

County of Fairfax, Virginia

To protect and enrich the quality of life for the people, neighborhoods and diverse communities of Fairfax County

Digital Courtroom Technology (CTMS 2)

The Courtroom Technology Management System (CTMS) enables users to present analog and digital evidence in high-tech courtrooms through a centralized, integrated audio and video network of microphones, monitors, assistive devices and flat screen displays. The market has rapidly migrated to digital technology while incorporating ownership and control enforcement tools for copyright protection through enforced compliance with Digital Media Rights and Digital Content Protection standards. The Audio/Video (AV) and PC industries have been forced to adapt to these standards by phasing out or discontinuing analog products, support and connectivity specifications.

The County and the Courts are not immune to these market changes. Existing CTMS courtrooms are supported by analog hardware for Audio/Video routing and distribution. As analog equipment and repair parts are being discontinued, existing evidence and presentation hardware components will need to be replaced or retrofitted with digital hardware. Major core components include routers, switchers and edge devices such as touch panels, flat panels, laptop interfaces, CD/DVD, and VCR.

The transition to digital is not a “plug and play” upgrade. A new digital design for CTMS 2 has been completed, and will be implemented in future renovated courtrooms. Existing CTMS courtrooms will require a significant upgrade to the new CTMS 2 platform. The digital upgrade is expensive, but will be required to accommodate future needs. CTMS 2 benefits include the ability to maintain compatibility with evolving PC and laptop configurations, support wireless handheld devices (Android and Apple), and better video quality through the support of higher digital resolutions.

The digital CTMS project meets the primary objectives to improve citizens’ access to the Courts, facilitate trials and hearings in the most effective and efficient means possible, allow for all three Courts to share common resources, and provide for flexibility and adaptability to incorporate future changes in technology and court proceedings.

For more information visit: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/courts/crto



Circuit Court & Records

General District Court

Juvenile & Domestic
Relations District Court



Department of Information
Technology (DIT)
Court Technology Office

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