

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Judicial Branch Employees

FROM: NCAOC Director Ryan S. Boyce

DATE: August 18, 2023

SUBJECT: Mecklenburg County eCourts Launch Date

Dear Colleagues,

Earlier this year, we launched the final components of the transformational <u>eCourts</u> project, Odyssey and eFiling, in four pilot counties: Harnett, Johnston, Lee, and Wake. For the first time ever, attorneys, law enforcement, and the general public can file and view court documents any time of day, anywhere with an internet connection. Judicial officials and staff are now untethered from paper files and have immediate electronic access to documents. Individuals who once had to travel to a courthouse to file documents can now do so remotely. Self-represented litigants who previously had to navigate through complex legal matters can now complete and file documents electronically by answering a few simple questions in Guide & File. Our state's commitment to access to justice has taken a tremendous leap forward.

This transition has not been easy. But through it, we have witnessed many successes over the past six months thanks to the tireless efforts of the pilot county officials, staff, and legal communities they serve. To date, parties have made, and pilot county courts have accepted, nearly 300,000 court filings using File & Serve and Odyssey. Public users conduct over 10,000 daily searches of court records using Portal, resulting in countless saved trips to the courthouse and calls to the clerk's office. The pilot phase has enabled AOC, pilot county staff, and our vendor to resolve software issues and make enhancements to digital court processes, resulting in a much-improved system for statewide implementation. We are eternally grateful to the pilot counties for their extraordinary efforts.

As we move forward with this digital transformation, I am pleased to announce

that the go-live date for Track 2: Mecklenburg County, will be **Monday, October 9, 2023.** Preparations and walkthroughs for Mecklenburg County implementation are already underway as we work to train court officials on these new technologies and processes, install improved network infrastructure, and make other necessary adjustments to ensure this transition is as seamless as possible.

We will continue to provide updates as additional tracks roll out starting early next year. Thank you all for your service to our state courts and for your continued commitment to fulfilling our state's promise of swift and impartial justice for all.

Sincerely,

Ryan S. Boyce Director

N.C. Administrative Office of the Courts

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