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

Dear Colleagues,

The NG-CMS project team is making progress towards our next significant milestone: implementation of Superior Court and e-filing functionality for Windsor, Windham, and Orange counties (the "WOW" region.)

I would like to acknowledge and thank the core and extended project team – Andy Stone, Courtney Sanford, Holly Wilson, and Laurore Beyor - for their continued efforts toward this next milestone. Preparing the system for the trial courts includes configuration, manuals, and working with the Court Operations Managers to get them more involved in the project. I also want to acknowledge and thank RIS for the various supporting tasks on which the team is working, including Brad Portelance for systems management; Jesse Giambatista for leading the transition to a more mature support model; Jim Smith, Jenny Xia, and Cindy Foster for their hard work to jump in and build interim customizations for eNotifications and schedule conflict checking. Thanks also go to Kathleen Lott and Carolyn Keyes for their work on reports and to Jim Baslock, Judith Terp, and Jim Smith for their invaluable expertise on data conversion.

We appreciate trial court staff for becoming more engaged in the project and offering their first-hand experiences to help design better overall solutions.

Special thanks and appreciation go to Chasity Stoots-Fonberg for undertaking a key role to support Odyssey operations and to drive continuous improvement and innovation, concentrating first in the Judicial Bureau, where Odyssey was rolled out this past summer.

I may not mention everyone by name here, but everyone's contributions are deeply appreciated. This significant team effort is required to make this project a success!

Scott Woodward, the project manager, is doing a great job coordinating resources to keep the project on track. He said that "Proactivity" is the theme for the first Superior Court rollout in the WOW region. They are taking stock at each bi-weekly project team meeting of where they are being proactive and what else they can do to be more proactive. For example, one of the goals is to conduct a walk-through of trial court processes in advance of User Acceptance Testing and employee training so that any issues can be identified earlier in the process. The team is on schedule for conducting final testing of the system during the next two months, with training being scheduled in the WOW region starting in January. The current plan is to implement Odyssey in the WOW region on or around March 1, followed by e-filing capabilities approximately 45 days later.

In addition to providing functionality supporting trial court business processes, the RIS team has developed capabilities to support the identification of attorney conflicts across the state, regardless of whether a court is using Odyssey or the legacy VTADS application. This is a significant capability that is currently being used successfully by the Judicial Bureau.
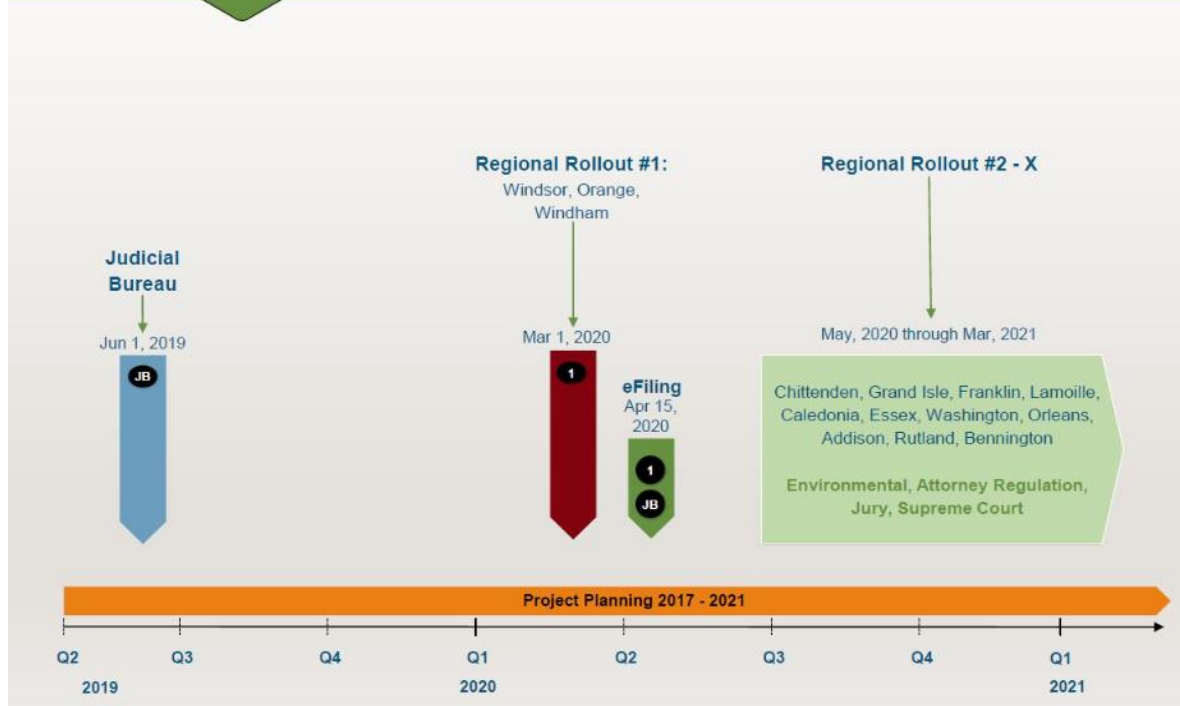
Although our confidence in the configuration to support the trial courts is high, we anticipate that we will encounter a few bumps along the way, as is common in the implementation of a complex technology transformation such as the NG-CMS. These issues will be ironed out with the Clerks, Court Operations Managers, judicial officers, and court staff in the WOW region before scheduling the rollout to the remaining regions across the state.

None of this would be possible without the dedication of the many Judiciary professionals working on the project, for which I am profoundly grateful.

Thank you,

Pat

NG-CMS Project Timeline

Judicial Bureau
Jun 1, 2019
JB

Regional Rollout #1:
Windsor, Orange, Windham
Mar 1, 2020
1

eFiling
Apr 15, 2020
1
JB

Regional Rollout #2 - X
May, 2020 through Mar, 2021

Chittenden, Grand Isle, Franklin, Lamoille, Caledonia, Essex, Washington, Orleans, Addison, Rutland, Bennington

Environmental, Attorney Regulation, Jury, Supreme Court

Project Planning 2017 - 2021

Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
2019			2020				2021

Update on Judicial Bureau

Since our June NG-CMS implementation in the Judicial Bureau (JB), we have transitioned from the initial weeks of intense "hyper-care" support to a sustainable model that allows us to track, prioritize, manage and effectively respond to operational and system issues. This allows the Project Team to move forward with our first trial court implementation (known as Phase 2) in the Windham/Orange/Windsor (WOW) region.

We have, however, identified the need for increased operational support for Odyssey at the Judicial Bureau and have assigned a senior Trial Court Operations resource, Chasity Stoots-Fonberg, to the JB full-time to perform a key role in supporting Odyssey operations and to drive continuous improvement and innovation. Chasity, who has served as Project Team Functional Manager since the kickoff of the NG-CMS implementation, is uniquely equipped for this role with deep knowledge of Odyssey and court operations. She will be located at the JB in White River Junction, where she will immerse herself in this vital operation and increase our overall capacity and subject matter expertise.

FAQ Corner

Q: What kind of computer technology will I need to use Odyssey?

A: External users will engage with Odyssey through two programs--*File & Serve* for efiling and *Public Portal* for viewing case files. Both are web-based software programs and can be accessed from any internet capable of device (Mac, PC, iPhone, tablet). The programs are compatible with nearly any web browser, including Internet Explorer® 10 or 11; Chrome™; Mozilla® Firefox®; or Safari®.

Click here for more FAQs or to ask a question!