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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF MISSISSIPPI

NO. 2011-AD-00001-SCT

IN RE: MISSISSIPPI ELECTRONIC COURTS

FILED

MAY 26 2011

**OFFICE OF THE CLERK
SUPREME COURT
COURT OF APPEALS**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

EXPANSION OF PILOT PROJECT

Pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 9-21-3(d) charging the Administrative Office of Courts (AOC) with assisting the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court with promulgating standards, rules, and regulations for computer and/or electronic filing and storage of all court records and court related records; pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 9-21-14 authorizing the Supreme Court to utilize and fund pilot programs for case management and electronic filing systems; pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 9-1-53 authorizing the Supreme Court to adopt rules and regulations prescribed by the AOC concerning the electronic filing and electronic storage of court documents; pursuant to the inherent rule-making power of the Supreme Court, and in furtherance of its constitutional duty to ensure the fair and efficient administration of justice in the courts of Mississippi, the Court, en banc, does hereby find and order as follows:

1. Pursuant to the Order of the Court dated April 10, 2008, the Court, through the AOC and with the assistance of the Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services (ITS), has been developing the Mississippi Electronic Courts (MEC) system to provide efficient management of the business in the courts of the state and to accommodate electronic filing by litigants.

2. Since April 10, 2008, the MEC project team has been conducting a Pilot Project of the MEC system in Madison County, Scott County, and Warren County. The MEC project team has now completed the design and initial testing of the system as shown by the Report and Recommendation to the Supreme Court regarding completion of the Civil Phase of the Pilot Project dated May 6, 2011. As stated in the report, the MEC project team has concluded that (1) the MEC system adequately addresses each of the areas of emphasis, (2) the project team should proceed with development of the criminal component of the MEC system, and (3) implementation of the MEC system should be extended to other Pilot courts.

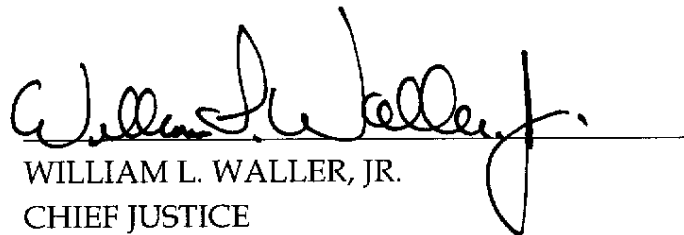
3. Having received the report dated May 6, 2011 by the MEC project team, the Court concludes that the enumerated recommendations are well-taken and should be followed, and that doing so will promote the fair and effective administration of justice within the state.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Mississippi Electronic Courts (MEC) be authorized to develop and test the criminal component of the system.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Administrative Office of Courts (AOC) is hereby authorized to extend the pilot project to DeSoto and Harrison County Chancery Courts and for district deployment in the 11th Chancery Court District, including Madison, Holmes and Yazoo counties, and to extend to such other counties as may be necessary and required to fully test and develop the MEC program for statewide implementation.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Supreme Court Executive Committee, upon recommendation of AOC, with notice to the Court, is hereby authorized and directed to approve such other courts and make such further orders for the Pilot as may be necessary to allow the full testing and development of the MEC Pilot.

SO ORDERED, this the 26th day of May, 2011.


WILLIAM L. WALLER, JR.
CHIEF JUSTICE
FOR THE COURT