



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE of PENNSYLVANIA COURTS

Public Information Office

Computerizing Pennsylvania's Courts

The Pennsylvania court system is far ahead of most states in building statewide automation systems that streamline internal court operations and provide electronic access for the public to court records and to an array of court-related information.

Statewide computerization has been a goal of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court since the early 1980s. That goal has been reached in three major areas.

The operations of nearly 550 magisterial district judges around the state were automated beginning in 1992. Now a major update of that system, which has worked nearly flawlessly, is being planned.

The three state appellate courts—the Supreme Court, the Superior Court and the Commonwealth Court—were brought on-line in 2000. Court opinions and a wide range of other appellate court information is available through the Web site of the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC) at www.courts.state.pa.us.

During 2006 a mammoth project to computerize the several million criminal dockets of Common Pleas Courts in all 67 counties in Pennsylvania was completed. Eventually, automation is planned for the civil, family and orphan's divisions of the Common Pleas Courts.

Docket information for county criminal courts—and for state appellate courts—is available on-line at <http://ujportal.pacourts.us>.