

EXPANDING ACCESS TO JUSTICE

July 29, 2021

eCourts Update - July 2021

North Carolina's eCourts initiative is modernizing the court system with the latest tools and technologies, expanding access to justice for all users. The North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts (NCAOC) wants to update you on the project status and timeline. As previously announced, **Odyssey Integrated**Case Management System (ICMS) will go live in four pilot counties (Harnett, Johnston, Lee, and Wake) later this year, as we begin the rollout statewide over the next few years.

eWarrants

Prior to the Odyssey pilot go-live, a successful transition and replacement of our statewide electronic warrant system, NCAWARE, to eWarrants is needed. NCAOC continues to work with Tyler Technologies to complete development and testing of eWarrants. Based on this ongoing work, we wanted to inform you that **eWarrants will not go live before Labor Day**. Once testing is further along and a new 2021 target go-live date is set, we will communicate that date at least one month before go-live. Law enforcement agencies and court staff are continuing to train on eWarrants during this time.

Odyssey ICMS and eFiling

Since eWarrants has to go-live before Odyssey and eFiling can go live, this means that the **go-live date for the pilot counties** (Harnett, Johnston, Lee, and Wake) on the integrated case management system will be **rescheduled later in 2021**. Consequently, Mecklenburg County's targeted go-live date for Odyssey will move, as well, to 60-90 days post pilot go-live.

Odyssey includes a new statewide electronic filing (eFiling) system known as *File & Serve*. This new eFiling system will replace our legacy eFiling system currently available in select counties for civil superior, special proceeding foreclosures, and domestic violence protective orders. **Any attorney conducting court business in the pilot counties will be required to use eFiling upon go-live**, therefore eFiling training is imperative for those attorneys and support staff.

Training and More Information

eFiling training will be live, virtual training with several opportunities on different dates and at different times. A recorded training video will be made available for those unable to attend a live training offering.

- Announcement of and registration for eFiling training will begin approximately **60 days before** ICMS go-live.
- The actual **eFiling training** will take place approximately **30 days before** pilot ICMS go-live.

As information becomes available, it will be shared with the N.C. Bar and local pilot county bar associations, and posted to NCcourts.gov.

To help with the transition, the NCAOC recently posted an eCourts CLE opportunity available online. This CLE provides a general update about our eCourts initiative as well as an overview of the two ways that will be available for eFiling: File & Serve and Guide & File.

The NCAOC has also posted a Recommended System Requirements eFiling User <u>Guide</u> for your planning purposes. Additional details and a timeline of the eCourts initiative may be found at NCcourts.gov/eCourts.

While all project delays are unwelcome, we are committed to success for this transformational project. We recognize your partnership in achieving a successful transition to our new eCourts system, and we thank you for your continued support.

Please share this information with your local bar associations.



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For questions, please contact eCourt@nccourts.org.









