



## Michigan Supreme Court

State Court Administrative Office  
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Milton L. Mack, Jr.  
State Court Administrator

DATE: September 1, 2015  
TO: Trial Court Judges and Court Staff  
FROM: Milton Mack, Jr., State Court Administrator  
RE: Collections Program Status Performance Measure

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The Trial Court Performance Measures Committee (TCPMC), led by Kent County Circuit Judge Paul Sullivan, has unanimously voted to adopt a Collections Program Status performance measure.

Enforcement of court orders, including the financial obligations in those orders, improves a court's credibility and effectiveness. Payment of court-ordered financial obligations helps make victims whole and provides funds to support law enforcement, libraries, the Crime Victim Rights Fund, and local governments. To improve administration of this critical court function, the Collections Program Status has been adopted as a new performance measure.

The Collections Program Status is not a new concept for courts. Administrative Order 2010-1 instructs all circuit courts, circuit court family divisions, district courts, and municipal courts to comply with court collections program requirements established by the state court administrator. This includes implementing a collections program consistent with the SCAO model. The Collections Program Status measure determines if the court's program satisfies the required components. If the court fulfills the first seven components, its status is compliant. If the court does not meet the first seven components, its status is noncompliant. Click [here](#) for additional information on the components and please keep in mind that compliance does not require that a court implement each detail listed below each component.

To assist your court with compliance, SCAO will do the following:

- Provide ongoing training. Training will be available this fall at the judicial conference and regional meetings. Training will be recorded and available on the One Court of Justice website.
- Publish a Collections Program Status best practice manual. The manual is a practical guide for your collection programs that provides best practices for each component and information on successful collections practices found in Michigan courts.

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- Respond to any questions or concerns you have regarding your collections program status.
- Assist courts with determining how they can strengthen their collections programs.

We hope that you and your staff will use the SCAO collections program resources to take a fresh look at your court's collections programs.

We are here to help you! If you have questions or concerns about how to comply, please contact Julia Norton in the Trial Court Services Division at [nortonj@courts.mi.gov](mailto:nortonj@courts.mi.gov) or 517-373-8995 or visit [www.courts.mi.gov/collections](http://www.courts.mi.gov/collections).