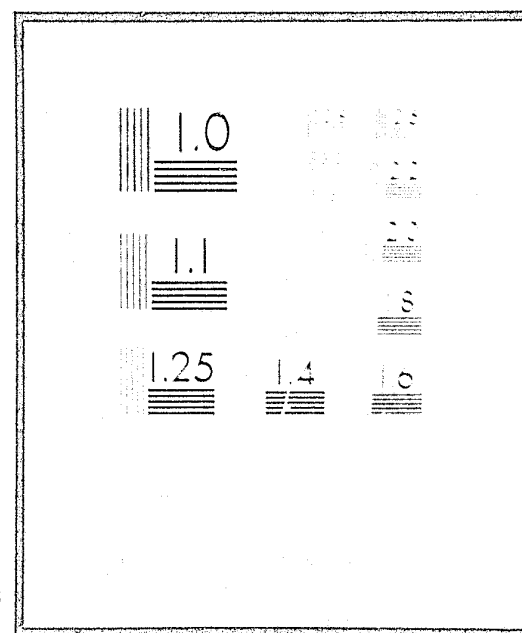


NCJRS

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFERENCE SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20531

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3 a . e . i l m e d

COURT
Improvement of ~~CRF~~
Automated Project

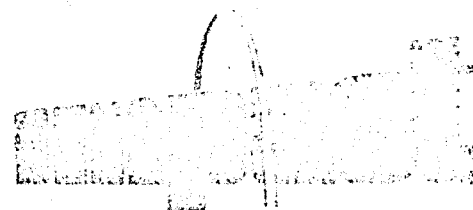
St. Louis

36525

CENTRAL
FILE

SAINT LOUIS COMMISSION ON CRIME AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

417 CITY HALL
SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI 63103
(314) 453-4397 453-4398



July 8, 1974

OTTO G. HEINECKE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

John S. Wilson, Project Director
Court Automation
22nd Judicial Circuit Court
Municipal Court Building
St. Louis, Missouri 63101

NCJRS

SEP 16 1976

ACQUISITION

Re: Court Automation
S-MP13-72
Final Evaluation Report

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Enclosed please find the final evaluation report for the above referenced project for the current award period. Your response to the report, in letter form, is requested within the next two weeks. If the report contains recommendations relating to modifications of the project, your reply should give specific consideration to them, indicating for each how it will be implemented or why it should be changed or dropped. During the week following the receipt of your reply a decision will be made by the Impact Program regarding compliance with the recommendation.

Specific questions relating to the report may be directed to the Evaluation Analyst listed below. Your cooperation and assistance are appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read "Otto G. Heinecke", is written over a horizontal line.

Otto G. Heinecke
Executive Director

L. L. HOLMES

Evaluation Analyst: Robert S. Rosenthal

JUL 22 1974

RECEIVED

Enclosure
BR/OGH/dgw

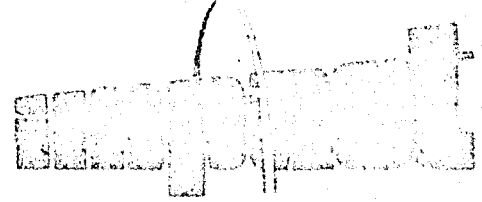
CC: William Abrams
Dr. Richard Barnes

Dr. Larry Holmes ✓
Marc Dreyer

Judge James L. Sanders

SAINT LOUIS COMMISSION ON CRIME AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

417 CITY HALL
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(314) 453-4397 453-4398



OTTO G. HEINECKE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PROJECT REVIEW AND EVALUATION REPORT

Project: Improvement of Court Automation

Subgrant Period: 3/13/73 to 6/30/74

Project Number: S-MP13-72

Project Director: John S. Wilson-
Court Administrator

Subgrantee: 22nd Judicial Circuit Court

Authorizing Official: Honorable James
L. Sanders

<u>Grant Award:</u>		<u>Funding</u>
Original	Federal	29,531
Request	Local	<u>8,734</u>
		38,265

<u>Date of Report:</u>	July 8, 1974
Revised Request	25,700
	<u>8,566</u>
	34,266

Project Objectives

The specific objectives of this project are:

(1) To provide for the hiring of a maintenance programmer by the Court, who will be responsible for:

(a) making changes in docket scheduling policies as set forth by the judges of the Circuit Court;

(b) developing computer programs to elicit various combinations of data as required by the judges in formulating new policies;

(c) maintaining normal computer maintenance operations.

(2) To therefore, expedite and improve the ability of the Court to more rapidly dispose of cases awaiting trial, which will in turn reduce the jail population by virtue of reducing the average amount of time persons stay there awaiting trial.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The Court Automation Project's basic objective was to improve the Court's computer operations. There were to be two methods used to enable the Court to meet this objective: (1) to maintain the present automation program by employment of an in-house programmer and (2) to purchase equipment and establish an on-line automated system connecting the Circuit Attorney's Office, the Court Administrator's Office and the City Jail. The benefit to the Court and the Criminal Justice System anticipated to result from the entire project would be speedier disposition of criminal cases with resultant reduction in the City Jail population.

The nature of this project has changed considerably since it was first proposed. A special condition was placed on the project requiring the court to join REJIS. Besides delaying the implementation date of the project, the special condition forced the court to postpone acquiring computer hardware, which was the second method of improving the Court's computer operations. The court proposed a budget revision to respond to the changed circumstances. The budget revision replaces the full time programmer with a parttime programmer analyst, transfers two automation clerks' services from other grants to this project and covers the cost of sending the court administrators to seminars on automation related topics. The budget revision received final approval on May 23, 1974.

The Court has been attempting to improve its data processing system for several years. The progress made under earlier grants (V-AC48-71-e2 and V-AC3-72-e2) fell short of planned objectives for reasons outside of the Court Administrator's control. It does not appear that the present grant has yielded much in the way of innovation or greatly expanded services.

Objectives relating to innovation and overall improvement of the Court's data processing system were deleted when the grant revision deleted purchase of equipment,

ever, the maintenance and service activities of the project were achieved. Since the Court has agreed to participate in REJIS, it was not thought wise to make any major changes in the system of operation, but rather to postpone such action until REJIS and the Court determined how best to interface their systems. REJIS has assumed supervisory control over programming of the agencies that joined it, and the purchase of equipment and the consolidation of computer operations are to be taken over by the Project Manager of the Joint 21st-22nd Circuit Court Automation Project. This project must therefore be viewed as laying the ground work for future Court Automation improvement by on-line operations. No major immediate benefits in improved Court operations or reduced crime in the streets are anticipated.

The Court Automation Project has had three accomplishments. First, it has kept the Court's data processing system operational. Ordinary program maintenance and updating have been carried on successfully, much as they have prior to the grant. Second, a large amount of statistical information should soon be provided in response to a court request. This information has been of interest for some time, but was not accessible without the technical expertise provided by the project programmer. Attendance at recent seminars on court automation and information systems has given the Project Director the opportunity to be informed on the most recent developments and techniques in these areas.

RECOMMENDATIONS

I. The Court should follow through on its decision to join REJIS

The Court has already made the decision to join REJIS. It is important that this be followed through.

By availing themselves of the technical capabilities of the REJIS staff and the use of their facilities, the Court should be able to make substantial progress by having an on-line system.

II. A plan be developed for continuation of the useful aspects of the Project.

The Court should develop a plan for funding the activities of this project following the conclusion of the Impact program in St. Louis. The plan should consider alternative levels and methods of subsequent operation, and sources of funding.

PROJECT EVALUATION REPORT
COURT AUTOMATION PROJECT
(S-MP13-72)

The Court Automation Project was approved on November 11, 1973, with a starting date of December 1, 1973. Pursuant to a written request from the Court, the starting date was made retroactive to March 13, 1973 to cover that portion of the Project providing for employment of an in-house programmer. The nature of the project and its objectives have been substantially altered since the first grant application was filed on June 2, 1972. This evaluation report includes discussions of :

- 1) The original project objectives,
- 2) Project history,
- 3) Budget revision,
- 4) Effort expended toward meeting the objectives, and
- 5) Conclusions and recommendations

Data recently made available to the Evaluation Unit will permit determination of the extent to which the project has met its overall objectives of improving court operations and reducing case processing delays. Because the data are to be extracted from the Court's computerized data base, a task involving the construction of several computer programs particularly requested by Region V and not now available, a decision was made to conduct preliminary evaluation at this point, and to perform a more indepth analysis, in a subsequent evaluation, for this and another project currently operational in the St. Louis Circuit Court (Criminal Court Improvement S-MP7-73). Since both projects have similar objectives and have been in operation simultaneously, the evaluation will examine their cumulative effects on court operations. The projected completion date for the second evaluation, using the data recently supplied from the Court's automated data file, is July, 1974. In connection with that study, the judges and the court administrator have promised to be of assistance in helping to identify the reasons for any changes noted in Court operation or case processing time. A questionnaire survey of the judges will also be used to help measure qualitative aspects of the impact of these projects.

1. Project Objectives

The Court Automation project was to begin operation June 5, 1972 with a primary objective of improving the Court's computer operations.

The benefits provided to the Court as a result of this project were expected to be twofold; first the case dispositions would be sped up and second, the jail population would be reduced through a reduction in the average confinement time for persons awaiting trial. Although the project has been altered substantially in its methods (the purchase of equipment was deleted) of achieving its objective, both the objective and the benefits have remained the same. The original grant application envisioned two methods of meeting the objective:

1. Employ a computer programmer to perform "maintenance" services for court programs dealing with docket scheduling, data gathering, and other court activities; and,
2. Consolidate computer operations by on line capability.

The second method of achieving the proposed objective was to employ an on-line automation interface with Circuit Attorney, Court Administrator and City Jail. Since the Court has decided to join REJIS it wisely chose not to proceed on this method and thus it has been eliminated.

A programmer was employed from March 13, 1973 to December 31, 1973 to cover that portion of the Project providing for employment of an in-house programmer.

The Court has since been authorized to revise the nature of the project and its budget. The revision eliminates the purchase of any equipment, and uses the recovered project funds for the employment of a part time programmer analyst on a contractual arrangement with REJIS, transfers two automation clerks' services from another grant, covers the cost of sending the Court Administrators to seminars on automation related topics.

2. Project History

The Court has maintained an automated criminal justice information system since the first program became operational in early 1970. Presently the Court has the following programs operational:

Weekly dockets

Sentence dockets

Inactive case docket

Mental docket

Alphabetical listing of all cases

Numerical order listing of all cases

Status of all cases-master file

Future trial setting docket

Case listings assigned to each Circuit Attorney

Case listings assigned to each Public Defender

Activity Reports (several)

Edit-update report

Bond forfeiture Print Out

Motion Docket

Master Case/Sentence Report

Terminated case listing

Plus several programs available on an "on-call" basis such as a print-out listing of cases for each individual defense counsel.

(Acompleted Jail/Workhouse census report which is awaiting other agency information in-put procedures is in working order ready to become operational).

In 1970 and 1971 the Court was awarded Action grants (V-AC48-72-e2 and V-AC3-72-e2) which were directed at the same basic objectives as the present grant. Programs were to be written to improve existing software or to develop new automated services for the Court. Although many of the programs listed on the previous page were developed under this grant, other objectives were not met for reasons outside the control of the project director. These included computerization of records for an automated inventory and bond accounting system for all criminal cases in the Circuit Court, a probation evaluation system, a jail census system, and an attorney notification system.

The project had been funded prior to the project director's involvement with it. When the project director attempted to implement the objectives it was discovered that the bond accounting system, and the probation evaluation program were neither wanted nor needed by the prospective users. The jail inventory program was developed, but because of data inadequacies in the jail records system it was impossible to implement this program. As of April 1, 1974 the sheriff has agreed to provide the Court the data cards on jail transfers. This program will be implemented as soon as deficiencies in the data are corrected and a satisfactory means of collecting the data is developed. The attorney notifications system was developed but is not being used because a change in the law made it impossible to appoint attorneys without compensation. It was also envisioned that a capacity for instant retrieval of case histories would be developed. This was never accomplished because the City's computer operations were not capable of accommodating the on-line requirements of the proposed Court system. Although other computer operations were reviewed as alternatives, it was discovered that the in-kind contribution requirement of the grant prevented their selection.

As a result, the Court sought in its original Impact grant to provide many of the computer operations not implemented during the previous grants. In the original request the Court planned to purchase or rent CRT thermo printers, modems, and communication

lines necessary to provide the on-line capability for interface with the Circuit Attorney and the City Jail.

The Court Automation Project was not approved at first because of deficiencies in the grant application as determined by Region 5. Approval was further delayed when a special condition was placed on the release of funds requiring that the Court first become part of the REJIS system.

Reputedly the Judges of the Court were divided on the merits of joining REJIS and were concerned over maintaining the confidentiality and proprietary rights of court generated data. These problems were subsequently approved with a subgrant period beginning December 1, 1973.

The subgrant period was later made retroactive to March 1, 1973 to provide payments to cover the cost of a programmer hired previously, in March, 1973. This programmer was hired after Region 5 mistakenly informed the Court that the grant had been approved. When it was learned that the grant had not yet been approved, the City had assumed this cost pending approval of the grant. The data revision permitted the City to recover all payments advanced to the programmer.

3. Budget Revision

When the Court decided to participate in REJIS, expenditures planned for equipment became unnecessary; thus all purchases of computer hardware were deleted and the Court concentrated its efforts on the other methods as indicated in the budget revision. Participation in REJIS will presumably facilitate the on-line capability envisioned in the original grant application.

The Court submitted a budget revision requesting a shifting of the emphasis of the subject from hardware to personnel. The budget revision request deleted the second method of consolidation of computer operations.

In addition, the revision switched from the use of a full-time programmer to a part-time programmer analyst because it was felt that the programming needs did not require an in-house programmer on a full-time basis. A highly competent programmer was obtained on a contractual basis for part time programming.

A third aspect of the budget revision involves the transfer of two automation clerks from V AC3-72 to this grant to collect and transcribe data needed to update the existing Court programs. The clerks also distribute printouts to various court-related agencies.

A final change in the budget revision related to travel expenses. In order to keep the administrative staff current on the latest and most efficient methods of gathering and using the proper statistical information, attendance at the workshops sponsored by the Institute of Court Management was planned. Included were the following seminars and trips (not all of which have been completed as yet):

1. Management Information Systems in Courts
2. Case Flow Management and Jury Utilization in Courts
3. Court Administrators' Conference
4. Visit to the Center for Judicial Administration for information relating to the Court's case flow and automated docket system

The budget revision was originally submitted on January 25, 1974, however, because of technical deficiencies in the grant application and certain delays Region 5 it was not forwarded to the State Planning Agency with Region 5's recommendation for approval until March 13, 1974. On April 13, 1974 the State Planning Agency recommended to Region VII of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration that the budget revision be approved. Region VII approved the budget revision on May 23, 1974.

All the requested budget changes have already been implemented. The full time in-house programmer previously employed terminated her services with the Court as of December 31, 1973. In March 1974 the Court contracted with REJIS for the employment of one of their programmers, William Tucker, on a part-time basis. Two automation clerks have been transferred from V- AC3-72, a Computerized Court System grant which terminated in March 1974. The City has temporarily advanced funds for their salaries, however, since the budget revision had been approved it will be reimbursed, from grant funds.

4. Effort Expended in Meeting the Project's Objectives

A programmer was hired in March 1973 to provide program maintenance services and to fulfill requests of the Judges with regard to data processing, the first method of improving the Court's Computer operations. This programmer was employed by the Court through December 31, 1973.

The Court Administrator listed the following benefits resulting from the programmer's services:

A) Implementation of a system for informing the Court of prisoner's location

(workhouse of jail). Previously the Court was unable to make this distinction. When the sheriff was requested to get a prisoner for trial was often as much as an hour's delay in locating him.

B) Improvement of signoff system for Court printouts. The Court Clerk's office, Jail, Circuit Attorney, and other related agencies are regularly supplied with computer printouts from the Court's information system. A procedure has been devised which permits the Court to ascertain whether all these printouts have been properly distributed.

C) Statistical Information requested by the Court. Judges occasionally desire statistical information available only from the Court's data file. An example could be a request to determine the number of robbery trials held in the past three years. The previous programmer has stated, when interviewed by the Evaluation Unit, that she did not write any programs of this nature or other, during her tenure with the Court. Thus it must be assumed by this evaluator that requested statistical data were compiled from the normal, previously available printouts.

D) General Updating of data. The programmer, Marilyn Sieberman, was contracted and asked about the services she provided the Court, but she did not desire to further discuss any matters pertaining to her previous employment.

The part time programmer, William Tucker, has been employed for two months. His two major activities have been:

A) Revision of Court Programs as requested. Additions have been made to the disposition and sentencing codes, and the wording on some of the computer printouts has been altered.

B) Development of detailed court data. The Court has asked for a program for compilation of statistical data on Court operations include the following:

1. The number of felony cases issued by the Circuit Attorney, and the number of cases disposed by the Court for each of the years 1971, 1972 and 1973.

2. For each of these years, the number of cases disposed of in the following manner:

- a. Trial by Jury and Verdict
- b. Trial by Jury interrupted by guilty plea, directed verdict, or nolle prosequi.
- c. Jury-waived trial
- d. Guilty plea
- e. Nolle prosequi
- f. Other means

3. The above information broken down by appropriate crime classifications.

4. For the period from January, 1971 through December, 1973, quarterly reports giving the total number of these cases pending at the end of each quarter, and the number of these cases which had been pending from time of arraignment for 30, 60, 90, 120, 150, 180 days, one year, and longer than one year.

5. The quarterly data requested in paragraph 4 broken down by the crimes classifications for (3).

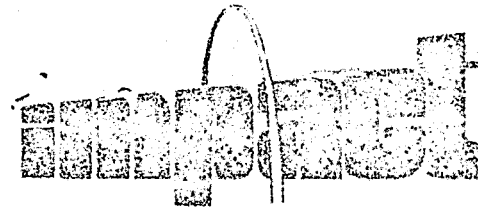
The compilation of this information has not yet been completed. The automation clerks for working full time coding data and organizing printouts, a continuation of the activities which they were performing prior to being transferred from V AC3-72 to this project.

Finally, the Court Administrator has attended some of the seminars on court information systems.

SAINT LOUIS COMMISSION ON CRIME AND LAW ENFORCEMENT



417 CITY HALL
SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI 63103
(314) 453-4397 453-4398



OTTO G. HEINECKE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*Comes for:
Keep
Larry S.
SDTde
Frank
Heath
Warren
Glen
Bill*

September 9, 1974

Mr. John S. Wilson, Administrator
22nd Judicial Circuit Court
Municipal Courts Building
St. Louis, Missouri 63101

Re: Court Automation
S-MP13-72
Final Evaluation

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Thank you for your letter of July 26, 1974 in response to the Final Evaluation Report on Court Automation Project S-MP13-72-e2. The evaluation has been amended, in accordance with your comments, by Mr. Robert Rosenthal, the Evaluation Analyst. Enclosed is a copy of the evaluation as amended.

Sincerely,

O G H

Otto G. Heinecke *by B Odell*
Executive Director

Enclosure

BR/OGH/bs

cc: William Abrams
Dr. Richard Barnes

Dr. Larry Holmes ✓
Marc Dreyer

Judge James L. Sanders

L. L. HOLMES

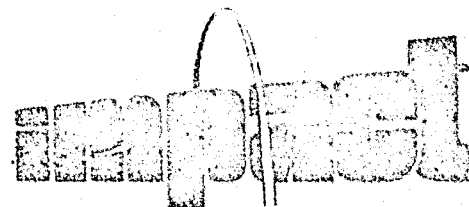
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(314) 453-4397 453-4398



OTTO G. HEINECKE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PROJECT REVIEW AND EVALUATION REPORT

Project: Improvement of Court Automation

Subgrant Period: 3/13/73 to 6/30/74

Project Number: S-MP13-72

Project Director: John S. Wilson-
Court Administrator

Subgrantee: 22nd Judicial Circuit Court

Authorizing Official: Honorable James
L. Sanders

<u>Grant Award:</u>		<u>Funding</u>
Original	Federal	29,531
Request	Local	8,734
		<u>38,265</u>

<u>Date of Report:</u> September 9, 1974	
Revised Request	25,700
	<u>8,566</u>
	<u>34,266</u>

Project Objectives

The specific objectives of this project are:

(1) To provide for the hiring of a maintenance programmer by the Court, who will be responsible for:

(a) making changes in docket scheduling policies as set forth by the judges of the Circuit Court;

(b) developing computer programs to elicit various combinations of data as required by the judges in formulating new policies;

(c) maintaining normal computer maintenance operations.

(2) To therefore, expedite and improve the ability of the Court to more rapidly dispose of cases awaiting trial, which will in turn reduce the jail population by virtue of reducing the average amount of time persons stay there awaiting trial.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The Court Automation Project's basic objective was to improve the Court's computer operations. There were to be two methods used to enable the Court to meet this objective: (1) to maintain the present automation program by employment of an in-house programmer and (2) to purchase equipment and establish an on-line automated system connecting the Circuit Attorney's Office, the Court Administrator's Office and the City Jail. The benefit to the Court and the Criminal Justice System anticipated to result from the entire project would be speedier disposition of criminal cases with resultant reduction in the City Jail population.

The nature of this project has changed considerably since it was first proposed. A special condition was placed on the project requiring the court to join REJIS. Besides delaying the implementation date of the project, the special condition forced the court to postpone acquiring computer hardware, which was the second method of improving the Court's computer operations. The court proposed a budget revision to respond to the changed circumstances. The budget revision replaces the full time programmer with a part time programmer analyst, transfers two automation clerks' services from other grants to this project and covers the cost of sending the court administrators to seminars on automation related topics. The budget revision received final approval on May 23, 1974.

The Court has been attempting to improve its data processing system for several years. The progress made under earlier grants (V-AC48-71-e2 and V-AC3-72-e2) fell short of planned objectives for reasons outside of the Court Administrator's control. It does not appear that the present grant has yielded much in the way of innovation or greatly expanded services.

Objectives relating to innovation and overall improvement of the Court's data processing system by use of on-line equipment were deleted when the grant revision deleted purchase of equipment, however, the maintenance and service activities of the project were achieved. Since the Court has agreed to participate in REJIS, it was not thought wise to make any major changes in the system of operation, but rather to postpone such action until REJIS and the Court determined how best to interface their systems. REJIS has assumed supervisory control over programming of the agencies that joined it, and the purchase of equipment and the consolidation of computer operations are to be taken over by the Project Manager of the Joint 21st-22nd Circuit Court Automation Project. This project must therefore be viewed as laying the ground work for future Court Automation improvement by on-line operations. No major immediate benefits in improved Court operations or reduced crime in the streets are anticipated.

The Court Automation Project has had three accomplishments. First, it has kept the court's data processing system operational. Ordinary program maintenance and updating have been carried on successfully, much as they have prior to the grant. Second, a large amount of statistical information should soon be provided in response to a court request. This information has been of interest for some time, but was not accessible without the technical expertise provided by the project programmer. Attendance at recent seminars on court automation and information systems has given the Project Director the opportunity to be informed on the most recent developments and techniques in these areas.

RECOMMENDATIONS

I. The Court should follow through on its decision to join REJIS

The Court has already made the decision to join REJIS. It is important that this be followed through.

By availing themselves of the technical capabilities of the REJIS staff and the use of their facilities, the Court should be able to make substantial progress by having an on-line system.

II. A plan be developed for continuation of the useful aspects of the Project.

The Court should develop a plan for funding the activities of this project following the conclusion of the Impact program in St. Louis. The plan should consider alternative levels and methods of subsequent operation, and sources of funding.

PROJECT EVALUATION REPORT
COURT AUTOMATION PROJECT
(S-MP13-72)

The Court Automation Project was approved on November 11, 1973, with a starting date of December 1, 1973. Pursuant to a written request from the Court, the starting date was made retroactive to March 13, 1973 to cover that portion of the Project providing for employment of an in-house programmer. The nature of the project and its objectives have been substantially altered since the first grant application was filed on June 2, 1972. This evaluation report includes discussions of:

- 1) The original project objectives,
- 2) Project history,
- 3) Budget revision,
- 4) Effort expended toward meeting the objectives, and
- 5) Conclusions and recommendations

Data that has been made available to the Evaluation Unit will permit determination of the extent to which the project has met its overall objectives of improving court operations and reducing case processing delays. Because the data are to be extracted from the Court's computerized data base, a task involving the construction of several computer programs particularly requested by Region V and not now available, a decision was made to conduct a preliminary evaluation at this point, and to perform a more in depth analysis in a subsequent evaluation, for this and another project currently operational in the St. Louis Circuit Court (Criminal Court Improvement S-MP7-73). Since both projects have similar objectives and have been in operation simultaneously, the evaluation will examine their cumulative effects on court operations. The projected completion date for the second evaluation, using the data recently supplied from the Court's automated data file, is July, 1974. In connection with that study, the judges and the court administrator have promised

to be of assistance in helping to identify the reasons for any changes noted in Court operation or case processing time. A questionnaire survey of the judges will also be used to help measure qualitative aspects of the impact of these projects.

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The second method of achieving the proposed objective was to employ an on-line automation interface with Circuit Attorney, Court Administrator and City Jail. Since the Court has decided to join REJIS it wisely chose not to proceed on this method and thus it has been eliminated.

A programmer was employed from March 13, 1973 to December 31, 1973 to cover that portion of the Project providing for employment of an in-house programmer.

The Court has since been authorized to revise the nature of the project and its budget. The revision eliminates the purchase of any equipment, and uses the recovered

project funds for the employment of a part time programmer analyst on a contractual arrangement with REJIS, transfers two automation clerks' services from another grant, and covers the cost of sending the Court Administrators to seminars on automation related topics.

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Terminated case listing

Plus several programs available on an "on-call" basis such as a print-out listing of cases for each individual defense counsel.

(A completed Jail/Workhouse census report which is awaiting other agency information input procedures is in working order ready to become operational).

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The Court Automation Project was not approved at first because of deficiencies in the grant application as determined by Region 5. Approval was further delayed when a special condition was placed on the release of funds requiring that the Court first become part of the REJIS system.

Reputedly the Judges of the Court were divided on the merits of joining REJIS and were concerned over maintaining the confidentiality and proprietary rights of court generated data. These problems were subsequently resolved, and the project was approved with a subgrant period beginning December 1, 1973.

The subgrant period was later made retroactive to March 1, 1973 to provide payments to cover the cost of a programmer hired previously, in March, 1973. This programmer was hired after Region 5 mistakenly informed the Court that the grant had been approved. When it was learned that the grant had not yet been approved, the City had assumed this cost pending approval of the grant. The date revision permitted the City to recover all payments advanced to the programmer.

3. Budget Revision

When the Court decided to participate in REJIS, expenditures planned for equipment became unnecessary; thus all purchases of computer hardware were deleted and the Court concentrated its efforts on the other methods as indicated in the

budget revision. Participation in REJIS will presumably facilitate the on-line capability envisioned in the original grant application.

The Court submitted a budget revision requesting a shifting of the emphasis of the project from hardware to personnel. The budget revision requested deleted the second method of consolidation of computer operations.

In addition, the revision switched from the use of a full-time programmer to a part-time programmer analyst because it was felt that the programming needs did not require an in-house programmer on a full-time basis. A highly competent programmer was obtained on a contractual basis for part time programming.

A third aspect of the budget revision involved the transfer of two automation clerks from V AC3-72 to this grant to collect and transcribe printouts to various court-related agencies.

A final change in the budget revision related to travel expenses. In order to keep the administrative staff current on the latest and most efficient methods of gathering and using the proper statistical information, attendance at the workshops sponsored by the Institute of Court Management was planned. Included were the following seminars and trips (not all of which have been completed as yet):

1. Management Information Systems in Courts
2. Case Flow Management and Jury Utilization in Courts
3. Court Administrators' Conference
4. Visit to the Center for Judicial Administration for information relating to the Court's case flow and automated docket system.

The budget revision was originally submitted on January 25, 1974, however, because of technical deficiencies in the grant application and certain delays by Region 5 it was not forwarded to the State Planning Agency with Region 5's recommendation for

approval until March 13, 1974. On April 13, 1974 the State Planning Agency recommended to Region VII of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration that the budget revision be approved. Region VII approved the budget revision on May 23, 1974.

All the requested budget changes have already been implemented. The full time in-house programmer previously employed terminated her services with the Court as of December 31, 1973. In March 1974 the Court contracted with REJIS for the employment of one of their programmers, William Tucker, on a part-time basis. Two automation clerks have been transferred from V-AC3-72, a Computerized Court System grant which terminated in March 1974. The City had temporarily advanced funds for their salaries, however, since the budget revision has been approved it will be reimbursed, from grant funds.

4. Effort Expended in Meeting the Project's Objectives

A programmer was hired in March 1973 to provide program maintenance services and to fulfill requests of the Judges with regard to data processing, the first method of improving the Court's Computer operations. This programmer was employed by the Court through December 31, 1973.

The Court Administrator listed the following benefits resulting from the programmer's services:

A) Implementation of a system for informing the Court of prisoner's location

(workhouse or jail). Previously the Court was unable to make this distinction.

When the sheriff was requested to get a prisoner for trial there was often as much as an hour's delay in locating him.

B) Improvement of signoff system for Court printouts.

The Court Clerk's office, Jail, Circuit Attorney, and other related agencies are regularly supplied with computer printouts from the Court's information system. A procedure has been devised which permits the Court to ascertain whether all these printouts have been properly distributed.

C) Statistical Information requested by the Court. Judges occasionally desire statistical information available only from the Court's data file. An example could be a request to determine the number of robbery trials held in the past three years. The previous programmer has stated, when interviewed by the Evaluation Unit, that she did not write any programs of this nature or other, during her tenure with the Court. Thus it must be assumed by this evaluator that requested statistical data were compiled from the normal, previously available printouts.

D) General Updating of data. The programmer, Marilyn Sieberman, was contacted and asked about the services she provided the Court, but she did not desire to further discuss any matters pertaining to her previous employment.

The part time programmer, William Tucker, has been employed for two months. His major activities have been:

A) Revision of Court Programs as requested. Additions have been made to the disposition and sentencing codes, and the wording on some of the computer printouts has been altered.

B) Development of detailed court data. The Court has asked for a program for compilation of statistical data on Court operations include the following:

1. The number of felony cases issued by the Circuit Attorney, and the number of cases disposed by the Court for each of the years 1971, 1972 and 1973.

2. For each of these years, the number of cases disposed of in the following manner:

- a. Trial by Jury and Verdict
- b. Trial by Jury interrupted by guilty plea, directed verdict, or nolle prosequi.
- c. Jury-waived trial
- d. Guilty plea
- e. Nolle prosequi
- f. Other means

3. The above information broken down by appropriate crime classifications.

4. For the period from January, 1971 through December, 1973, quarterly reports giving the total number of these cases pending at the end of each quarter, and the number of these cases which had been pending from time of arraignment for 30, 60, 90, 120, 150, 180 days, one year, and longer than one year.

5. The quarterly data requested in paragraph 4 broken down by the crimes classifications used for (3).

C) Management Exception Report program for the information requested in "B".

D) Breakout of the category of continuances for want of time to show who was the cause for such continuance.

The compilation of this information has not yet been completed. The automation clerks are working full time coding data and organizing printouts, a continuation of the activities which they were performing prior to being transferred from V AC3-72 to this project.

Finally, the Court Administrator has attended some of the seminars on court information systems.