A Message from Patricia Gabel, Esq., State Court Administrator & Project Sponsor:

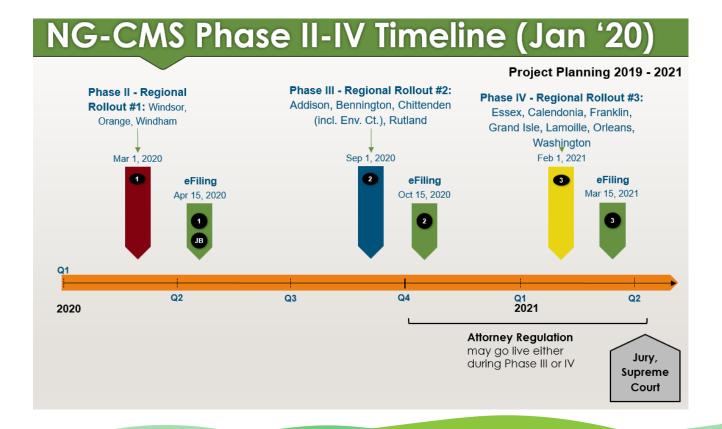
Dear Colleagues,

When we commenced the Next Generation Case Management Project (NG-CMS) in 2016, our goals were straightforward. We sought to replace our legacy case management system with a more sustainable one that could increase the judiciary's efficiency and offer greater accessibility to the public. The project managers, myself included, did not imagine that the system would someday help ensure the safety of those in the judicial system.

The Judiciary has taken great steps to protect the health of everyone in each our courts across the state, but I cannot help reflecting on the unexpected benefits of embarking on a paperless case management system during these unusually difficult times. For those in the Judicial Bureau and the trial courts of the Orange, Windham and Windsor Units, parties can view their case files and submit documents online from any location any time. Co-workers can review the same electronic filing together while remaining stationed at their own desks. Clerks can forward emergent pleadings to judges without setting foot in chambers. And any paperwork that is submitted is handled only once or twice before scanning.

I look forward to when we can ease our restrictions on physical access to the courts. But I am grateful to see how our Odyssey system ensures access to the courts while also protecting the health of our employees and the people we serve.

Be well.



Learn the basics of:

Electronic Filing

Attorneys filing in Windsor, Windham, and Orange counties must now e-file all filings in all divisions for new cases as well as subsequent filings for all existing cases. If you are a selfrepresented filer, you have the option of e-filing or paper filing.

Before filing documents please be sure to:

- Register for e-filing in Odyssey File & Serve. Click here for link.
- Review the Vermont eFiling General Policy and Procedure Guide. Click here for link.
- Review the Vermont Rules of Electronic Filing for link.

Viewing Cases Online

Attorneys and self-represented litigants can review their cases online through the Public Portal.

Before viewing a case please be sure to:

- Register on the **Public Portal.** Click here for link.
- Review the Public Portal
 User Guide. Click here for
 link. The guide will provide
 instruction on how to request
 elevated access to view one's
 case files.

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Electronic Notifications

All attorneys will receive eNotices. Attorneys will continue to register in eCabinet as they currently do. Email addresses and other information from eCabinet will integrate with the Odyssey eNotices function.



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FAQ Corner

Q: What happens to new paper filings in the Windsor, Orange and Windham trial courts now that they are using an electronic filing system?

A: Paper filings will be scanned into the electronic filing system and the electronic version shall be the "official" case record. Paperwork filed between March 2, 2020 and August 31, 2020 will be scanned and then shredded after 30 days. Paperwork filed on or after September 1, 2020 will be scanned and then shredded after 7 days.

You should not submit originals of important documents (such as birth certificates or powers of attorney) with your paper filings as they will not be returned to you. Please submit copies instead. As a reminder, the court always recommends that you retain copies of anything you submit.

For more FAQ visit: https://www.vermontjudiciary.org/odyssey