

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR COURT MANAGEMENT

Court Communiqué

Implementation Plan

June, 2008

I Introduction

Over the past few years we have seen considerable change both within the National Association for Court Management (NACM) and in the field of court administration. It is the position of the NACM board that *Court Communiqué*, one of the key NACM publications, needs to be better positioned, both in format and content, to respond to the current changing environment and to better meet the needs of its membership. This implementation plan, based on input from the NACM publications committee and feedback from the focus group conducted by Chris Crawford looks at transitioning *Court Communiqué* into a more viable and useful membership publication.

II Purpose Statement

Court Communiqué is a NACM communication vehicle designed to meet the informational needs of members on a timely and emergent basis. It is intended to supplement other NACM publications, such as Court Manager, which have the capacity to explore issues in a more in-depth manner. The primary focus of *Court Communiqué* is on delivering time sensitive information about issues within the NACM organization. A secondary focus is on the introduction of new ideas and current trends in court administration.

III Content

The overall content of *Court Communiqué* is meant to be timely, topical and informative. Content areas include NACM conferences, board members, board activity, membership updates, calendar of events, notice of job changes and member milestones, announcements of special awards and recognition of individual members, as well as relevant information about NACM's collaborative relationship with other national organizations such as the Academy of

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Architecture, Forum on the Advancement of Court Technology, Michigan State University and the National Center for State Courts.

IV Format

The publication format places an emphasis on brevity, flexibility and expediency. In the past, *Court Communiqué* was developed as a print publication sent out to the membership four times a year. The current plan is to transition it to an electronic publication distributed at least quarterly or on an as needed basis. The publications committee envisions 2008 as the year in which *Court Communiqué* will transition from a paper format to an electronic format. During 2009, the publication will take the form of an electronic document (PDF file) E-mailed directly to NACM members. In the meantime, the Publications Committee will explore other possible forms of electronic delivery in the future (e.g. placement on the NACM website)

The production of the publication will continue to be a highly collaborative process involving Kip Rodda, Chair, NACM Publications Committee, committee members, co-editors of *Court Communiqué* and Laurie Gomez at the National Center for State Courts. Eric Silverberg will remain available as a consultant during the transition year.

V Tentative Schedule for 2008-2009

June, 2008	Publications Committee approves and/or amends the implementation plan for <i>Court Communiqué</i> .
July, 2008	Make available a one page handout concerning the transition of <i>Court Communiqué</i> to members at the NACM annual conference in Anaheim, California.

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| August, 2008 | Publish and distribute a paper edition of Court
Communiqué heralding the changes being made in
the publication. |
| November, 2008 | Publish last paper issue of Court Communiqué. |
| January, 2009 | Distribute the first electronic version of Court
Communiqué to members. |

Submitted to the NACM Publications Committee

By

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June 5, 2008