



COURT AFFILIATES

CENTER FOR LEGAL & COURT TECHNOLOGY

2023 CONFERENCE

Courts and Trials in the Digital Age

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the 2023 Court Affiliates Conference! We are delighted that you can join us as we return to Williamsburg and our William & Mary Law School McGlothlin Courtroom for this year's Conference.

The COVID19 Pandemic visibly increased our courts' reliance on technology – especially that for remote appearances, but there is more to come. In the last few months attention has focused on Artificial Intelligence in the form of ChatGPT and competing Large Language Modules technology. How can courts successfully use this AI technology and defend against inappropriate use? Only slightly eclipsed by ChatGPT has been the growing awareness of the increasing success of “deep fakes,” digitally manipulated or created audio-video posing the critical question for judges, will we soon be unable to believe any audio-video evidence? The Conference will present programs by CLCT's experts on ChatGPT-type technology and deep fakes and digital manipulation of information.

In many ways, it's a new world, and our keynote speaker, Professor Karim Benyekhlef, Director of the University of Montreal's CyberJustice Laboratory, and member of the university's Centre de recherche en droit public, will give us his views on that world from a Canadian perspective.

In addition to our Court Affiliate reports, the 2023 Conference will focus on the world we are facing as we recover from COVID19. Courtroom technology continues to improve but most courts remain financially constrained. Should cash-limited courts standardize on one courtroom technology configuration for all courtrooms or take advantage of specialized courtrooms to save limited financial resources, a topic we will address. And what about that new technology? It will be our pleasure to demonstrate the world's first courtroom installation of Proto's remote life-size 3D holographic testimony along with the current state of FTR's AI-based automated speech to text court record system.

In addition, the Conference will also address how technology can, and must, assist unrepresented litigants, whether we are talking about court assistant, i.e. “court navigators,” or the courtroom technology necessary to assist the unrepresented present their case.

During and after the Conference, we also ask you to consider how we might better serve you and your courts. Please share these ideas with us during the discussion at the end of the Court Affiliates Conference as well as at any time afterward.

As always, our primary goal remains the same: to promote the interaction and exchange of information among our courts in order to improve the administration of justice through the use of appropriate technology.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please notify any of our staff. We are here to make your time with us as rewarding as possible. Welcome!!!!

Sincerely,

Fredric I. Lederer
Chancellor Professor of Law and Director
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William & Mary Law School