

MACM MATTERS



MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION FOR COURT MANAGEMENT

Summer 2021

Update from the MACM President

By: Jennifer Miller, President
Fourth Judicial District

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The year 2021 is almost half way through and it seems to have flown by especially fast. I hope this finds you all well and with eagerness for your summer plans ahead. As you will read, the MACM committees have been preparing to hold an in-person conference this coming October in the Duluth area. See the committee updates for more information.

When I was growing up my parents took my sisters and me on many road trips across the country. This way of travel is how I experienced most of the 45 states I have traveled to. There is something very unique about driving to a new place, you see the changes in the landscape on your way to discovering what lies at the end of your path.



MACM Matters

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*Any MACM member may submit an article for the newsletter.
If interested, please contact Mary Dalbec for more information.*

The projects and changes we make in court administration can be a lot like this discovery. We get to experience the small changes and see how they feed into the finished product at the end.

To me, the pandemic has been like a long road trip. The first leg was managing providing the same level of service and leadership to our teams remotely. The second leg was living in that world and steadily making improvements. Now we are focused on the other side; the end of the journey. How do we take the positives and apply them to our future? What do we take with us that make us better leaders?

Reflecting and cataloging what has gone right, what could have gone better and what the key elements should always be a big part of our leadership journey. In challenging times and also when things go right. If you haven't been able to reflect on much of anything the past year, I challenge you all to take that time for yourselves. You could begin to see a situation differently. Find an important component in continuing to adapt and grow your leadership skills.

I am extremely hopeful that our organization will be able to spend some much needed time together and enjoy the fall in Northern Minnesota. As always, MACM hopes to provide some educational and inspirational content to nourish you as a court leader. And I know we will all be anticipating the fun membership events, connecting as a group and spending time hearing about what everyone has taken away from the last year. I will also be looking forward to being able to take some time away for that vital reflection. I am very excited at the chance to see all of you in the fall and wish you a fantastic summer.



Membership Services Committee Update

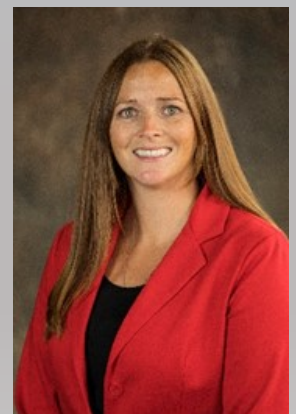
By: Mary Dalbec, Committee Chair

Carver County Court Administrator

The Membership Services Committee has been focusing our efforts on preparing for our 2021 MACM Conference in Duluth in early October, we're hopeful that we'll be able to host our many fun MACM networking events this year in person. Soon, Membership Services will be awarding our 2021 Spring [Scholarships](#) and requesting nominations for the 2021 MACM Awards, again this year including the Pandemic Hero as an award category. MACM awards are a great opportunity for our association to show appreciation for some of the people going above and beyond the call of duty across the state.

Since our 2020 virtual conference we've welcomed twenty-three new MACM members! Please join the committee in welcoming the below new members:

Rachel Wright – SCAO CPC Supervisor of Call Center
Grant Hoheisel – SCAO Research & Evaluation Manager
Deb Stacey – 1st District – Scott County Calendar Coordinator/Supervisor
Maria Taylor – 10th District Treatment Court Coordinator
Carol Zingsheim – SCAO PMO Manager
Erin Vieths – 3rd District Court Business Systems Coordinator
Jodi Metcalf – SCAO Child Support Magistrate Manager
Cara Melvin – SCAO Programs & Ancillary Services Manager
Michelle Belisle – 10th District – Washington County COS Civil/Probate
Olivia Sanders – 4th District – Hennepin County COS Probate/Mental Health
Natalie Reisch – 5th District – Rock/Pipestone Court Administrator
Aleesha Ward – 6th District Treatment Court Coordinator
Morgan Spah – SCAO Court Services Supervising Attorney
Amanda Prohaska – SCAO HR Specialist Talent Management
Jodi Boyne – SCAO Director of Public Affairs
Tricia Wolf – 5th District – Blue Earth COS
John Bohaty – 2nd District Business Process Specialist
Alexandra Huntington – 10th District – Washington County COS
Jessica Hausmann – 7th District – Stearns County COS
Shawanna Kramer – 1st District – Dakota County COS
Misty Darnell – 10th District Business Process Specialist
Aimee Primus – 5th District – Jackson County Court Administrator
Molly Buckrey – 10th District Litigant Services Supervisor



Mary Dalbec

One last promotion of [MACM's website](#) and our [Facebook](#) Page, you can find a lot of helpful information on both websites. We updated our MACM website recently, I hope you've enjoyed the new layout and content available. Also our MACM Facebook page has regular updates regarding new MACM members, member promotions and retirements, current job postings and other court related information and updates. Please visit the [MACM Facebook](#) page and like our page so you'll receive notifications on MACM updates. If you have anything within your district or county you'd like posted on our MACM Facebook page please share it with any of the [MACM Membership Services Committee members](#).

I hope everyone has a great summer and hopefully we'll see all of you this fall at the 2021 MACM Conference in Duluth.

Education Committee Update

By: Kris Cunningham, Committee Chair
Chisago County Court Administrator

The Education Committee continues to plan for an in person conference to be held on October 5 - 7 at the DECC and the Holiday Inn in Duluth, a "save the date" has been sent. We are working on selecting speakers for the conference in hopes that we will be in-person however, we are also asking them if they would appear at a virtual conference, if needed. As always if you have speaker you would like to recommend please contact myself or someone on the MACM Education Committee.

The committee held a virtual session in February, presented by Louellen Essex on Social Connectivity: Building Relationships, Teamwork, and Culture which was very well attended by our members. If anyone was not able to attend, it was taped and is available in Cornerstone.

I am very hopeful to be able to see everyone this fall in beautiful Duluth. Have a great summer!



Kris Cunningham

Legislative and Outreach Committee Update

By: Ann Basta, Committee Chair

Court Operations Supervisor, Fourth Judicial District

With spring turning into summer, it is the time of year again that the Legislative and Outreach Committee begins looking at options for MACM's annual charitable giving drive. This year we are focusing on food insecurity related organizations. Prior to the pandemic 1 in 11 Minnesotans faced hunger. Since March of 2020, that number has risen to 1 in 9 (or an estimated 630,000 Minnesotans). If you look just at children in Minnesota, that number rises to 1 in 6. Demand at food shelves has risen sharply and they need help to meet all of the need. In the upcoming weeks, we will be narrowing down which particular charitable organization to work with this year and we look forward to seeing what we, as MACM members, can do to help.



Ann Basta

FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT UPDATE

Scott County

Scott County is just wrapping up construction on a new Law Enforcement Center courtroom. This courtroom is equipped to handle zoom hearings and looks like a typical courtroom you would see in a courthouse. Construction just began, as well, on the Scott County Justice Center. In May 2022, Scott County will have two additional courtrooms and a new jury orientation room all equipped with zoom capabilities. With the Law Enforcement Center, there will be a total of 9 courtrooms. The court administration office is expanding as well. To allow for the expansion in the court administration office, about 12 individuals will be sharing cubicles or office space for about a year.



Judge Charles Webber

We also have a new Judge in Scott County - Judge Charles Webber. Judge Webber is replacing the Honorable Rex D. Stacey. Mr. Webber is a partner at Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP. He is a trial and appellate specialist, and has represented clients in a wide range of litigation in state and federal courts, and in arbitrations.

Dakota County

Dakota County is implementing an eMedical Records System (EMRS): This implementation will allow medical providers the ability to upload their medical records and exhibits related to civil commitment cases to an electronic content management system. From there business partners can access the provider's medical records and exhibits, and upload their own proposed exhibits. This system will ensure all parties have the most current records and will reduce the amount of time Court Administration spends scanning civil commitment pre-hearing exhibits for remote hearing.

After 23 years with the Branch, Jean Baldwin is retiring. Jean began as a clerk in Dakota County and has moved her way up to supervisor and most recently a manager. Jean's last day will be June 3. Throughout Jean's time with the Branch she has provided excellent leadership. Jean's experience and knowledge has been invaluable not only to Dakota County but to the entire First District. She will be greatly missed but we congratulate her as she enters her next chapter!



Jean Baldwin

The First District is also implementing eFinance (one of 3 pilot districts) and like other districts, we are rolling out our new VOIP telephone system very soon!

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT UPDATE

Training: A Team Building Tool in a Remote Work Environment

By: John Bohaty, Second Judicial District Business Process Specialist

Many aspects of our work have changed over the last 14 months. Working remotely has presented several opportunities and challenges for management and staff. Staff who joined the Branch during the pandemic immediately entered a remote work environment—having never had the opportunity to consistently work side-by-side with their colleagues in an office environment. Several benefits related to team building/cohesion inherently exist when a team is in the same physical space during work. They get to hear one another conduct business with Judges and Judicial staff, justice partners, and the public.

They have the opportunity to share stories, share break and lunch time, laugh together, and work together to complete work assignments. Recreating this in a virtual work environment while continuing to move work can be challenging. The early days of a new hire are a pivotal time for a new employee to gain a sense of inclusion and team. What is the best way to bridge this gap in a remote work environment?

Training! Training is an important time to develop a strong professional relationship between trainer and trainee. Often, court training is the most complex workload within a division. It requires sessions outside the Zoom courtroom, shadowing in the Zoom courtroom, and follow-up after matters have concluded. CAPs, QRGs, and desk aides have been developed to maintain consistency in how we complete our delegated duties in Zoom court, but a variety of different scenarios present themselves that cannot be outlined in a training manual/aide. This results in a considerable amount of time spent between the trainer and trainee. Traditionally, training is provided by an employee that holds a position as a trainer, lead worker, or manager/supervisor. Managers/supervisors that invite employees, who do not hold the previously noted positions to participate in training, provide those employees the opportunity to share their experience and expertise. This might be viewed as a bit of a risk by some, but the benefits of solidifying strong working relationships greatly outweigh those risks. Additionally, staff who are entrusted to provide training are empowered by this experience, and further develop their own understanding of the topic.

This is also an opportunity for them to provide feedback on how to increase the effectiveness of future trainings. Putting this concept into action enhances the possibility the new employee will receive the necessary training with a very valuable biproduct: relationship building with another staff member. Additionally, managers/supervisors can focus their time and energy on the many other responsibilities they oversee to ensure their operation remains successful. Being mindful that teambuilding and relationship building are more important than ever will ensure new employees feel included. This leads to higher satisfaction with their position, which leads to longevity and increases the likelihood that employees will view the Branch not just as a place that gives them a job, but as a place to build a career.

The Second Judicial District Zoom Hearing Workgroup—a Zoom Journey Through a Pandemic Year

At the start of the pandemic the Second District Local Pandemic Response Team rapidly created several sub-workgroups to tackle the many challenges presented by a once-in-a-century pandemic.

One of the first teams formed, the Zoom Hearing Workgroup's initial focus was on sharing information within the Second District regarding zoom functionality with the primary goal of establishing a Zoom process for each line of business and case type. The initial goal was to swap ideas and get solutions in place as soon as possible.

After the initial rush, the workgroup was able to take a step back and re-evaluate the work that was done and work that was left to do. There was still so much about Zoom that we did not know. The range of functionality and settings within Zoom was quite daunting and the workgroup was concerned that users would find a way to make Zoom work and then stop exploring other features, either currently available or in future releases. A parallel experience had been felt in other applications in the past, where information and processes become siloed in departments and offices.

In November and December of 2020, the workgroup decided to address the issue head-on by conducting baseline testing of Zoom's feature and settings using two independent review teams. The test results were documented, and retests were conducted in identified areas where results were inconsistent. Upon completion of the baseline test, the workgroup recognized the information was only good if it remained current. A substantial release in January 2021 that changed the usages of breakout rooms proved this point. The workgroup quickly formed an ad hoc testing group for the release for new opportunities to bring back to our teams and offices.

This experience led to several outcomes.

First, the Second District formed a rapid-response group of testers for future significant releases. The Second District and the Zoom Hearing Workgroup is pleased the State formed ZOTT – the Zoom Opportunity Testing Team.

We are excited by the opportunity to collaborate with representatives from across the state on future releases so we can share experiences and information on the latest Zoom features.

Second, the Zoom Hearing Workgroup created a Zoom Mitigations document. Recognizing that certain configurations within Zoom made hearings more efficient but also more vulnerable to disruptive behavior, the Zoom Mitigations document was meant to assist staff – new and experienced – with steps that can be taken to limit disruptions should they occur. This is a living document that is adjusted as new functionality becomes available, closing certain gaps while opening others.

Finally, the Zoom Hearing Workgroup leveraged their growing expertise with Zoom to create a list of Zoom Enhancement Requests to provide to the State Court Administrator’s Office for consideration with the Vendor.

I would like to take a moment to thank all the members of the Second District Zoom Hearing Workgroup. I believe this team worked so well because it pulled from all parts of the Second District, including court administration line staff, supervisors and managers, court reporter representatives, the district law clerk trainer, the Business Process Unit, and a representative from SCAO. Each of the individuals below are instrumental to the continued success of the workgroup.

Second District Zoom Hearing Workgroup Membership: Nicole Albrecht, Angie Jonas, Tess McNamara, Drew Vanderlinden, Shelby Berger, Paige Nelson, Caitlin Albrecht, Brittany Blesener, Rommel Cevallos, Pa Zao Vang, Jason Vorbeck, Breanne Baty, John Bohaty, Michael Upton.

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT UPDATE

Leadership Changes in the Third Judicial District Shannon Asselin, Waseca County Court Administrator

The Third District bid farewell to Kristi Maiers who retired from her position as Court Operations Manager on March 2, 2021, after 33 years with the Minnesota Judicial Branch. Kristi worked many years in Freeborn County as a court clerk and as the Freeborn County Court Administrator.

In 2019, she transitioned to her role as Court Operations Manager. Those who worked with Kristi knew what a passionate and dedicated leader she was. She had a positive impact on everyone she interacted with. Kristi will truly be missed but we wish her nothing but the best as she embarks on her new adventure.



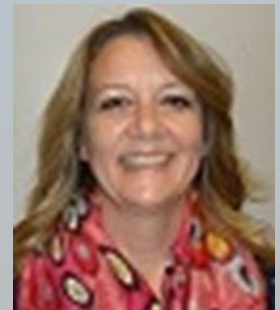
Kristie
Maiers

Lea Hall will be retiring from her position as Dodge County Court Administrator on June 4, 2021, after 41 years with the Judicial Branch. Lea began her career with the Judicial Branch as a Deputy Clerk in Olmsted County in July 1980. She was later hired in Steele County in 1986 and served in a variety of leadership positions until becoming the Dodge County Court Administrator in 2015. Lea successfully managed the Third District Document Acceptance team from March 2018 to October 2019. Lea's insight, guidance, and leadership will be missed. Best wishes to Lea as well!



Lea Hall

The Third District is pleased to welcome several new faces to our leadership team. Aimee McCormack will replace Lea Hall as the Dodge County Court Administrator. Aimee McCormack has been with the Branch and the Third District for almost 25 years. She started as a Scheduling Clerk in 1996 in Mower County. In 2013 she was promoted to a Supervisor and worked as a Supervisor in both Freeborn and Mower counties. In October 2019, she helped form the Civil/Probate district-wide case processing team. Aimee's years of service with the branch, her extensive court experience, and supervisory experience make her a great addition to our team.



Aimee
McCormack

Erin Vieths replaced Kristi Maiers as the Court Operations Manager for the case processing and document acceptance teams. Erin has been with the Third District for a little over nine years spending the majority of her time in Steele County as a Senior Court Clerk and then as a Lead Worker. In October, 2019 she took on the role of the Court Business Systems Coordinator. Erin is known for her attention to detail, her vast case processing knowledge, her technical skills, and her commitment to delivering high quality, consistent, and convenient customer service. We are very fortunate to have her on our leadership team.



Erin Vieths

Becky Brandt has been serving in a dual role as the Winona and Fillmore County Court Administrator since September 2020. Becky has effectively managed both counties for the past eight months and the Third District is extremely thankful for her hard work and dedication. The Third Judicial Bench recently decided to bifurcate the Fillmore/Winona County Court Administrator Position. As a result, Becky Brandt will remain the Winona County Court Administrator and Lauren Hanson will fill the Fillmore County Court Administrator position. Lauren has worked for the Third District for five years. She began her service as a COA in Mower and was promoted to Lead Worker in 2018. Lauren has taken the initiative to engage in growth opportunities and has a broad knowledge of different case types. She is a “go-getter” that learns quickly and is very passionate about delivering high quality court service. Congratulations Lauren!



Becky Brandt



Lauren Hanson

FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT UPDATE

In the Pilot's Seat

Anna Lamb, Court Administration Manager and Nik Nadeau, Strategy and Development Manager (originally posted in the Fourth Dimension Newsletter to all Fourth District Staff on 3/31/21)

Teaming up with our friends in the Second District, the Fourth just wrapped up a Mock Civil Jury Trial on March 26th to test how well civil jury trials can proceed over Zoom.

Here's how it worked: a Fourth District judge met on Zoom with a team of local attorneys, a court reporter, and volunteers serving as witnesses, advocates and jurors. The “trial” of the fictional car crash case *Potter v. Shrackle* then proceeded with all the steps of an actual civil jury trial, from voir dire through opening statements, presentation of testimony and exhibits, closing arguments and jury deliberations.

Throughout the pilot project, which began in late January, two jury panel arrangements were tested – one set of jurors gathered in person in a socially-distanced Ramsey County courtroom, while the Hennepin County jurors met remotely by Zoom from their homes or offices. Both groups of jurors watched the same Zoom feed, electronic evidence was presented and witnesses were cross-examined over video. Fun fact:

The Ramsey County jurors deliberated in person, while the remote jurors in Hennepin County did so over Zoom without ever physically being together in the same room.

Building on the results of the pilot project, we hope to use remote civil jury trials to help us better navigate our civil case backlog and incentivize negotiated settlements. Kudos to the team of dedicated civil servants leading the way here in the Fourth – including Judges Edward Wahl, Laurie Miller, David Piper and Kristin Siegesmund; Project Manager Nick Pritchard; and many other judges, law clerks and members of court administration, including Pam Kilpela and the Jury Office, Civil Staff Attorney Elizabeth Wendt, our Information Technology team and the Court Reporter Unit.

Fast forward to May. Our team has been busy applying what we learned from our Mock trial to plan for phase II of the pilot. On Monday, May 17th, Judge Regis will preside over our first **real live** remote civil jury trial. A supplement questionnaire was filled out by prospective jurors to determine if they have the technology, internet speed and quiet private space necessary to serve on a jury panel remotely. Most of the panel members do which means that we will hold a hybrid version of voir dire with only a law clerk and potential juror in the courtroom. We are so excited...and just a little bit nervous...to see how it goes. Stay tuned. We hope that after another successful remote civil jury trial, more requests for remote jury trials will be made soon!

SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT UPDATE

Addressing Mental Health in Treatment Courts Aleesha Ward, Treatment Court Coordinator

May is National Mental Health Awareness month. Recognizing the need to support those in our communities living with mental health disorders, we wish to highlight efforts being done for those involved in our criminal justice system.

The State's vision has long been to implement a Treatment Court in every county and every courthouse, to better serve those involved in the criminal justice system and our community.

According to the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP), Treatment Courts continue to be the most successful intervention in our nation's history for leading people living with substance use and mental health disorders out of the criminal justice system and into lives of recovery and wellbeing.

In 2009, Judge Tarnowski established the South St. Louis County Mental Health Court (MHC) to help improve practices and outcomes for the mentally ill who encounter the criminal justice system. At the MHC program's onset, there was no funding for the program, just a group of talented, passionate professionals from across the Duluth, MN area in which the Judge enlisted for help. The Judge urged local justice system professionals and behavioral health partners to volunteer their time and talents (treatment, probation, social services, county attorney, and public defender). Through partnerships, coordinated efforts, and a strong commitment to restoring the lives of the most vulnerable adults in the community, the program has become a great success. Since 2009, the program has steadily grown and is now funded by a grant through the MN Department of Human Services.

In 2019, the North St. Louis County Mental Health Court was established. Just over a decade after Judge Tarnowski's pioneering initiative, we saw our second (and only fourth in the State) Mental Health Court become formally sanctioned.

Similar to Duluth, with what started as an informal calendar of individuals within the justice system dealing with substance use and mental health disorders, the Range MHC began with a few dedicated professionals eager to collaborate with community resources to provide support. Accompanied by the encouragement of District leadership, Judge Anderson led the Range MHC through its formalization process. With experience working on treatment court teams as a prosecutor and Judge, and with an undergraduate degree in psychology, Judge Anderson felt honored to serve in this new capacity.

We believe the goal of Mental Health Court programs is to restore individuals to a life without suffering and crime. These programs are a therapeutic response with the vision of reducing recidivism for those in the criminal justice system suffering from substance use and mental health disorders.

While we strive to continue the visibility of these programs as a response to those individuals in the community, we also continue the pursuit of education; a solution to lessen the stigma surrounding mental health and substance use disorders.

St. Louis County is hosting its third annual 'Mental Health Court Conference' to educate Mental Health Court teams, community partners and fellow treatment courts. Presently, the State of Minnesota does not offer a formal Mental Health Court training. This conference unites us in an effort to improve practices and outcomes with the ultimate goal of reducing recidivism within our communities. This year's conference is predicted to attract our largest audience to date, with over 200 registered from across the country.

The Sixth District continues to address mental health as a key program component in addition to prioritizing mental health education and awareness in its Treatment Courts. All of our teams have mental health professionals at the table to better assist us in successfully addressing participant needs, and we will continue the mission of supporting those who experience the effects of mental health disorders within the criminal justice system.

TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT UPDATE

Deb Lepper Promoted to Manager

By Annette Fritz, Washington County Court Administrator

After the several month long judicial branch hiring freeze was lifted and the opportunity to begin filling vacancies, Washington County posted its vacant Administrative Manager position that was created in November when Gena Jones was promoted to the Second Judicial District Deputy District Administrator. We are fortunate to have internal talent interested in promotion opportunity and longtime supervisor, Deb Lepper was the successful candidate. Deb has worked for the Minnesota Courts in Washington County for over 23 years, most of those years in a supervisor position. She has a Bachelor's Degree and is a Certified Court Manager.



Deb Lepper

Her new duties include managing budget allocations for county and state funds, administrative projects, technology oversight and coordination with the IT department (county and state), managing criminal/traffic, court records, finance, and administrative needs of the Washington County Court system. Deb has been a member of MACM for several years and has been active on the Membership Services Committee. Congratulations to Deb on the promotion.

An Introduction to a Centralized Mail Hub

By: Kaitlyn Boden, Calendar Coordinator Supervisor

Hello, my name is Kaitlyn Boden and I work with scheduling senior judges and supervising a team of temporary court clerks. Currently we have five temporary court clerks working for the District. Right now they are busy with prehearing exhibits, zoom notices and creating a mail hub for the District. We have two temporary clerks who currently work onsite at the district office to prepare mailings and process returned mail. The clerks (both on and off site) work hard on uploading exhibits to MNCIS before a hearing for any non-conciliation case and will generate zoom criminal case notices for mailing. We also have 13 senior judges who are doing work in the Tenth right now. The senior judges have been helping to tackle our backlog and will be used more once the eviction moratorium is lifted. Both the temporary court clerks and senior judges are doing a phenomenal job of promoting cross-county work!

The Tenth Hosts a Virtual Law Day Event

By: Molly Buckrey, Litigant Services Supervisor

The Tenth Judicial District Litigant Services division (which operates the Tenth's Self-Help Center and Early Neutral Evaluation programs) hosted a Law Day event with free virtual clinics for individuals with questions on family, civil, probate, and criminal

expungement matters. The clinics were done via Zoom with one Litigant Services member serving as the staff to each clinic. Appointments were scheduled in advance. Attorneys were assigned to break out rooms and the Litigant Services member would then move the participant to the breakout room at their designated time. Twenty-nine volunteer attorneys signed up and worked with approximately one hundred individuals to provide free legal advice. Several participants expressed their gratitude, replying that the attorneys were excellent, knowledgeable, and helpful.

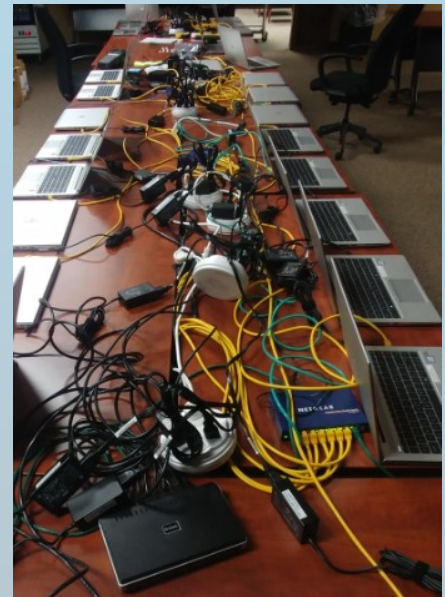
Significant Technology Upgrades in the Tenth

By: Sheldon Clark, Deputy District Administrator—Administration

The Tenth Judicial District was able to swap out desktop computers for court administration staff and court reporters over the past few months. The desktops have been replaced with laptops and docking stations. This will allow for much greater flexibility as more hearings are beginning to be handled in-person. It also provides greater flexibility for management and judicial officers as remote work options are considered.

The Tenth Judicial District completed a laptop refresh for judges, law clerks, and management. Overall, more than 400 laptops were loaded, updated with individual user settings, and then distributed to each courthouse. The Information Technology team in the Tenth did this with the addition of only one contractor while also overseeing courtroom technology upgrades throughout the District.

In anticipation of ongoing remote and hybrid hearings, the Tenth Judicial District, in partnership with several counties, recently upgraded courtroom technology. Anoka, Chisago, Isanti, Pine and Wright county courthouses all received new monitor displays, cameras, and sound system upgrades. This new technology promotes more efficient hybrid hearings and positions the Tenth to be able to better respond to the needs of justice partners and litigants.



Preparing Laptops for Staff

Heather Mickelson Appointed Kanabec County Court Administrator

By: Tracy Gullerud, Deputy District Administrator—Operations

Heather Mickelson has accepted the Court Administrator position in Kanabec County. Heather holds an Associate's Degree in Legal Administration from Hibbing Community College and has participated in a variety of MN Judicial Branch and 10th District training and educational opportunities.

This includes the Lead Worker Series, Supervisory Spectrum and Development in Action (DIA) programs. Heather brings 9 1/2 years of service across many lines of business in the Minnesota Judicial Branch along with 5 years of experience as a legal administrative assistant at a private law firm. Heather has served in leadership roles in the 10th District since 2018. In her current role as Supervisor in Kanabec County, Heather has been instrumental in assisting with unification efforts across the PICK Counties. Heather's professional and education background encompasses a wide variety of experiences that Kanabec County, the PICK and the 10th District will continue to benefit from. Heather's first day in her new role will be June 1st.



Heather Mickelson