

Oregon eCourt: One Step Closer to Reality?

For those who have not been attentive to the goings on at the <u>Oregon Judicial</u> <u>Department</u> (OJD), implementation of statewide <u>eCourt may seem more like a dream</u> than a reality. But truth be told, real progress is happening.

One huge step forward? The selection earlier this year of <u>Tyler's</u> Odyssey[®] <u>Court Management</u> <u>System</u>, as a single-solution provider:

"The contract between <u>Tyler</u> and the State of Oregon is valued at approximately \$31 million, which includes software and implementation. The new agreement positions <u>Odyssey</u> to become a foundation of <u>Oregon's eCourt program</u> by delivering deep functionality from <u>Odyssey</u> modules, including Case Management, Financial Management, Enterprise Content Management and eFiling. In addition, <u>Odyssey</u> will provide Oregon courts with ePayments, a decision support system, a statewide jury management system, an integration framework that enables electronic communication and exchange of information between <u>Odyssey</u> and existing justice partner information systems, and a unified Web portal to further enhance court access for the public and the legal community."

Read the complete <u>Tyler Technologies</u> press release <u>here</u>.

What is Oregon eCourt?

When fully operational, <u>Oregon eCourt</u> will serve as a 24/7 web-based courthouse permitting online access to documents and case records, court information and court calendars, case-related filing and payment services, multilingual guides, online forms, and online self-help – based on individual user authorization.

How Will We Get There and Where are We Now?

<u>Odyssey</u> will clearly play a big role in the future development of <u>Oregon eCourt</u>. As we look forward to the next five years, give credit to the hard work already done:

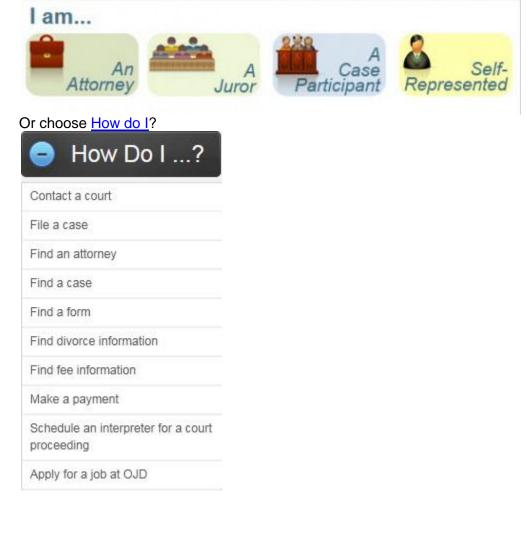
- August 2008 efiling begins in the <u>Oregon Supreme Court</u> for all Oregon State Bar members.
- January 2009 efiling begins in the Oregon Court of Appeals.
- August 2009 electronic content management begins on a modest scale in Yamhill County.

- August 2009 Oregon's 40 (separate and previously unequal) Judicial Department Web sites are finally in sync — each conforming to the same format and navigation design for easier use.
- September 2009 June 2010 additional Circuit Courts dip their toes into electronic case management.
- January-February 2011 <u>Tyler Technologies</u> is selected as a single-solution provider to complete <u>Oregon eCourt</u> in three phases over the next five years.
- April 2011 the best development to date: the OJD <u>launches a new Web site</u> with much-improved navigation, links, and content.

The new user-friendly OJD Web site features:

- A convenient <u>Court Information Finder</u> with 24 hour general information, maps, parking, and fee rates.
- Information for Jurors
- Self Help
- Links to Forms
- Special <u>Resources for Families and Children</u>
- Links to <u>Court Interpreters</u>
- And my personal favorite: <u>the ability to search all Circuit Court Calendars</u> in the system by attorney name, date, county, or party name. (Searches by attorney name are limited to the first three attorneys on a case; parties may only be searched by the first plaintiff and first defendant listed. Limitations, yes. But folks: this is still a terrific tool and far superior to the <u>Oregon Judicial Information Network (OJIN online)</u>.

Not sure what to choose? Click on one of these icons:



You can keep up with <u>Oregon eCourt</u> developments <u>here</u>, read about the <u>technology</u>, keep tabs on the <u>latest projects</u>, get answers to <u>frequently asked questions</u>, or check out the <u>latest</u> <u>statistics</u>. (Over <u>2,400 documents were efiled</u> in the <u>Oregon Supreme Court</u> and <u>Oregon Court</u> <u>of Appeals</u> in January 2011.)

I am thrilled to see this progress and look forward to the future successes of Oregon eCourt.

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