On Tuesday, September 13, 2005, the halls of the Washington State Trade and Convention Center in Seattle, Washington, will become populated with over 2,500 court professionals from across the country to attend the Ninth Annual Court Technology Conference (CTC9), to be held September 13-15, 2005. Noted for being the only conference exclusively dedicated to court technology, the CTC9 presents wide and diverse educational programs, internationally known keynote speakers, discussion and special-interest group sessions, and more than 100 court technology vendor exhibitions, bringing together the essential information, people, and tools needed to learn about the very latest in courtroom technology.

The conference is sponsored by the National Center for State Courts (NCSC), a nonprofit organization that promotes justice through leadership and service to the state courts. The programs offered at the conference will not only be attended onsite, but streaming video of the keynote and education sessions will also be available for viewing online. As each program or session is completed, the video will then be loaded to a CTC Streaming Media site: www.icmeducation.org/ctc_web/.

In the early 1980s, the idea of holding a national conference on court technology had been discussed among several court management organizations. During this time, the NCSC conducted several surveys through its Institute for Court Management and found the results of each survey to be consistent in one area—technology. Court technology training and the need to learn more about the technology and its impact on the administration of justice repeatedly ranked high as priorities for court and legal professionals.

Court professionals are challenged every day to keep up with the changes in systems and security, and to use technology to manage, secure, and ensure that courts continue to adapt to new realities. Since 1984, the conference has been held every two to three years, attracting judges, court administrators, and information technologists interested in learning about the latest information and trends in court technology.

A particular technology highlight is an educational track being offered on the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), and Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative's (Global) Justice Extensible Markup Language (XML) Data Model (Global JXDM). This program will include a policy introduction to the Global JXDM, a session on designing Global JXDM documents using reusable components, two technology-level Global JXDM presentations, and a discussion on implementing Global JXDM in the courts. Additionally, there will be a special-interest group session on NCSC’s Wayfarer tool—an exploration tool for the Global JXDM that is widely used within the Global JXDM community.

Numerous educational programs will be offered at this event, covering case management system and court operations, courtroom 21, courtroom technology, document/content management/e-filing, Global JXDM and XML, integrated justice information and service oriented architecture, project management and acquisition, security, and technology and judiciary. The conference will provide an assortment of special-interest discussions and feature three keynote speakers. Slade Gorton, a former U.S. Senator from Washington State, will speak on the events of 9/11 and beyond. Former Indianapolis Mayor and Professor at Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government, Stephen Goldsmith will speak on his latest book, Governing by Network, and drawing on dozens of case studies and established best practices, Mr. Goldsmith will tell CTC9 attendees what works and what does not.
Completing the keynote trio is the Corporate Vice President of the Information Worker Product Management Group at Microsoft, Chris Capossela, who will describe how technology is revolutionizing business processes and the work environment. Mr. Capossela will speak on technologies that are being developed that will impact the way courts operate.

For more information on the Ninth Annual Court Technology Conference, go to the CTC9 Web site at www.ctc9.org or e-mail questions to CTCInformation@ncsc.dni.us.