

E-filing Workstream Recommendations

January 2016

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Our Charge: Judicial Council Technology Tactical Plan

- ▶ E-filing Manager (EFM)
 - Determine alternatives for implementing e-filing solutions for California trial courts
 - ▶ Recommend an implementation approach to ITAC and JCTC
 - Develop an e-filing Deployment Guide for selected approach
- E-filing Service Provider (EFSP) Selection/Certification
 - Determine alternatives for selecting and certifying EFSPs to file with California *trial courts*.
 - Recommend an approach to ITAC and JCTC
 - Develop an EFSP roadmap for selected approach

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Executive Summary of Recommendations

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Recommendations - EFM

Issue an RFP for an E-Filing Manager that:

- Selects more than one statewide EFM
- Covers all litigation types
- Integrates with "core" Case Management Systems (the three statewide CMS Vendors and Journal Technology's eCourt)
- Requires EFM vendors to describe their approach for integration with "non-standard" CMS's including a free-standing e-Delivery option
- Integrates with Judicial Council approved Financial gateway vendors
- Support electronic payment types beyond credit card
- Provides a zero cost e-Filing option for Indigent and Government filers
- Allows individual Courts to retain authority as to which EFM they want to use
- Clearly discloses costs and services to EFSPs
- Requires compliance with NIEM/ECF as the new State of CA e-Filing standard
- Requires option of electronic service of Court generated documents

Recommendations - EFSPs

Create a framework for EFSPs that:

- ▶ Requires all EFSPs to work with all "statewide" EFMs
- Requires all EFSPs to sign an agreement with:
 - JCC for overall statewide participation
 - Individual trial courts for county performance
 - Individual EFMs for management and coordination of program, and to minimize reconciliation for each court
- Requires all EFSPs to integrate with Judicial Council approved Financial gateway vendors
- Requires EFSPs to be the entity to collect all monies due and distribute monies to:
 - EFSP (convenience fees)
 - EFM (EFM fee)
 - Court (Filing fees and optional Cost Recovery Fee)



Other E-Filing Recommendations

- ▶ All E-Filing in the state must adhere to a "consistent framework"
- ▶ EFM(s) must maintain and freely share "service list" for all cases
- ▶ EFMs may also be EFSPs*

^{*} This will likely be how the EFM offers free e-Filing to fee-waiver and government filers.