

# NEWS RELEASE

ARIZONA SUPREME COURT

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

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## **Arizona Earns Three Awards at Court Management Conference**

PHOENIX – At the National Association of Court Management (NACM) annual conference this week, Arizona earned three notable technology awards. The Administrative Office of the Courts earned honorable mention for two programs: the e-Courts Text Notification system and two programs that help public safety officials to obtain court orders electronically. The Superior Court in Maricopa County took one of three top awards for its JAX Program used by the juvenile courts.

“One of the key initiatives that came from the Supreme Court’s Task Force on Fair Justice for All was the need for text reminders of upcoming court dates, payment due dates, and such,” said Dave Byers, Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts. “We get these reminders from our dentists and barber shops – it made sense for courts to adopt a reminder system that people are already accustomed to.”

Byers added that courts using text reminders have lower number of missed court dates and a higher rate of compliance court orders. “It’s a win for the court patron because they get a helpful reminder instead of a warrant for failure to appear. It’s also a win for our courts because the people are in court when they are supposed to be,” Byers said.

The second honorable mention was for two technology programs in use by the Arizona courts. The first is the new process of obtaining judicial review of child removal orders when requested by the Arizona Department of Child Safety. The second is the [Electronic Search Warrant](#) program for DUIs, which was recently expanded statewide. It allows for law enforcement to supply documentation through a secure online portal to obtain judicial review of certain types of

search warrants that are needed after normal court operating hours. The Arizona Supreme Court, Arizona Governor's Office of Highway Safety, law enforcement agencies, and the Superior Court in Maricopa County collaborated to develop the system and protocols for its use.

The Superior Court in Maricopa County won one of the three top awards for the Juvenile Access Exchange (JAX) project, an interagency data exchange system for the juvenile courts. JAX allows secure and speedy delivery of juvenile case information to the all parties. By automating several tasks, the system increases the amount of valuable court time to focus on the needs of the children and families. JAX is the result of successful collaboration between the juvenile department and attorneys, the Department of Child Safety, the Clerk of the Court, the court's Business Services Division, and Court Technology Services.

In 2017, the Administrative Office of the Courts beat several other states and the nations of Dubai and Rwanda to land the top technology award for [www.AzCourtHelp.org](http://www.AzCourtHelp.org), a statewide virtual legal resource center.

The Administrative Office of the Courts supports the statewide judiciary with financial administration, research and analysis, training and education, administration of juvenile and adult probation, deployment and support of technology tools, and more.

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