

## **Implementing and Enhancing the MiFILE Standard Solution**

### **Input from Stakeholders**

The MiFILE Standard Solution implemented in the Ottawa Probate Court, Washtenaw Trial Court, and the 37th District Court (Warren) is a highly capable e-Filing system that will continue to evolve and improve with time. MiFILE version 2.0 is soon to be released, additional enhancements are currently in development, and new features (including additional case types) are being considered. To help shape MiFILE design and prioritize development of new features and functionality, the State Court Administrative Office depends upon input from courts, members of the State Bar of Michigan, and other stakeholders. Opportunities for providing input will be made available through periodic surveys, prerecorded demonstrations and discussion guides, webinars, and online advisory work group meetings. A survey seeking general input on the MiFILE Standard Solution will be sent to trial courts in February, 2021.

### **Expanding MiFILE to Other Courts**

Plans are underway to implement MiFILE version 2.0 in additional trial courts, starting in 2021. A MiFILE statewide survey was recently distributed to assist the MiFILE team further develop these plans. As part of that survey, trial courts were asked to indicate their interest in implementing MiFILE version 2.0 or to wait for all eligible case types to be available. An overview of the features and functionality of the current MiFILE Standard Solution was provided to aid in that decision. However, courts will want to understand the practical use of MiFILE for these additional cases types.

### **What to Expect When Remaining Eligible Case Types Are Available**

When remaining eligible case types are added to the MiFILE Standard Solution, initial functionality will have some limitations as it relates to various plans for handling criminal and family division cases across jurisdictions. Examples of such cross-jurisdiction plans are family division plan, concurrent jurisdiction plan, and multiple district plan for magistrates.

### **User Interaction Where Cross-Jurisdiction Court Plans are in Place**

The current design of MiFILE assigns court staff roles to a specific court. This design requires the staff of a given court to log into that court's instance of MiFILE in order to work on the caseload for that jurisdiction. Under this design, staff who work on the caseload for more than one court will be required to log into two instances of MiFILE. For example, under a family division plan, a probate register may be processing child protective and juvenile delinquency cases for the circuit court, as well as processing the probate cases for the court in which that probate registers is employed. Likewise, a probate judge may be assigned to these same cases. In this example, both the probate register and the probate judge will be required to separately log into the probate court's instance of MiFILE OnBase and the circuit court's instance of MiFILE OnBase and to process cases in two separate queues.

## **Consideration for Future Enhancement**

The MiFILE team desires the functionality of the MiFILE Standard Solution to be more user-friendly for processing cases within the scope of cross-jurisdiction plans, but improvements in this aspect may be limited by OnBase constraints. If OnBase is capable of accommodating the business processes of the courts as to these various plans, the MiFILE team will pursue enhancements and will involve the trial courts in that process.