

CITY AND PARISH COURT PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

SUBMITTED: _____

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I. ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Standard 1.1 Public Proceedings

The court conducts openly its judicial proceedings that are public by law or custom.

Standard 1.2 Safety, Accessibility, and Convenience

The court encourages responsible parties to make court facilities safe, accessible and convenient.

Standard 1.3 Effective Participation

All who appear before the court are given reasonable opportunities to participate effectively without undue hardship or inconvenience.

Standard 1.4 Courtesy, Responsiveness, and Respect

Judges and other court personnel are courteous and responsive to the public and accord respect to all with whom they come into contact.

Standard 1.5 Affordable Costs of Access

The court encourages all responsible public bodies and public officers to make the costs of access to the court's proceedings and records—whether measured in terms of money, time, or the procedures that must be followed—reasonable, fair, and affordable.

II. EXPEDITION AND TIMELINESS

Standard 2.1 Case Processing

The court encourages timely case management and processing.

Standard 2.2 Required Reports and Requests for Information

The court promptly provides required reports and responds to requests for information.

Standard 2.3 Prompt Implementation of Law and Procedure

The court promptly implements changes in the law and procedure.

III. EQUALITY, FAIRNESS, AND INTEGRITY

Standard 3.1 Fair and Reliable Judicial Process

City and parish court procedures faithfully adhere to laws, procedural rules, and established policies.

Standard 3.2 Court Decisions and Actions

City and parish courts give individual attention to cases, deciding them without undue disparity among like cases and upon legally relevant factors within a reasonable period of time.

Standard 3.3 Clarity

Decisions of the city and parish courts address clearly the issues presented to them and, where appropriate, specify how compliance can be achieved.

Standard 3.4 Responsibility for Enforcement

The court takes appropriate responsibility for the enforcement of its orders.

Standard 3.5 Production and Preservation of Records

Records of the court are accurate and properly preserved.

IV. INDEPENDENCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Standard 4.1 Independence and Comity

The court maintains its constitutional independence and observes the principle of cooperation with other branches of government.

Standard 4.2 Accountability for Public Resources

The court responsibly seeks, uses, and accounts for its public resources.

Standard 4.3 Personnel Practices and Decisions

The court uses fair employment practices.

Standard 4.4 Public Education

The court informs the community of its structure, function, and programs.

Standard 4.5 Response to Change

The court recognizes new conditions or emergent events and adjusts its operations as necessary.

V. PUBLIC TRUST AND CONFIDENCE

Standard 5.1 Accessibility

The court and the justice it renders are perceived by the public as accessible.

Standard 5.2 Fair, Impartial, and Expeditious Court Functions

The court functions fairly, impartially, and expeditiously in order that the public has trust and confidence in the integrity of the decisions of the court.

Standard 5.3 Judicial Independence and Accountability

The court is perceived to be independent, cooperative with other components of government, and accountable.