaging systems very soon." Unfortunately, there does not appear to be a clear path toward resolving this difference of opinion in the near term and time is of the essence.

The SC-CMS Steering Committee addressed the status of pilot site implementation this morning. The Steering Committee discussed the absence of agreement on the DMS approach at Thurston County and recent statements from the County Clerk's Office that the county will be unable to complete upgrades from Liberty to OnBase in time to meet project deadlines. After weighing the options, the Steering Committee unanimously decided that it is in the best interests of the statewide project to pilot Odyssey in Lewis County in June 2015 and move Thurston County into the next group of courts—the Early Adopters—that will "Go Live" in November 2015.

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The Steering Committee concluded that moving Thurston County to the November implementation group will allow the County Clerk's office and the third party vendor more time to pursue upgrading and conversion from Liberty to the most current version of OnBase as well as local integrations. During this time, the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) will also work with third-party DMS vendors to gather more information about costs and timelines for implementing the Link-Only option statewide. This work with the third-party DMS vendors will help us gather additional detail about that option as requested by the Judicial Information System Committee and Commissioner Valenzuela. The Steering Committee's decision will also provide the additional time mentioned in Judge Murphy's letter to help Thurston County reach consensus on its DMS approach and ensure that all integration work has been identified and successfully completed before "Go Live."

Although this decision may be disappointing, we firmly believe it is the best way to keep the project on schedule to meet our contractual obligations with Tyler Technologies and ensure a successful Odyssey implementation for Thurston County and the rest of the state.

Thank you all for your hard work and dedication to this project. We look forward to continuing to work with you on this important case management system.

Sincerely,

Callie T. Dietz
State Court Administrator

cc: Hon. Mary Fairhurst, Chair, Judicial Information System Committee
SC-CMS Steering Committee Members
Hon. Jeffrey Ramsdell, President, Superior Court Judges' Association
Hon. Ruth Gordon, President, Washington State Association of County Clerks
Hon. Frank Maiocco, President, Association of Washington Superior Court Administrators