



Development of New Case Management System Underway

On January 8, 2010, State Court Administrator Pat Duggan signed a contract with Tyler Technologies to implement Tyler's Odyssey court case management system in South Dakota.

This was the culmination of a year-long effort that started with a request for proposal, followed by vendor evaluations, and a recommendation to the Supreme Court.

The evaluation and selection process has been a group effort from the beginning and included justices, judges, circuit administrators, clerks, court service offi-



Janet Borchard, Pam Templeton, Kent Grode and Greg Sattizahn look on while Pat Duggan signs the CMS contract with Tyler Technology, Inc.

cers, and SCAO staff.

The Tyler contract consists of four phases: *Phase I* - Project Planning, *Phase II* Development and Pilot, *Phase III* - Conversion to Odyssey, and

Phase IV - EDMS/e-filing

Once the contract was signed, project planning activities began in earnest: *(cont'd on page 6)*

Reminder: This newsletter is not for general distribution. It is for UJS employees only.

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Welcome to the sixth issue of the UJS Newsletter!

Articles, information and feedback are welcome. Articles and information will be printed as space allows. Please email your information to Gloria Guericke.

Chief Justice's Memo

Warm greetings during a rather cold and snowy winter.

I doubt there is a person within the Unified Judicial System who does not use computers to perform some portion of their tasks.

As you know, many of our programs date to the early 1980s and are out of date. For five years a committee of persons from across the UJS have studied how to rectify this situation. Their recommendation was a complete overhaul of our software system.

Many other states' judicial systems have already started



Chief Justice David Gilbertson giving the State of the Judiciary Message before a joint session of the legislative houses on January 13, 2010.

this process, including our neighboring States of North Dakota

and Minnesota.

To fund these improvements, I requested the Legislature increase surcharges on criminal and civil filings to pay for the cost of the new system, and the Legislature did so. We can now move forward into this new era.

Full implementation will take approximately four years. At the end of this period, the UJS will hopefully be able to offer electronic filing and many other advantages.



State Court Administrator's Message

Over the years I am continually reminded that change is one of the few constants in life that you can count on.

On January 8 at 10:00 a.m., I signed the Case Management System contract with Tyler Technologies. It was a momentous occasion because of the enormity of the project and, of course, the price tag. I felt comfortable with our decision because it had long been requested by the circuits and public, and had been highly researched by circuit and SCAO staff. Development of the program is already underway and we



plan to keep you updated on its progress.

A personal change for me was that my husband was finally able to wrap up projects at his job

in Sioux Falls and move to Pierre, where he started his new job in the business office at Peterson Motors. If you know my husband, you will know that he feels that working in a Harley Davidson dealership is comparable to being in heaven. I've found it's possible to quickly settle into a new routine (especially with the Legislature in session right now), although I'm having to relearn how to cook for two.

Change is good for the most part as it keeps us moving ahead in life. Embrace it and grow.

Courthouse Receives Century Award

Judge Warren G. Johnson and Lawrence County Commissioner Terry Weisenberg received a Century Award for the Lawrence County Courthouse, which celebrated its 100th birthday.

The award was presented at the Deadwood City Hall offices on Wednesday, October 28, 2009.



Lawrence County Commissioner Terry Weisenberg and Judge Warren G. Johnson.

*Along with success
comes a reputation
for wisdom.*

Euripides

Judge Merton Tice Retires

Michele Brink-Glunosky (left) and Pratt Anspach (right) congratulate Judge Merton Tice on his retirement during a party in his honor at the Pennington County Courthouse on Friday, January 8.

Judge Tice was Rapid City Municipal Judge from 1973-1975, Presiding Judge from 1994-1998, and Circuit Judge from 1975-2010.

(Photo courtesy of Rapid City Journal.)



Michele Brink-Glunosky and Pratt Anspach visit with Judge Tice during his retirement party .

7th Circuit's Newest Judge

Judge Mary P. Thorstenson was sworn in as a circuit judge on Friday, December 4, 2009. She became the 7th Circuit's seventh judge.

Presiding Judge Jeff Davis administered Thorsenson's oath of office. He also swore her in as a lawyer 21 years ago.

Prior to her appointment to the 7th Circuit by Governor Mike Rounds, she was the attorney advisor for the U.S.

Department of Interior's Office of Hearings and Appeals in Rapid City.

Judge Thorstenson's legal career began at Gunderson, Palmer, Goodsell and Nelson.

(Information for this article obtained from the December 4, 2009 Rapid City Journal article. Photo courtesy of the Rapid City Journal)



Circuit Judge Mary P. Thorstenson



Francis McCabe Retires After 35 Years with the State



CSOs Dick Foltz, Connie Nelson, Guy McNeely, and CCSO Francis McCabe

The above photo, taken at Vermillion CSO Connie Nelson's retirement party on June 8, 2008, was clearly an omen of things to come for the 1st Circuit. Pictured with Connie are Vermillion CSO Officer Dick Foltz who retired on February 8, 2010 after over 30 years of service, Yankton CSO Guy McNeely

who retired on July 8, 2009 after 30 years of service, and Chief Court Services Officer Francis (Babe) McCabe who retired on January 8, 2010 after over

35 years of service to the UJS and the people of South Dakota.

Congratulations to them all and we wish them the best in their future endeavors!



Francis McCabe's Retirement Party

Ron Larson Retires After 25 Years with UJS

On February 19, 2010, the Unified Judicial System said good-bye to Ron Larson and wished him well in his retirement.

Ron has been a Senior Accountant in the Budget and Finance Office since 1992, working with the Clerk of Courts accounting system.

Prior to working in the Pierre office, Ron was an accountant in the Minnehaha Clerk of Courts Office.

In his time with the UJS, Ron was instrumental in the

development and implementation of the JAS system and he became the helpline for all of the offices across the state.

Ron's wife is creating a "To-do" list to keep him busy until she retires, then there may be some traveling in their future.

For those who did not get a chance to personally wish him well, Ron will be attending the social at the next Clerk of Court Institute in Pierre.



Ron Larson receiving a plaque of recognition from Chief Justice Gilbertson for his years of service to the State of South Dakota.

Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out.

Robert Collier

New CCSO in First Circuit

1st Circuit Presiding Judge Arthur L. Rusch has announced that Charles Frieberg has been promoted to Chief Court Services Officer of the 1st Judicial Circuit effective January 9, 2010. Charles will be filling the position vacated by Francis McCabe who retired effective January 8, 2010, after 35 years with the State.

Charles is a Beresford native who received his Bachelor of Science in



Charles Frieberg, New First Circuit CCSO

Criminal Justice from the University of South Dakota after serving 8 years in the United States

Navy, and is also a graduate of the Institute of Court Management's Court Management Program. Chuck brings over 16 years of Corrections and Court Services experience to his position as Chief.

He will be supervising the six Court Services offices in the 1st Circuit as well as 24 Court Services Officers and Support Staff. His office is located in the Yankton County Courthouse and Safety Center.



Case Management System Update, (cont'd. from page 1)

Third circuit pilot site staff came to Pierre for training on the three components of Odyssey (trial court, financial, and probation) the week of January 19. The following week Tyler came to Pierre for a "kick-off" planning meeting. Fit Analysis sessions began on February 16 and were scheduled to continue for a three-week period.

The Fit Analysis sessions helped determine the differences between UJS' legacy system and Odyssey, identify business practices that may need to be modified to accommodate the new case management system, and finalize customization and implementation plans. Issues identified during the Fit Analysis will be referred to the appropriate committee (Clerk's Development Committee, Court Services Development Committee, Circuit Administrators and/or the CMS Steering Committee) during a three week period starting March 30.

Three different workshops have also been scheduled: an agency interface and integration workshop held the week of March 15, a conversion workshop the week of March 22, and a configuration workshop that will start the week of May 3 and run for 2 -3 weeks during May.

Phase II work is currently scheduled to start in May with



Staff from the circuits work with SCAO staff and Tyler Technology representatives regarding development of the Case Management System.

our goal to implement Odyssey in our five pilot counties (Brookings, Deuel, Codington, Lake, and Hamlin) in February 2011.

Linda Klosterman, Lake County Clerk of Court, was one of the participants at the first Fit Analysis session held February 16 – 19. Linda commented: "Being involved with piloting the new Odyssey Computer Program has been very interesting. The program has many advantages over what we currently have. We have been reviewing what capabilities they currently offer and what we will need to have added to make the program effective for us in

South Dakota. There is a lot to cover, and at times has been very challenging, but I do believe that all the hard work will pay off in the end."

*"I'd rather be a could-be
if I cannot be an are;
because a could-be is
a maybe who is reaching
for a star. I'd rather be
a has-been than a might-
have been, by far; for a
might-have been has never
been, but a has was once
an are."*

Milton Berle