



OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY

April 10, 2017

Honorable John P. Daley
Cook County Commissioner – 11th District
118 N. Clark Street, Room 567
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Dear Chairman Daley,

Please accept this letter as my response to your questions regarding Item #17-1491, a proposed contract with Tyler Technologies Inc. that is to be considered during the Finance Committee Meeting on Tuesday, April 11, 2017.

1. *"Has an analysis been conducted comparing the annual cost of the current court records management system with that of the proposed Tyler system?"*

Yes, the Clerk's Office has reviewed the annual cost of the current case management system compared to the proposed new case management system.

2. *"If so, are there any future cost savings, excluding the savings from migrating off the mainframe?"*

The primary purpose for implementing the new case management system is because the functionality of our current system is simply outdated. However, there are some inherent future cost savings from having a more efficient system. The new case management system will provide a system with more effective data retrieval, enhanced public access to case information, and better case management tools, among other things. There will be inherent cost savings from having case information more efficiently available to customers electronically, reducing the programming time needed to create reports, the programming to maintain the system, and the amount of time needed for staff to interact with customers. These would all result in future reductions in staff.

Although, the Clerk's Office already has an electronic filing system, one of the primary benefits of the new case management system is that it will provide electronic filing for all case types - civil, criminal and traffic, and there will be NO convenience fee for the customer. Future data entry and cashing costs will be reduced from electronic filings, once all cases being handled by the Clerk's Office are electronic. Given the Illinois Supreme Court order, that makes electronic filing mandatory, starting January 1, 2018, it is our estimation that all cases being handled by the Clerk's Office would be electronic within the next 5 to 10 years.

In addition to data entry and cashing cost savings, even more future cost savings would be realized if the Illinois Supreme Court requires judges to use electronic images during court hearings, as well as require that court orders and other documents presented during court hearings are submitted electronically. Requiring judges to use electronic images during court hearings would eliminate the need for the Clerk's Office to print out paper files of electronically filed or imaged documents for court hearings, thus reducing paper and file folder costs, as well as the cost of filing and storing paper files. Finally, if the Illinois Supreme Court also required court orders and other documents produced during

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court hearings, to be submitted electronically, it would eliminate the need for the Clerk's Office to image and store paper documents, thereby reducing scanning and storage costs.

3. *"Would the proposed Tyler system allow the Clerk's office to reduce its full-time employee count?"*

The inherent cost and future cost savings, indicated in answer #2 above, should permit the Clerk's Office to reduce full-time employee count in the long run, possibly in 5 to 10 years, as the new system is implemented and all case information becomes electronic.

4. *"The County has committed substantial funding and staffing to improving the Mittimus system to ensure the transfer of critical information between the Clerk's Office and the Sheriff's Office. Will the implementation of the Tyler case management system cause any delays in the ongoing effort to improve the Mittimus system?"*

The Clerk's Office has completed its portion of the Mittimus System and it currently transfers the data electronically to the Sheriff via the "Bus System." Unfortunately, the Sheriff is not currently able to accept and utilize the data. However, we have received additional requirements from the Sheriff to assist the Sheriff with a way to utilize the data. The Clerk's Office will continue to work with the Sheriff on the implementation and assist the Sheriff anyway possible. The implementation of the proposed case management system will not cause any delays in the ongoing effort to improve the Mittimus System.

Since receiving your request to answer the questions above, please note that the Clerk's Office has been in discussions with the Cook County Board President's Office concerning utilizing an IV&V (Independent Validation and Verification) audit on the contract. The Clerk's Office is committed to utilizing best practices on this project and we understand that the President's Office, along with the Clerk's Office, will be working to bring an IV&V contract to the County Board in the coming months. Both Tyler and the Clerk's Office will work closely with the IV&V firm selected. It is our understanding that the IV&V will provide the Technology Committee periodic updates. Lastly, as on all Clerk's Office major technology initiatives, we will have an Executive Committee and a Steering Committee. The Chief Information Officer of the Bureau of Technology (BOT), County CFO, and a representative from the Office of the Chief Judge's Office will be members of the Executive Sponsor Committee, along with the representatives of my office; and the Steering Committee will include all offices that are affected by the new system (OCJ, etc.).

Finally, we are committed to continuing our current practice of cooperation with the data bus.

If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (312) 603-5071. My staff will also be available on Tuesday, April 11, 2017, to answer any further questions.

Sincerely,


Dorothy Brown
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County

CC: Cook County Board of Commissioners
Honorable Toni Preckwinkle, President, Cook County Board of Commissioners
John Keller, Chief of Staff to President Preckwinkle
Ivan Samstein, Chief Financial Officer
Tanya Anthony, Director, Budget and Management
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