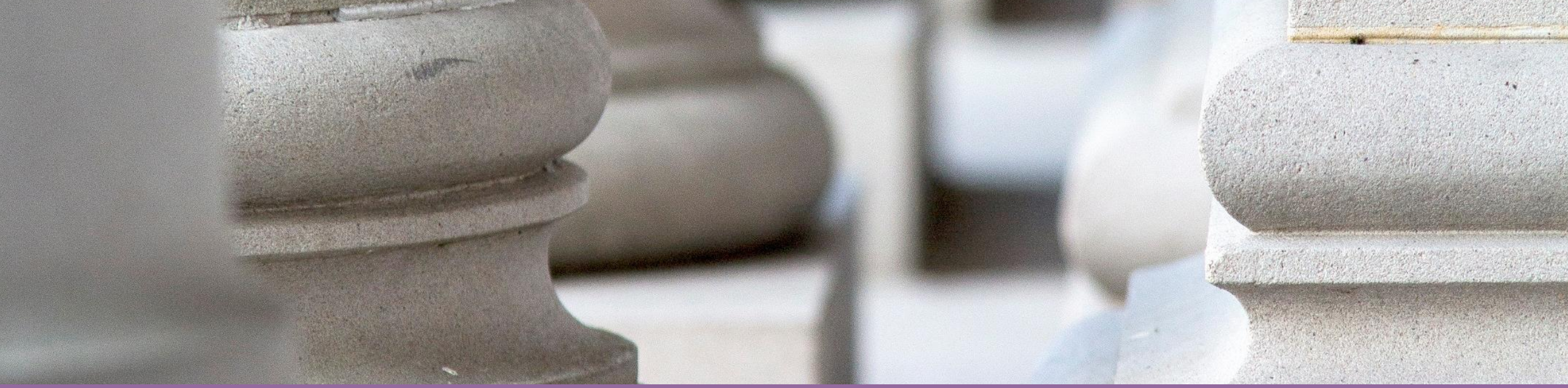

WASHINGTON COURTS
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

Proposed JISC Rules (JISCR) Revisions – Part 3 of 4

C. KEVIN AMMONS, ISD ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
October 25, 2024

JISCRs Agenda

- JISCR 5 – Standard Data Elements
- JISCR 12 – Dissemination of Court Information
- JISCR 15 – Data Dissemination of Computer-Based Court Information

JISCR 5 – Summary of Proposed Revisions

- Last updated on May 15, 1976
- Added description of the JIS Standard for Alternative Local Court Record Systems
- Updated responsibility for preparing and maintaining standard data elements to the agency rather that the State Court Administrator

JISCR 5 – STANDARD DATA ELEMENTS

A standard court data element dictionary for the Judicial Information System shall be prepared and maintained by the ~~Administrator for~~ Administrative Office of the Courts with the approval of the Judicial Information System Committee.

A statewide data standard for locally operated, alternate electronic court record systems shall be prepared and maintained by the Administrative Office of the Courts with the approval of the Judicial Information System Committee. This data standard shall be consistent with the standard court data element dictionary and will identify data elements that are necessary for the operation of the Judicial Information System.

Any modifications, additions, or deletions from the standard court data element dictionary or the data standard for locally operated, alternate court record systems must be reviewed and approved by the Judicial Information System Committee.

JISCR 12 – Summary of Proposed Revisions

- Last updated on May 15, 1976
- No changes proposed.

JISCR 12 – DISSEMINATION OF COURT INFORMATION

The Judicial Information System Committee will adopt rules, consistent with all applicable law relating to public records, governing the release of information contained within the Judicial Information System. Such rules and any amendments thereto shall be forwarded to the Supreme Court and, unless altered by the court or returned to the Judicial Information System Committee for its further consideration and recommendations, shall take effect 45 days after the receipt of such rules by the Supreme Court.

JISCR 15 – Summary of Proposed Revisions

- Last updated on July 1, 1987
- Eliminated the policy statement
- Clarified relationship to GR 31 and GR 31.1
- Updated responsibility for promulgating policies to the agency rather that the State Court Administrator
- Updated language to replace “computerized” with “electronic” for consistency across rules

JISCR 15 – DATA DISSEMINATION OF ~~COMPUTER-BASED~~ ELECTRONIC COURT INFORMATION

~~It is declared to be the policy of the courts to facilitate public access to court records, provided such disclosures in no way present an unreasonable invasion of personal privacy and will not be unduly burdensome to the ongoing business of the courts.~~

Due to the confidential nature of some court information, authority over the dissemination of such information shall be exercised by the judicial branch pursuant to General Rule 31 (Court Case Records) and General Rule 31.1 (Court Administrative Records). In furtherance of the access to records requirements in GR 31 and GR 31.1,. ~~T~~this rule establishes the minimum criteria to be met by each information request before allowing dissemination.

JISCR 15 – DATA DISSEMINATION OF ~~COMPUTER-BASED~~ ELECTRONIC COURT INFORMATION (continued)

(a) Application. This rule applies to all requests for ~~computer-based~~ electronic court information submitted by an individual, as well as public and private associations and agencies. This rule does not apply to requests initiated by or with the consent of the Administrator for the Courts for the purpose of answering a request vital to the internal business of the courts.

(b) Excluded Information. Records sealed, exempted, or otherwise restricted by law or court rule may not be released to the general public except by court order.

~~**(c) Data Dissemination Committee.** [Rescinded.]~~

(~~d~~c) Data Dissemination Policies and Procedures. The ~~Administrator for~~ Administrative Office of the Courts shall promulgate policies and procedures for handling applications for ~~computer-based~~ electronic information. These policies and procedures shall be subject to the approval of the Judicial Information System Committee.

JISCR 15 – DATA DISSEMINATION OF ~~COMPUTER-BASED~~ ELECTRONIC COURT INFORMATION (continued)

(~~e~~d) Information for Release of Data. Information which must be supplied by the requestor and upon which evaluation will be made includes:

(1) Requestor's i~~I~~dentifying information ~~concerning the applicant~~ ;

(2) Statement of the intended use and distribution;

(3) Type of information needed.

(~~f~~e) Criteria ~~T~~to Determine Release of Data. The criteria against which the applications are evaluated are as follows:

(1) Availability of data;

(2) Specificity of the request;

(3) Potential for infringement of personal privacy created by release of the information requested;

(4) Potential disruption to the internal, ongoing business of the courts.

(~~g~~f) Cost. The requestor shall bear the cost of honoring the request for information in accordance with section (~~d~~c).

JISCR 15 – DATA DISSEMINATION OF ~~COMPUTER-BASED~~ ELECTRONIC COURT INFORMATION (continued)

(~~h~~g) Appeal. If a request is denied by the Administrator for the Courts, the requestor may appeal the decision to the Judicial Information System Committee in accordance with section (~~d~~c). The Judicial Information System Committee shall review and act upon the appeal in accordance with procedures promulgated by the Committee for this purpose.

Decision Point