

# Hybrid Hearings Consulting Services

---

## Hybrid Hearings Improvement Initiative

Courts are actively assessing the long-term viability of a range of pandemic-era operations. Fairly balancing the needs of in-person litigants and court participants with parties participating remotely in a “hybrid hearing” presents unique challenges and opportunities. Identifying these issues and offering sound solutions is the purpose of this National Center for State Courts initiative.

Working with up to 20 jurisdictions, NCSC will develop and test technology, policies and practices to inform guidelines and best practices for conducting hybrid hearings during this one-year pilot project. Participating courts will receive grant awards to support the cost of technology equipment and installation of the equipment in at least one courtroom in the jurisdiction, integration with existing systems (when appropriate) and technical assistance to support initial operation of the equipment. Additionally, NCSC staff will evaluate the utility of the technology and impact on hearing participants.

Courts will collect and share hearing data from all modes (in-person, remote and hybrid), permit remote observation of court hearings and provide feedback on the effectiveness of hybrid hearing technology equipment. After an evaluation period, NCSC will release preliminary findings at the eCourts conference in December with final guidelines and best practices anticipated in early 2023.

This initiative is an extension of NCSC’s work on remote and hybrid hearings and will more closely examine the challenges and successes of hybrid hearings while also providing a clear path forward for courts across the country. NCSC developed support for this project from CISCO, Logitech, televic and Zoom.

### Contact

To learn more about the Hybrid Hearings Improvement Initiative or other related services, contact Alecia Burke at [aburke@ncsc.org](mailto:aburke@ncsc.org).