

CIVIL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Professor Darrell Miller, Reporter

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Fair
- Accessible
- Transparent
- Efficient
- Effective

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Technology
- Case management and tracking
- Judicial assignment system
- Legal support staff
- Legal assistance and self-represented litigation
- Fines, fees and penalties

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS

- ❑ Electronic filing and management of cases
- ❑ Create an efficient rule-making process for implementation of electronic filing and management
- ❑ Identify and track cases according to three categories: simple, general, complex
- ❑ Require use of uniform case management orders in all courts
- ❑ Reassign and retrain as necessary court support staff and supply judges with research staff

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Increase use of teleconferencing and videoconferencing
- Restore funding for legal assistance programs including loan repayment relief
- Enhanced use of online forms, explore use of self-help kiosks and centers
- Study single judge assignment in District Court, and in Superior Court within spirit of rotation required by the North Carolina Constitution
- Ensure that laws and procedures respecting fines and fees and penalties do not cause or aggravate poverty and inequality issues

CONSIDERING HOW NORTH CAROLINA COURTS
CAN BEST MEET INSTITUTIONAL NEEDS
AND 21ST CENTURY PUBLIC EXPECTATIONS