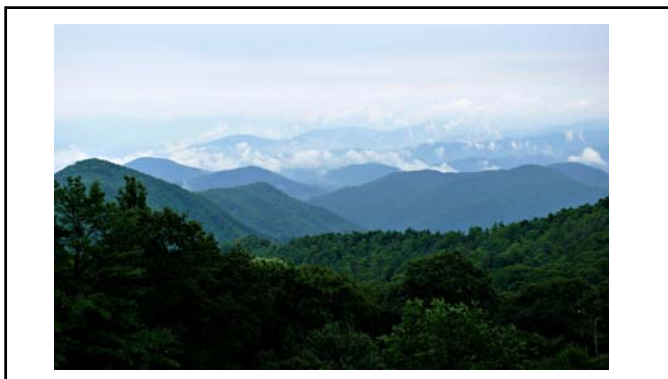
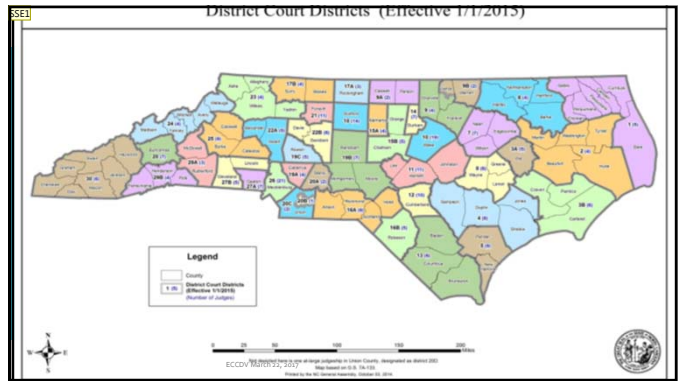

 NORTH CAROLINA  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE  
*of the COURTS*

**eCourts: Civil Domestic Violence System**

September 7, 2015  
Prepared by Stephanie Satkowiak, Domestic Violence Specialist,  
Court Programs and Management Services

**LAW AND JUSTICE**



## Slide 2

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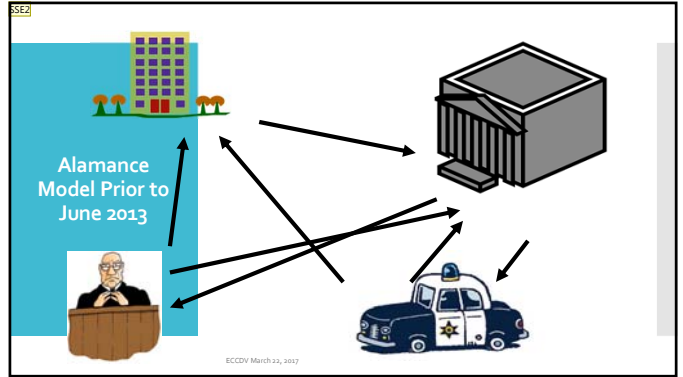
**SSE1** As of January 1, 2015, North Carolina has 41 judicial districts that incorporate 100 counties.

Satkowiak, Stephanie E., 8/26/2015

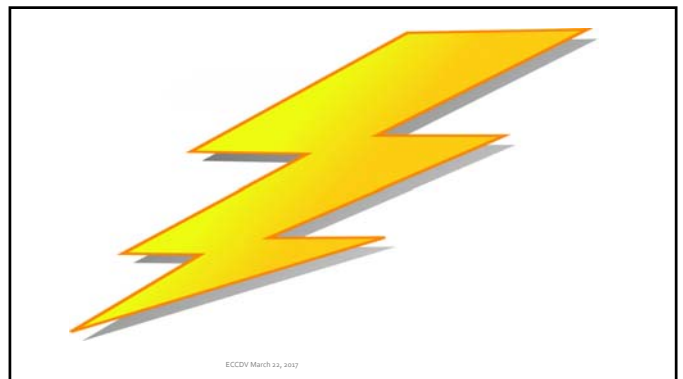
### Statewide Statistics

• Population: (2016)	10,247,632
• DOME Filings:	32,258
• Orders Granted:	10,548
• Orders Denied:	3,433
• Voluntarily Dismissed:	7,290
• Involuntarily Dismissed:	9,506
• DV Homicides:	66 (2016)

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- ### Issues with the current system
- Victim Safety
  - Courthouse personnel safety
  - Drain on DV agency resources
  - Discontinuance of the process
  - Reluctance to seek judicial assistance to address future needs
  - Efficiency
  - Loss of work for the victim
  - Child care
  - Law enforcement safety
- ECCDV March 22, 2017

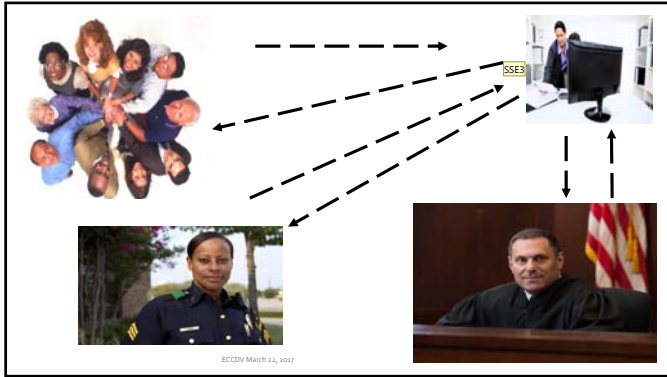


## Slide 6

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**SSE2** First the victim arrives at the Family Justice Center, which houses the DV agency. They fill out the paper work and take it to the clerk's office, 8 miles away. They file it with the clerk, then take it to the courthouse, 3 blocks away with no parking. Then back to the clerk's office after the hearing. Then off to the sheriff's department for service, 6 blocks away. Then back to the DV agency, 8 miles away. The deputies then have to get the documents served and return the proof of service to the clerk's office. All before the permanent order hearing in 10 days.

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### Current eCourts Civil Domestic Violence Counties

Alamance County Launched June 26, 2013	Guilford County Launched August 3, 2015
• Population: 158,276 (2016)	• Population: 517,600 (2016)
• DOME Filings: 439	• DOME Filings: 1,526
• Orders Granted: 192	• Orders Granted: 544
• Orders Denied: 3	• Orders Denied: 7
• Voluntary Dismissals: 136	• Voluntary Dismissals: 304
• Involuntary Dismissals: 111	• Involuntary Dismissals: 648
• DV Homicides: 1	• DV Homicides: 9 (2013)

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### Current eCourts Civil Domestic Violence Counties

Wake County Launched May 16, 2016	Davidson County Launched October 31, 2016
• Population: 1,024,198 (2016)	• Population: 164,622 (2016)
• DOME Filings: 2,242	• DOME Filings: 690
• Orders Granted: 810	• Orders Granted: 199
• Orders Denied: 318	• Orders Denied: 20
• Voluntary Dismissals: 466	• Voluntary Dismissals: 167
• Involuntary Dismissals: 567	• Involuntary Dismissals: 300
• DV Homicides: 9	• DV Homicides: 1

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### Current eCourts Civil Domestic Violence Counties

Durham County Launched May 8, 2017	Forsyth County Launched August 21, 2017
• Population: 267,587 (2016)	• Population: 350,670 (2016)
• DOME Filings: 953	• DOME Filings: 1,064
• Orders Granted: 324	• Orders Granted: 355
• Orders Denied: 165	• Orders Denied: 173
• Voluntary Dismissals: 143	• Voluntary Dismissals: 213
• Involuntary Dismissals: 345	• Involuntary Dismissals: 293
• DV Homicides: 6	• DV Homicides: 3

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## Slide 9

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**SSE3** All information is transmitted electronically for the initial ex parte DVPO. The victim never needs to leave the safety of the DV agency and the documents are processed through the system almost instantaneously.

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### Current eCourts Civil Domestic Violence Counties

Onslow County Launched January 29, 2018	Cumberland County Launched June 4, 2018
• Population: 377,772 (2016)	• Population: 319,431 (2016)
• DOME Filings: 619	• DOME Filings: 1,868
• Orders Granted: 138	• Orders Granted: 393
• Orders Denied: 111	• Orders Denied: 208
• Voluntary Dismissals: 126	• Voluntary Dismissals: 447
• Involuntary Dismissals: 206	• Involuntary Dismissals: 784
• DV Homicides: 1	• DV Homicides: 5

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### Invited eCourts Civil Domestic Violence Counties

2019	2019
• Mecklenburg County	• Haywood County
• Robeson County	• Buncombe County
• Halifax County	• Rowan County
• Johnston County	• Randolph County
• Orange County	• Catawba County

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### Numbers


By the end of 2019 we hope to have accomplished the following:

• Population Served	51%
• Total Number of DVPOs Electronically Filed	53%
• Total Number of Calls for Service	35%
• Total Number of Criminal Charges Filed	49%

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### Benefits to the Petitioner


- Petitioner can seek the assistance of the judicial system without having to leave the safety of a DV agency.
- The petitioner can receive wraparound services, such as safety planning, child care, and housing assistance.
- Increased likelihood that the petitioner will complete the process by appearing for their permanent order.
- Short circuits the batterer's usual methods of accessing the petitioner and manipulate the process.



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**Benefits to the Court Clerks**


- Efficient processing of court documents.
- Integration with VCAP eliminates the need for data entry replication.
- Significant reduction in the number of hours spent processing civil domestic violence documents.



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**Benefits to the Judge**


- Immediate access to ex parte DV cases, with assuredness that the petitioner is present, via remote fees, and prepared to go forward with their proceedings.
- Courtroom docket flows more efficiently and matters are heard timely.
- Provides a one-on-one opportunity with the petitioner to address the concerns outlined in the DVPO application.



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**Benefits to Law Enforcement**

- Immediate access to the protective order documents, even in patrol cars.
- Facilitates faster service of process.
- Ready access to current and legible documents increases confidence in executing warrantless arrests for violations of domestic violence protective orders.
- Enhances officers sense of safety and job satisfaction.



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"I had to go through this process before and it was so confusing. Being able to stay in one place, makes such a huge difference! It is nowhere near as scary for me and my kids."

"I was so nervous thinking about what to expect with the 50B process. Not having to go through security or find the right courtroom is huge. I feel so much safer being here at the Family Justice Center and talking to the Judge through the computer."

"This (the 50B process) is AMAZING! So much easier! The words thank you just don't seem like enough!"

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