Imagine a world where all court case types are handled electronically from filing to disposition, where access to courts and court data are expanded, and paper is a thing of the past. The North Carolina court system is on that journey!

Today, the computer applications that run our courts were once cutting edge, but after 30 years, it’s time to say goodbye to green screens and MS-DOS for 21st century technology.

CURRENT ISSUES
- Repetitive data entry and wasted time
- Reliance on paper and inefficient manual processes
- Physically filing and storing paper files
- Difficult to implement and drive policy changes to improve public service
- Lack of case management tools
- Cumbersome audit controls
- Travel to courthouse required for court business creates barriers to access
- Limited access to court files
- Difficult integration of siloed applications and data

The North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts worked with the National Center for State Courts to convene stakeholders, develop business requirements, and find the right vendor solution — Tyler Technologies.

Track all aspects of court administration, from eFiling through disposition, and manage highly sensitive case data.

Improved calendar management that saves time and resources.

Aids all attorneys by organizing and maintaining case data for hearing and trial preparation, tracking, and managing caseloads.

Review, gather, and track essential information by using case statuses, witnesses, victims, evidence, statistics, and related case information.

Secure online access for judges to court records 24/7 from any county.

Streamline electronic processes and eliminate paper handling.

File documents electronically through a single, secure, centralized online eFiling location.

Online tools for self-represented guidance through the eFiling process.

View case information and documents online (depending on rights and roles).

Pay fees online, verify payment forms, view financial activity summaries, and more.

Manage the entire transaction audit trail, from account management to payment processing.

Manage in-courtroom electronic records that improves workflow and reduces data entry time.
Implementation Timeline

Work is now well underway to configure the integrated case management system based on standardized rules and practices of North Carolina courts.

Tyler Technologies’ Odyssey suite will replace older systems and integrate all of these products into one total case management solution including eFiling, financial management, and document management for all case types. This new system will bring higher efficiencies to the justice system, electronic access to information, reduce manual processes and reliance on paper, and increase collaboration among court officials, lawyers, and law enforcement officers.

The configuration and statewide rollout are expected to occur over a five-year period, starting the first half of 2021. A total of 12 tracks / phases will be rolled out statewide with a “big bang” implementation of all case types at the same time. After the pilot and early adopter tracks, approximately 10 counties are expected to be rolled out every 3 – 4 months in tracks 3–12.

5-YEAR ROLLOUT
12 TRACKS / PHASES

Pilot Counties
Harnett, Johnston, Lee, Wake

Early Adopter County
Mecklenburg

eCourts Initiatives

The Judicial Branch has many technology initiatives already completed or underway that are foundational for eCourts and the integrated case management system. These help to continue modernizing the courts with features that enable you to connect anytime, anywhere.

- Computer replacement
- Court facility upgrades
- Courtroom wireless
- Digital recording upgrade
- Electronic faxing
- Encryption and security
- Identity & access management
- Network infrastructure upgrades
- Office 365
- VOIP phone replacement