

II. Planning Method and Participants

The Judiciary's planning process is a major Judicial Branch activity involving many people and organizations. It includes:

- The Chief Justice
- The Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)
- Division Directors of the AOC
- The Arizona Judicial Council and its subcommittees, which includes the Commission on Technology
- Members of the public
- Presiding judges
- Clerks of the court
- Judges
- Court administrators
- Chief probation officers
- Court staff throughout the state

The planning process emphasizes the alignment of business goals and the IT strategies and projects.

Building on the foundation of former Chief Justices Rebecca White Berch and Scott Bales, who targeted five main business goals through the Judicial Branch's strategic agenda, *Justice for the Future: Planning for Excellence 2019-2024*, published in June 2019 with the ascension of Chief Justice Robert Brutinel, identifies the following as the Judiciary's goals:

- Promoting Access to Justice;
- Protecting Children, Families, and Communities;
- Promoting Judicial Branch Excellence and Innovation;
- Enhancing Professionalism within Arizona's Courts; and
- Promoting Public Trust and Confidence.

The process by which the goals were updated involved stakeholder collaboration as well as input by presiding judges, clerks of court, members of the Arizona Judicial Council, and key court staff throughout the Judiciary. This agenda focuses on charting a path to the future that increases public trust in court systems, sustain confidence that individual rights are being protected, and ensures all Arizona citizens are being treated fairly.

This is the twenty-fourth year that the Judiciary has published a formal information technology plan; each year the strategic IT initiatives have been reassessed and re-prioritized to assure they meet the stated mission and strategic organizational initiatives of the Judiciary. IT initiatives were crafted to support business goals that appear in *Justice for the Future*. The timeline for the development of this IT strategic plan was as follows:

SEP 2019	Commission on Technology continued its requirement for only biennial updates from the rural counties and for separating the business drivers update process from the technology updates. COT directed a “lite” update process for Maricopa and Pima courts for use in the plan cycle, coordinated by staff.
OCT 2019	Previous plans were distributed to the eight counties not updating their strategic plans last year and to the appellate courts. Maricopa and Pima courts were instructed to perform a full plan update to the “lite” update they submitted last year.
JAN 2020	Business input from counties was reviewed and prepared for presentation to Commission on Technology. In addition, project and technical portions of the document were distributed to contacts in the counties for update.
MAR/APR/MAY 2020	Eight updated County Court Information Technology Strategic Plans were submitted to AOC for review and analysis along with an updated appellate plan. Staff prepared summaries of the plans for the use of COT members in the annual planning meeting.
JUN 2020	Commission on Technology members identified project priorities for FY2021. COT also reviewed the updated County Court Information Technology Strategic Plans submitted. AJC subsequently reviewed the project priorities and approved funding for the strategic priorities recommended by COT.
SEP 2020	Commission on Technology approved the Arizona Judicial Branch Information Technology Strategic Plan for 2021-2023 at its September meeting. Following final edits, the plan was submitted to ADOA-ASET and JLBC as required by A.R.S. 18-104(A)(1)(f).

Figure 1 below illustrates the typical processes and timing of the Arizona Judicial Branch Strategic Planning effort.

FIGURE 1. ARIZONA JUDICIAL BRANCH STRATEGIC PLANNING

