



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL
2200 ARMY PENTAGON, ROOM 3E542
WASHINGTON, DC 20310-2200

DAJA-ZA

09 SEP 2015

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Baseline Electronic Requirements for the 21st Century Courtroom


1. We recently assessed the baseline electronic requirements for our courtrooms. While our Corps repeatedly demonstrates the ability to successfully conduct court-martial in austere settings, doing so should not be our norm, especially when we are not forward deployed. Modern courtroom architecture demands that we conduct judicial proceedings with the professionalism, decorum and equipment commensurate with our civilian counterparts.
2. The attached Information Paper identifies the baseline technology architecture expected of modern military courtrooms. Also refer to the 30 June 2009 Army Standard for Judicial Centers with Courtroom for overall guidance regarding the integration of these minimum electronic requirements with the overall planning, design, and construction of Judicial Centers. While the nature of our practice, especially when deployed or as it involves classified material, may not lend itself to fully or immediately integrate all architecture minimums, we must continue to improve all of our courtroom capabilities. We must leverage all available technologies to continue advancing our military justice practice, and for our biggest and busiest jurisdictions, this includes developing capabilities for wi-fi and classified content.
3. To move towards these goals, all SJAs will do the following:
 - a. Report NLT 1 Nov 2015 current compliance with the minimum modern courtroom architecture identified in the attached;
 - b. Begin seeking mission or IMCOM funding to resolve identified shortfalls; and
 - c. After the 1 Nov 15 initial report, submit quarterly reports on funding required to meet identified shortfalls (broken out by specific shortfall). The POC to receive these reports is OTJAG Criminal Law.
4. For commands that share courtroom facilities, a consolidated initial compliance report and quarterly reports is expected.

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5. My point of contact is the Chief, Criminal Law Division, OTJAG.

Attachment
as



FLORA D. DARPINO
Lieutenant General, USA
The Judge Advocate General

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Commander, U.S. Army Legal Services Agency
Commander, The Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School
Assistant Judge Advocate General for Military Law & Operations
Staff Judge Advocates
Chief Trial Judge, U.S. Army Trial Judiciary
Chief, Criminal Law Division, OTJAG
Chief, Information Technology Division
Chief, U.S. Army Trial Defense Service

INFORMATION PAPER

SUBJECT: Baseline Electronic Requirements for the 21st Century Courtroom .

1. **Purpose.** To provide members of the Judge Advocate General's Corps with the minimum electronic requirements for the courtroom of today.

2. **Minimum Electronic Requirements.**

a. Wired internet access in the courtroom and the ability to power computers/tablets and access internet at counsel tables, Military Judge's bench area, and podium. Our biggest and busiest courtrooms should also consider installing Wi-Fi capability within the courtroom.

b. Monitors at podium, each counsel table, Military Judge's bench area, and court-reporter area. Large, high-resolution monitors placed throughout the courtroom so that all court participants, including spectators, can view projections. The Military Judge should have the ability to control the media input to all monitors to limit what is visible on each monitor so that sensitive images can only be seen by limited parties.

c. Ability to project exhibits to include documents, photos, audio and video. This would require a computer, appropriate monitors/screen(s), speakers, and a projector.

d. Ability to have witnesses mark on exhibits such as documents, photos, etc, via appropriate technology such as a smart board/smart monitor. Such ability must include the capacity for the court-reporter to capture and print the exhibit with the marks shown on each iteration of the exhibit to preserve that testimony for the record of trial.

e. Wireless microphones and other court-reporting equipment. Microphones should not only record testimony but also be able to amplify witnesses who speak softly while testifying.

f. Ability to take telephonic testimony with a telephone line integrated into the sound/recording system in the courtroom.

g. Efficient and functioning climate control (heat/air conditioning) in the courthouse to specifically include the courtroom and deliberation room..

h. Central control system at the podium and military judge's bench area to manipulate media input and what is visible on each monitor.

i. Computer embedded in podium for using case presentation software, document projector, media player (probably just on the computer) usable from the podium. Ability from the podium to display images/files to the large courtroom monitors.

j. VTC capability.

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k. Our biggest and busiest installations should pursue the ability to store, handle, and display classified evidence. Such capability would include a classified computer with FTR Gold installed.

l. Responsible Judge Advocate General's Corps leaders should refer to the 30 June 2009 Army Standard for Judicial Centers with Courtroom for overall guidance regarding the integration of these minimum electronic requirements with the overall planning, design, and construction of Judicial Centers.

3. POC for this information paper is OTJAG Criminal Law.

COL Walt Hudson/(571) 256-8131