

# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY STAFFING AND COURT TECHNOLOGY

## Customers:

1. The Judicial Branch is responsible for providing all case management, hardware, software and technical support to:
  - a. Approximately 440 elected officials and state staff members in the Supreme Court, Water Court, Court Administrator's Office, District Courts and Youth Courts.
  - b. Approximately 600 local government officials including county staff members in the Clerks' of the District Courts' offices, and the judges and staff members in the 115 Courts of Limited Jurisdiction (COLJ).
  - c. Approximately 80 courtrooms are supported with court reporting, audio-visual and videoconferencing equipment.
2. Executive Branch agencies (DOJ, MDT, DOC, FWP, DPHHS, DOR, OPD, etc.), local governments, and members of the public request and want access to court data in a useful and manageable manner. In addition, data exchanges are necessary and create efficiencies and reporting accuracies.

## Case Management Systems (Increase in software maintenance costs):

1. C-Track – the case management system for the Supreme Court; all appellate cases are filed and maintained in this system.
2. FullCourt – the case management system for the District Courts (56 courts) and Courts of Limited Jurisdiction (115 courts). About 350,000 cases/citations are filed each year. FullCourt is the accounting and collection system for all court fees, fines and surcharges collected in Montana. Collections for surcharges, fines, fees and other court costs (reported through the Department of Revenue county collection report) average about \$10 million each year.
3. JCATS – the case management system for juveniles coming in contact with the Youth Court. Information about youth is maintained in the system including detailed violation and sentencing information, services provided to youth, drug testing and compliance information, and information regarding the collections of restitution and fees. JCATS also has a robust reporting system, which is Montana's only source of aggregate data about youth offenders.

**Significant Projects (not including routine duties):**

1. Implementation of Montana Highway Patrol Roadside Payments
2. Implementation of COLJ CitePay (online payments)
3. District Court Inactivity Dismissal – pilot case type implementation (SB21)
4. District Court Performance Measure Case Clean-up
5. Drug Court reporting and recidivism project (Sharepoint)
6. Bond Book / Statute Table / IJIS Broker table updates
  - a. Deployment to 186 distributed databases
7. Statute Management databases changes – direct impact on DOJ
8. Implementation of modern, ADA-compliant courtroom technology
9. A modern website with an emphasis on forms used by pro se litigants

**Unmet Demands:**

1. Executive Branch Integration Requests (Vital Stats/DPHHS; Pre-Sentence Investigation/DOC; Protection Order Reporting/DOJ; Dispositional Information/MDT; Dispositional Information/OPD)
2. Full deployment of Electronic Motor Vehicle Dispositions integration
3. Full deployment of Electronic Criminal Dispositions integration to District Courts
4. Local Law Enforcement – requests for electronic citation integration
5. Implementation of a fully integrated and secure electronic storage system for court transcripts, records and notes

**Significant Future Projects:**

1. Statewide E-Filing (largest single IT project undertaken by the Judicial Branch)
  - o Oversight of work plan and contractual obligations
  - o Sub-projects – modifications to C-Track and FullCourt to support E-Filing
  - o Change control processes
  - o OasisLegal XML technical expert
  - o Configuration Manager expertise
  - o User authentication and training
2. FullCourt Enterprise Migration
3. CitePay at detention centers - testing, implementation and training
4. Other agency SmartCop implementations (FWP, MDT/MCS)

## **Judicial Branch IT Program – FTE Legislative History**

**2001**

- \$401,791 allocated for funding from \$5 surcharge

**2003 (15 FTE total)**

- 14 FTE from State Special Revenue plus 1.0 FTE general fund for IT Director
- Still funded by IT surcharge, which was increased to \$10

**2005 (19 FTE total)**

- 17 general fund FTE added with conversion from state special to general fund
- 1.0 FTE for the IT Director
- 1.0 FTE transferred from Law Library to IT

**2007-2009 – no change**

**2011**

- 1.0 FTE given up during budget cuts

**2013**

- Currently have 18 FTE

