

**COMMISSION ON TECHNOLOGY
e-COURT SUBCOMMITTEE
APPELLATE COURTS SUBTEAM
MEETING SUMMARY**

November 18, 2011
9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

State Courts Building Room 415

**SUPREME COURT MEMBERS
PRESENT**

Vice Chief Justice Andrew Hurwitz
Clerk Rachelle Resnick
Staff Attorney Ellen Crowley

**APPEALS DIVISION ONE
MEMBERS PRESENT**

Vice Chief Judge Pat Irvine
Patsy Lestikow
James Townsend

**APPEALS DIVISION TWO MEMBERS
PRESENT**

Clerk Jeff Handler*
Chief Judge Joe Howard*

AOC STAFF & GUESTS

Stewart Bruner, *ITD*
Melinda Hardman, *CSD*
Karl Heckart, *ITD*
Jim Price, *ITD*
Amy Wood, *CSD*

* indicates appeared via telephone

AZTURBOCOURT STATUS AND SCHEDULE

Clerk Rachelle Resnick indicated that e-filing numbers continued to increase slightly in October but the overall trend indicates a plateau in the volume. Jim Price provided an update on the planned improvements to PayPal and their estimated timing. Mandatory e-filing will be coordinated with the credit card masking improvements but won't be held for the completion of the project to replace PayPal.

PREPARATIONS FOR MANDATORY E-FILING

Rachelle proposed dates for mandatory e-filing at Division One and the Supreme Court of February 1 for government filers including public defenders and March 1 for all other filers. Justice Hurwitz wants the dates to be certain before any formal announcement is made. No technological impediments exist, but testing is just getting started on the PayPal enhancements needed by non-government filers starting March 1. The group brainstormed communication types and audiences that must be reached in advance of the mandatory dates, including

- An announcement letter to as broad an audience a possible after Thanksgiving. The letter can pre-date the administrative order (AO), since it will be signed by the chief and vice chief.
- Electronic vehicles the State Bar controls. Jennifer Liewer will help with these. She needs to take into account the holiday slowdown for committees.
- The Pima County Bar needs to be approached.
- Training for government agency filers and public defenders outside of Maricopa County.

- Training for firms that have filed cases over the past 10 years, based on Appellation case records.
- Adding a note to outgoing paper communications and a tagline to e-distributions done by the two courts.
- An announcement to associations of public attorneys and defense counsel.
- A formal AO (Court Services is drafting).

A followup meeting will be held in early December to check progress with formal plans for reaching the various groups.

OTHER UPDATES AND ISSUES

- Justice Hurwitz mentioned that, longer term, he'd like to pursue electronic rules petitions in AZTurboCourt.
- Karl Heckart reported that AZTurboCourt specifications have been shared with Division Two in preparation for eventual integration activities.
- Rachelle Resnick announced her intention to shut down ACE on December 9. She will call the most recent filers to let them know of the date.
- Rachelle also raised the issue of needing to scan paper filings in open cases to prevent mixed cases versus the existing labor shortages in the clerks' offices of Division One and Supreme Court. Justice Hurwitz requested additional discussion at the next meeting but shared that the long-term vision has always been to digitize records in support of being as paperless as possible. Temporary labor may be an option, since mandatory e-filing will bring even more filings in electronically and preclude the need for as much scanning as today.

WRAP UP

A follow-up meeting will be scheduled the week of December 5 to check on activities in support of a February 1 date for mandatory e-filing at Division One and the Supreme Court.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.