Statewide E-Filing Policy Discussion

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Background

- Many counties not currently doing E-filing would like to begin doing so and are looking to the SC-CMS project to offer them a solution.
- E-Filing is out of scope for the SC-CMS Project and will not be implemented at this time.
- At their 12/1/15 meeting, the SC-CMS Project Steering Committee asked the AOC ISD Director to bring it to the next JISC meeting for discussion.
- At the 12/4/15 JISC meeting, the AOC ISD Director was asked to recommend an approach for moving forward at the February 22nd JISC meeting.

Why is this a Statewide Issue?

- The need for E-Filing spans all levels of court.
- E-Filing has many implications and affects many different stakeholder groups.
- Attorneys and other users of the court system have expressed a preference for consistency throughout the state.
- Legislators have asked AOC if the new case management systems will address this need.

Electronic Filing Policy Issues

Some examples . . .

- Should there be statewide consistency?
- What should be the charging model?
- Who pays the vendor if it is offered as Software as a Service (SAS)?
- Who is responsible to implement?
- Who is responsible to provide support?
- Who should receive fee waivers?
- Should it be mandatory for attorneys?
- What are the impacts to statutes or court rule?

Various Cost Models

- States across the country that have implemented E-Filing have implemented it using various cost models ranging from providing the service for free to using it as a revenue source.
- Decisions will need to be made as to how it should be implemented in Washington State.

Who Does E-Filing Now?

County	E-Filing Fee
King County	No E-Filing Fee, Mandatory for Attorneys Only
Pierce County	No E-Filing Fee, Mandatory for Attorneys Only
Thurston County	No E-Filing Fee
Clark County	No E-Filing Fee
Chelan County	$15.00 for new filings, $4.00-$5.00 for existing cases.

Things To Consider

- E-Filing is not an IT or project issue; it is a business issue.
- Requires executive level involvement and leadership to lead the effort.
- AOC lacks capacity to take on yet another large (boulder size) effort.

Recommended Approach for Moving Forward

- Create an E-Filing subcommittee of the JISC.
- Subcommittee should have representation from each of the following stakeholder groups:

Appellate Courts	Superior Court	Court of Limited Jurisdiction	Others
Supreme Court	SCJA	DMCJA	ATJ
Court of Appeals	AWSCA	DMCMA	WSBA
	WSACC		Legislators

Open Discussion