

# Remote Access to Court Records

## Considerations for Expansion

## Overview and Purpose

- Requests for expanded remote access
- Direction from the Public Access Committee

## Public Access Terminals

- Terminals available in most court locations—71 of 80 locations
- What is available today?
  - Register of Actions
  - Copies of e-filed documents
  - Only in civil cases—county & district

## Remote Access to Court Records

- What is it?
  - Section 3.30: “the ability to electronically search, inspect, or copy information in a court record without the need to physically visit a Judicial Branch facility”.

## Remote Access to Court Records

- **Limitations in CJD 05-01**
  - Only specific fields available (Section 4.20)
  - Several case types not available (Section 4.60)
  - Several types of documents not available
  - Certain info within documents not available
  
- **Current policy contemplates e-filed documents**
  - Section 3.40: records in “electronic form” defined as images of documents filed with the court
  - These documents not identified as available

## Implementing Expanded Remote Access

- **Three main considerations:**
  - Adequacy of CJD 05-01
  - Potential resource impact
  - Existing contractual relationships

## Adequacy of CJD 05-01

- Amendment may be required
  - “Remote Access” broad enough
  - Amend Section 4.20?
    - Clarify that electronic images of documents are subject to remote access

## Resource Impacts

- Significant programming in the areas of:
  - Bulk distribution & management of documents
  - Automated redaction capabilities with criminal e-filing
  - Billing & payment engine
  - Authentication and tracking of user access
- Increased hardware costs as the number of users accessing the system may increase – especially document access
- Would require expanded customer service support

## Existing Contractual Relationships

- Current contract language creates limitations
- Must be fewer than two (2) primary customers under contract for Judicial to sell data
- How to pay for additional resources needed?

## Conclusion

- Expanded remote access not possible today without changes
  - Changes to CJD 05-01 needed to accommodate expanded access
  - Requires additional resources
  - Not feasible under current contract conditions

Questions?