

Category: Computer use

1) What tasks do you use your computer for (check all that apply)?

Email	25
Legal research.....	23
Personal Calendar/Scheduling	14
Real Time reporting.....	5
UCIS	21
Word processing.....	21
Web Browsing	24
Spreadsheets	10
Other:	Power point
	Graphic manipulation
	Read briefs, appendices and transcripts.
	Prepare presentations in Power Point.
	Traveling to keep in touch with office and to respond to questions
	Laptop out of town contact
	MS Publisher

2) Are there additional tasks you would like to use your computer for? YES / NO

If so, what are those tasks?

NO
(17)

YES
(5)

- More complex audio and graphic tasks connected with presentations; file view including district court transcript review. Use during travel but dies due to short battery life.
- Tracking through Robocuff through Juvenile Drug Court.
- It would be nice to have networked stations on the bench so that if I needed to look at a case I could do it immediately (via Westlaw) or something a prior order that I had done, etc.
- To be able to use my computer at other locations, such as home.
- Wireless use when traveling.

Category: Computer hardware

1) Does your computer meet your technology needs and expectations? YES / NO

Why/Why not?

NO

(4)

- Compact laptops are slower with regular (not mobile or centrino) processors so they run hot, eat batteries, and otherwise have poor to mediocre performance at every level.
- It is too slow. The battery power is not enough to read briefs even on a short airplane trip. It is too heavy to carry through an airport and home at night. In my box I often receive a message that I am over the capacity and will receive no further email, even though I clean it out on a daily basis.
- I use more than one computer. The computer on the bench is used for real time. It is an old laptop. It is slow.
- I want it to hook up to the internet. Also, we should have some scanning ability in the courthouse.

YES

(21)

- Both desktop and laptop are becoming slower, perhaps they need to be replaced.
- Would be nicer if my laptop was wireless so it could be transferred freely from room to room within the courthouses I visit and am chambered in. I have been looking at the new notebook PC's and that may be the next way to go for judges instead of laptops.

2) Do you have any "annoyances" with your computer? YES / NO

If so, what are they?

NO

(6)

YES

(19)

- General slow performance, lack of battery life, inability to hot swap, persistent screen flicker, and operating instability (got better after RAM added but still an issue when using multiple programs)
- Just that little squeak that I've called about, probably just dust in the fan, but I haven't fixed it yet. I do hate having to use a Citrix computer when I am on the calendar in Morton County, though. It is slow, I can pull up documents from my "chambered" computer, but if I make changes or type a new document, I can't save it to my chambered computer.
- If I am working on a decision and the system goes down, I have a lot of difficulties with retrieving and saving.
- On occasion it will lock up and then I need to re-boot. Or occasionally the whole state system crashes and we can't access. They are annoyances and not problems as it does not happen that often.
- It is too slow. The battery power is not enough to read briefs even on a short airplane trip. It is too heavy to carry through an airport and home at night. In my box I often receive a message that I am over the capacity and will receive no further email, even though I clean it out on a daily basis.
- It often locks up. This costs valuable time for research and responding to emails. Also, often I cannot get my computer on line when I hook it up in the conference room. It may take 2 or 3 tries before I can get it to work in there.
- Sometimes I become frustrated with the lack of speed in processing but can live with it.
- It is rather slow. Sometimes it locks up.
- Docking and undocking to use in courtroom for real time. How to shut down real time session and start up new session each time I want to undock.

- Some mornings it is slow starting some programs. I have installed the patten(?) jury instructions on the hard drive but I cannot open them, A real problem if I can't get on the internet to see them on the SBAND web page.
- Attachments will sometimes not open.
- Laptop and desktop are becoming slower.
- Email. If not regularly used, it appears to disconnect from the server. If I try to use email , the whole system will lock up until the connection is made, making it impossible to do other tasks.
- Again, as to the old laptop. I would like to see the old laptop updated. Real time court reporting is important. I envision my court reporter will be available for other judges for trial. The updated laptop would then be made available to the other judges.
- Some times it is exceedingly slow.
- Have had troubles with present computer locking up and being slow at times. The windows did crash and had to be fixed by support staff. Also, the next laptop I get would be nice if it was lighter and thinner since I travel extensively on a regular basis from my chambers to other counties.
- The security feature that locks out any user after 15 minutes. It is quite annoying to have to sign in after just a short phone call or office visit. I do understand the need for security, however.
- Horrendous amount of spam.
- Laptop seems to make unusual sighing noises and sounds like the fan is working overtime. It used to take far too long to log in in the morning, but that seems to have changed with the addition of more memory.
- Haven't had sound in over a year.

3) If you have a laptop, do you routinely dock and undock it? YES / NO

Does this process work satisfactorily for you? YES / NO

Why/Why not?

NO

(4)

- I have both a laptop and a PC. I feel I need both in order to work efficiently and make best use of my court reporter's real time skills.

NO/NO

(2)

- I have quit trying to take it home at night because the routine seems to disrupt the computer and I have more problems.
- There is no handy way to set it up for the weekly updates. I have only one hookup in my office, so I have to disconnect my desktop, or setup in a courtroom. I will often put it off and forget. It is pretty old and slow.

YES/NO

(3)

- This computer can only dock while running. It must be completely shut down and turned off before undocking, otherwise few if any programs function. That is very troublesome when moving from my desk to the bench or conference room and back. The problem would be compounded if I had a docking station on the bench. As a result, I do not have a bench docking station and therefore must plug in power and peripherals each time I go to and leave the bench with the computer.
- If I use for real time in courtroom.
- Not a problem moving the computer to Stanley and hooking up in the side chambers. The problem comes when my court reporter tries to get a computer to give us a print out, ie. Jury instructions, when we are in Stanley, Williston or Bowbells.

YES/YES

(3)

- Essentially works quite easily...however, as noted before, it would be nice to be wireless.

4) Are there hardware items you don't have, but feel would enable you to do your job more efficiently? YES / NO
If so, what are they and have they been requested?

NO

(17)

YES

(7)

- A different computer. One was requested and I was told this one was not old enough to replace.
- I do have a wireless card but feel it would be more convenient if I had a computer with this installed.
- IVN
- Scanner Updated laptop for real time court reporting. Ability to hook up a PDA for scheduling.
- I do have my own PDA which I purchased personally. Seems like that should become something everyone has and it could be configurable to work wireless for email, web, etc.
- I have requested several hardware updates and have received them. It would be nice to have a scanner (perhaps) a new printer/scanner but I have not yet requested it as it is not a priority item at this time.
- Wireless card. It has not been requested yet.

5) Do you have computer printing needs that are going unmet? YES / NO
If so, what are they?

NO

(20)

YES

(4)

- The only printer in my chambers is beside my assistant. I must get up when I am researching and go out to her office to retrieve any cases I print. It is a waste of my time to have to do this.
- I have been frustrated with an uncontrolled printer. Have made numerous attempts to control the number of copies but have been unsuccessful.
- When we are on the road, Williston, Stanley or Bowbells and trying to print. It is a hassell, esp. when we are rushed to get jury instructions out.
- My printer in office works well. Can't always print in other courthouses when on the road.

6) Where do you use a computer? WORK – main office/chambers / HOME / WORK-not at main office/chamber.

WORK – main office/chambers

(25)

HOME

(14)

WORK-not at main office/chamber

(16)

7) Do you use any personally owned computers for work? YES / NO
If so, where is the personal computer primarily located? OFFICE / HOME / OTHER_____

NO
(11)

YES
(10)

HOME

- My home computer is used when the laptop cannot perform the function or does not have the proper software.
- I have a personal computer in my office.
- My PDA is always with me.

Category: Computer Software

1) What software/computer programs do you routinely use? (check all that apply)

Microsoft Outlook	24
Microsoft Word	17
Microsoft Internet Explorer	25
Corel WordPerfect.....	15
Web-based legal research	22
UCIS	18
Other	Power Point
	Excel
	Access
	Adobe acrobat
	Case View (real time)
	CF player
	Word is used to a lesser degree
	MS active Sync for my PDA downloads.
	MS Publisher

2) Do these software programs function satisfactorily? YES / NO
If not, why?

NO
(3)

- Word Perfect often “erases” my quick correct words and does not allow macros to function properly.
- I do not understand why we continue to use WordPerfect when it seems the rest of the world uses Microsoft Word. I had to specifically add Corel to my home computer. Unfortunately, my son cleaned up my home computer at Christmas and took Corel off. Now I can’t read anything sent to me from court personnel at home when it is sent in word perfect.

YES
(22)

- I often get complaints from others for using WordPerfect. They wonder why we use it so much.

3) Are there software programs you would like to use, but are unable to? YES / NO
If so, what are they and why are you unable?

NO
(18)

YES
(5)

- I would like some sort of litigation support software such as Summation to review transcripts because the formatting makes reading and searching in Word or Word Perfect very difficult.
- I do not use UCIS and spread sheets enough to be good at it, so it becomes frustrating. I would also like to learn power point. I simply don't have the time to learn these on my own.
- Microsoft Word
- PowerPoint presentations because I have not learned how and unsure if I have them now.
- Spreadsheet. I will need it more with drug court. Plus, being able to work with a presenter

Category: On the Bench

1) If you have a laptop, do you take it with you to the bench? YES / NO
How often?

NO
(7)

- I plan on starting because the courthouse I work in just became wired in the courtroom.
- Without network capability it would not be that helpful in any event.

YES
(12)

- Always
- Not often
- A couple of times a week, depending on what is scheduled
- Seldom. More lately but still less than once a month.
- Only when I am using real time.
- I used to do it often but not so much anymore.
- Occasionally – not every day
- For real time during trials.
- Primarily for real time reporting. I would like to be able to access the internet.
- Normally in jury trials and some complex civil bench trials.
- Less than 50% but always use it when complex proceedings and court reporter using real time.
- Seldom.

2) If you take your laptop to the bench, what applications do you use while on the bench?

- Word Perfect..... 1
- West CD 1
- Word.....2
- IE 1
- Email5
- Real Time Reporting ...3
- OthersResearch
 - Review transcripts
 - UCIS
 - Word processing to completely type forms rather than write them.
 - Take notes.
 - Web Now for research and updating.
 - Note taking, ear marking.

3) If you take your laptop to the bench, does this arrangement work satisfactorily for you? YES / NO
Why/Why not?

NO

(7)

- This computer can only dock while running. It must be completely shut down and turned off before undocking, otherwise few if any programs function. That is very troublesome when moving from my desk to the bench or conference room and back. The problem would be compounded if I had a docking station on the bench. As a result, I do not have a bench docking station and therefore must plug in power and peripherals each time I go to and leave the bench with the computer.
- The West CD research has an old engine and lacks windows functionality so it is slow to use. Sometimes I simply use Westlaw instead, which I believe costs more but works faster.
- It is very inconvenient the way I need to hook it up and again it is very heavy.
- Looks bad with cords, etc.
- It would be easier to have a machine on each bench to check records, etc..
- It is OK but have problems with docking and undocking.
- The old laptop needs to be updated. I also would like to access the internet on the bench.

YES

(4)

- But I would not be able to operate effectively if I had a docking station and laptop. It works for me because I have both a laptop and a PC
- Not much experience yet, but again, wireless would make the connection easier, etc.

DON'T KNOW

(1)

- I am just starting so I don't know yet.

4) Would your computing needs be better met if a computer were placed permanently on the bench? YES / NO
Why/why not?

NO

(6)

- I need all my notes, case data and other materials in one place. A better laptop would therefore be the solution rather than a desktop.
- I am not inclined to use a computer on the bench. I am a 2 finger typist and I would find I would be concentrating more on the keyboard and not on the arguments of counsel.
- I work in many, many courtrooms, and it wouldn't be practical to put a computer in each courtroom
- Too many places to have a trial.
- Overall would make things available but would probably be nicer to just bring my own laptop to the bench (especially if my next one is lighter, thinner and easily connected or wireless). Then I would have my familiar settings, documents saved with me. Obviously using the computer at the bench for keeping the recording notes of a trial and tying in with the actual digital recording would be helpful. I don't think I would ever use (at work or at home) a desktop type computer. Thus a permanent desktop at the bench would not seem to be feasible. During trials and/or master calendar times there is just too much moving from bench to chambers and would seem to defeat the purpose if the computer was "attached" to the bench.

YES

(12)

- It would eliminate the problem that it is very inconvenient the way I need to hook it up and again it is very heavy.
- Obviously we will soon be a paperless court system, and it would be wise for us to acclimate so as to enhance our efficient use while on the bench
- It would help to check UCIS for open cases and min convictions
- We do have one in the bench. It provides useful information.
- Just because then it is always there – no setup and making sure it works correctly and prints somewhere.
- Would be more prone to use it rather than hooking up my laptop each time.
- There are many times that a lawyer will cite to a case for the first time in court without providing a copy and I would have to adjourn court to review the case (either by going back to my chambers or to the library). I have sent the clerk out to get me the book from the library on a couple of occasions but the physical layout of our courthouse will allow this only from one of the courtrooms (one which I do not use very often). With a networked computer I would have access to those cases immediately.
Also, there have been times when I needed to get an outline that I had earlier saved to make sure that a procedure was done correctly. The best example is when the rule allowing the criminal pleas to be taken over ITV was enacted (but before the books were updated with the rule). I had to adjourn court and go back to my chambers to print a copy.
If I had access to a networked computer on the bench, the 10 minute delay would not have been necessary. If there were not only networked computer but also a small, quiet printer, I could envision that in some matters I could prepare an Order (based upon a prior order I had might have done) right during the hearing. (I save all Orders I have done in separate folder and created a spreadsheet that are hypertext-lines to the Orders so that I can find all my previous Orders quickly)
- I have found real time very helpful in keeping my thoughts and information intake process on track. A "record" through easily accessible (and retrievable) real time reporting of the case allows me to focus my attention more directly on testimony or arguments being made.
- I would have access to transcripts and to cases, both on our website and on the internet, if there were a computer on the bench but I find it too difficult to keep moving it back and forth from the bench to the conference room and I need it more in the conference room.

Category: Rural counties:

1) Do you take a laptop with you if/when you travel to a rural/non-chambered county? YES / NO

If not, why?

NO

(9)

- I do if I have a long and/or complicated trial. Otherwise I don't need it. When I have it has been good to have along. You should have allowed for a "sometimes" response to this question.
- No internet access or printer anyway.
- Don't have an internet hookup in the non-chambered county.
- I don't have one and I don't want one.
- I don't have a laptop and I am much uncertain about the network capabilities of the rural county (Traill) to which I travel.

YES

(9)

- I take my laptop if I am going to use real time reporting. Otherwise I use a UCIS station in rural counties.
- Usually only to real time trials, not for just run of the mill appearances.
- Depending on the nature of the proceedings. Do not for routine traffic and first appearance.

2) If you take your laptop with you when you travel, does this arrangement work satisfactorily for you? YES / NO

Why/Why not?

NO

(1)

- No docking station available and to use the stand alone Citrix is clunky.

YES

(8)

- The biggest problem with travel is that this computer has inadequate battery life, always less than 2 hours and often slightly more than one.
- I use the VPN connection regularly and often have problems
- I have a wireless card and can usually get the internet using that.
- I really like being able to get on the network from anywhere. I check my email and put out fires while on vacation in my cabin or at meetings.
- We have a docking station in Nelson County both in bench and office. All NEC judges have the same kind of laptop.
- Some mornings it is slow starting some programs. I have installed the patten(?) jury instructions on the hard drive but I cannot open them, A real problem if I can't get on the internet to see them on the SBAND web page.
- Please remember that my court reporter has unmet prompt printing needs.
- Considering thinner and lighter laptop, wireless.

3) Would your computing needs be better met if a computer were placed permanently in the visiting judge chambers or on the bench of the rural/non-chambered county? YES / NO

Why/Why not?

NO

(9)

- What would be good is to be sure that there is a computer connection/hookup at each location.
- Those chambers are not used regularly enough to justify the expense.
- If we were provided laptops I would believe that to be far more efficient.
- The docking stations and laptops work well, as long as all NEC judges use the same kind of laptops.
- It would be nice if not cost positive.
- Differences in how each judge uses a computer, plus I dislike the CITRIX box.
- I believe it is now getting pretty much essential to have a computer for access to works in progress, research, email, research and web...but believe that each judge having their own laptops properly configured and used is a better way than permanent arrangements.

YES

(8)

- I'd like a PC in Morton County because we spend 2 days per week with downtime between hearings and the CITRIX computer in chambers is irritating. I don't think I spend enough time in any of the other outlying counties in our district to justify a computer in chambers.
- I have one in 2 of my non-chambered sites. Will have a third. Especially important as no library. Need only in chambers
- It might be helpful to access UCIS, email, etc.
- Then I wouldn't have to use the clerk of court's computer
- It would work better, but I get along fine without it. Would it be worth the expense?

UNSURE

(1)

Category: Training:

Do you have any computer-related training needs? If so, in what areas would you like to receive training: (Check all that apply)

Email/outlook/anti-spam	3
Microsoft Word	3
WordPerfect	5
Internet explorer	3
Windows training, networking & file storage	7
UCIS	5
Legal research applications	6
Other	Excel
	Advanced word processing
	Spreadsheets\Power Point
	I am comfortable with the knowledge I have.
	Presenter Software.
	Email storage management.

Category: General

Do you feel your computer and technology needs are being met satisfactorily? YES / NO

If not, what needs are unaddressed?

NO

(5)

- I use this computer all day long, 5 days a week. I use it most nights and weekends to do work at home or on the road. It falls short in speed, performance and utility.
- Would like to have updated computer for real time. Would like internet access on the bench. Presenter related software, presenter and scanner. Easier time printing in other locations.
- More available training
- Some computer training may be helpful.
- I think I need a new updated laptop

YES

(18)

- Subject to what I wrote above (lighter, thinner, updated laptop, wireless) the answer is YES. ...I always appreciate all the help from the Technology and helpdesk personnel.

What technology related items do you need to make you more efficient in your job?

- A different computer with significantly longer battery life, faster operation and Summations and Westlaw.
- As we have gone to digital recording I have found it also has its limitation. The equipment is not transportable. There should continue to be analog recording equipment accessible for a judge who does not have a stenographic reporter working with him or her. Sometimes we need to conduct hearings in hospitals, nursing homes, etc.
- IVN
- A new updated laptop
- Training
- Laptop on bench.
- Laptop for real time. Internet access to the bench scanner.
- Perhaps wireless and lighter smaller laptop or notebook and printer accessibility from our laptops as we travel from courthouse to courthouse.
- Wireless card for my laptop. However, I have not yet requested it.

Would you like to receive a visit from one of the Judicial Branch's Technology Staff to assist with any technology needs you may have? YES / NO

NO

(15)

YES

(6)

- If you can correct my printer malfunction.

POSSIBLY

- Not at the moment , but possibly in the future.

Comments:

Four of us have the same Compaq laptops. One never leaves the Justice's desk and the other three deliver unacceptable performance in terms of slow performance, lack of battery life which makes them all but useless when traveling, and simple trouble with routine tasks such as burning a CD or trying to watch a DVD presentation. I have commented about the lack of battery life, and attach a screen shot from last week showing 96% battery life and a projected run time of 1:02. I just checked my battery and it showed 51% and 31 minutes run time. But I don't want a new battery. The computer is junk and should go.

I am pretty satisfied with equipment/service I am getting (although there are glitches to work out in the digital recording system). But, I am not into the use of computers compared to some judges and I think their needs should be taken care of.

Thanks for asking.

I get along fine with the current system. I have a laptop I take with me. When I need something I have been working on printed, I email it to my secretary and she prints it for me.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment on computer needs. I do use more than one computer to get work done. Multiple use of computers will only grow as one becomes more comfortable with this information age we try to live and work in. Please consider doing this on a regular basis.

Thanks for asking and giving us an opportunity to provide input.