

2026 Court Technology Conference Plenary and Workshop descriptions

8:45-9:45am Plenary

Fingerprint Collection: Past, Present, and Future

Judge Nick Selvaggio, Champaign County Common Pleas Court

Douglas Dumolt, Director of Law Enforcement Ops/Admin, Ohio Attorney General's Office

Explore the implementation of Sup.R. 5, requiring courts to develop a plan for the purpose of ensuring complete, accurate, and timely submission of information into the state's computerized criminal history repository at the Bureau of Criminal Investigation, the Ohio Law Enforcement Automated Data System, and other law enforcement databases through the collection of offender fingerprints. The presenters will walk through the steps taken by courts to clear up the backlog of reporting case dispositions, in conjunction with the local clerk of courts. The future of BCI fingerprinting system will be discussed with updates from the AG Office regarding the grants available to streamline this process, including electronic reporting, disposition recovery and LiveScan devices.

10:45-11:15am & 11:30am-noon

Concurrent Workshops (6 total, same presentation each session)

Electronic Filing for Probate Courts

Jonathan Ring, IT Director

Judge Ralph Winkler

This session provides an overview of the Hamilton County Probate Court's e-filing system and the various ways attorneys, self-represented litigants, institutions, and the public interact with the Court electronically. It highlights account-based e-filing on probate cases, streamlined filing for estate claims, public online services, and secure institutional submissions related to civil commitment matters. Attendees will gain insight into how a single platform supports multiple user types while improving access and operational efficiency.

Virtual Help Centers

Susan Choe, Ohio Legal Help Center

This session will feature a live demonstration of Ohio Legal Help's Virtual Self-Help Center for Domestic Relations and Juvenile Courts, a secure, web-based digital platform accessible to litigants on any device, including smartphones, tablets, and computers. Attendees will see how self-represented litigants navigate plain-language legal information and complete guided interviews that translate their answers into accurate, court-approved forms tailored to local requirements. The session will also provide a look at the court-facing side of the platform, including administrative dashboards, workflow integration options, and data insights that support operational efficiency and consistency in filings. Designed with both litigant accessibility and court administration in mind, the platform demonstrates how technology can streamline processes while expanding meaningful access to justice. This session is also applicable to Municipal/County and Probate courts, specifically civil courts.

JusticeTech

Mindy Yocum, Esq., Project Attorney, The Ohio State University Moritz School of Law

This session introduces JusticeTech at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law, a new interdisciplinary initiative that brings law and computer science students together to examine real justice system challenges and design thoughtful, practical solutions. It will provide an inside look at how projects are developed, the types of tools students are building, and how the program connects education with measurable community impact. Recent projects include the Self-Help Center & Dispute Resolution Department at the Franklin County Municipal Court and the Self-Help Center in Champaign County, focusing on chronic student absenteeism.

Text Messaging for Courts

Judge Alan D. Hackenberg

Judge Stephanie M. Bishop

Brad Bash, Judicial Assistant Supervisor and Bailiff

Dave Claflin, Asst. Chief Probation Officer

This session explores how the Findlay Municipal Court uses text messaging to improve communication with defendants, probationers, and prospective jurors. Attendees will see real-world workflows, automated reminders from case management systems, and tools used by probation and jury staff. The presentation highlights technical implementation and operational benefits.

Best Practices for Fingerprint Collection & Clearing the Backlog (one session only)

Small Courts - Sandi Perry, Court Administrator, Champaign County Common Pleas Court

During this session, learn best practices for clearing up a backlog of needed fingerprint cases, in addition to a real time demonstration.

BCI Court Tech Grants (one session only)

Douglas Dumolt, Director of Law Enforcement Ops/Admin, Ohio Attorney General's Office

This session provides time for an interactive discussion about the current court technology grant, potential projects of interest, and the future of the grant funds through the Ohio Attorney General's Office.

Judges Corner: An Informal Discussion on Court Technology (one session only)

Judge Andrew Ballard, Lawrence County Common Pleas Court

Judge George McCarthy, Athens County Common Pleas Court

2:15-3:15 pm Plenary

AI Readiness

Diane Robinson, NCSC

This plenary will offer a down-to-earth look at how courts can start preparing their teams for the growing influence of artificial intelligence. The session will break down what AI actually is, clear up a few common misconceptions, and highlight practical examples of how courts are using low risk tools to ease workloads and improve day to day operations. Attendees will get an overview of the NCSC AI Readiness Guide, see how the role-based learning platform supports everyone from judges to frontline staff, and get a glimpse of the secure NCSC Sandbox that lets courts experiment with AI in a safe environment. The goal is to give participants a straightforward, approachable roadmap for understanding AI and spotting opportunities that make sense for their own court.