

Court Policy Interface Requirements

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Context of Court Policy Interface

The Court Policy Interface (CPI) is a design element to bridge the design principle of over inclusive but optional and the legitimate need for all the parties (courts, parties, attorneys, prosecutors...) to set or know the expectations and/or constraints placed on the data. The principle of over inclusive but optional is used in Court Filing, Court Document, Query/ Response and most other widely used standards. The data contained in the CPI reflects the Court Rules and administrative procedures for a specific Court in a jurisdiction.

The concept is that a Court may post an object at a well-known location that reflects the current rules of the court. They are likely to keep past CPI definitions to support long running cases where the rules are locked at a point in time. Other models to be explored are delivery via Query-Response or perhaps along the line of the Interface for Content Exchange (ICE) negotiation model.

The initial implementation will likely be to reduce the scope of content models within the dtlds or document schemas. It will also be used to pass along constants to be used. Some constants include but are not limited to, the filing fees by class of action, hours of operation and official date/time filing policies.

Goals of Court Policy Interface

The overarching goal of the CPI is to reduce the need for human commerce between the courts and organizations that interact with them. Only in this way can we control the addition workload during the startup of systems and allow for the evolution and maintenance of rules and administrative needs.

The goals of the CPI are directly tied to this overarching goal.

- Provide a communication of policy, which is human readable and understandable by a person without formal legal training.
- Provide a communication of policy, which can be broken down by a computer and used as metadata to enable or constrain an Electronic Filing Provider's software without human intervention after initial development and tuning.
- Provide a communication of policy, which communicates a set of extensions and constraints for Court Filing.
- Provide a communication of policy, which communicates a set of extensions and constraints for Court Document.
- Provide a communication of policy, which communicates a set of extensions and constraints for Query/Response.
- Provide a communication of policy, which communicates a set of metadata needed by the Electronic Filing Provider in support of the Rules of Court for a jurisdiction and its administrative policies.
- Provide a communication of policy, which allows for ready access to and timely notice of changes in court rules and procedures.

Specific Requirements of the Court Policy Interface

The requirements will be broken down along according to the goals stated above. Each requirement shall be uniquely identifiable and testable in the specification.

Human Readability & Understandability

Provide a communication of policy, which is human readable and understandable by a person without formal legal training.

These requirements are identified by their three-position prefix of PHR.

- PHR00001 – Identify which requirements W3C Schema Constrains can more effectively handle

Computer Processable

Provide a communication of policy, which can be broken down by a computer and used as metadata to enable or constrain an Electronic Filing Provider's software without human intervention after initial development and tuning.

These requirements are identified by their three-position prefix of PCP.

- PCP00001 – Identify which requirements W3C Schema Constrains can more effectively handle

Court Filing Support

Provide a communication of policy, which communicates a set of extensions and constraints for Court Filing.

These requirements are identified by their three-position prefix of PCF.

- PCF00001 – Require specific element(s) that are optional in DTD
- PCF00002 – Refuse specific element(s) that are optional in DTD
- PCF00003 - Migrate specific policy specification from Court Filing to Court Policy
- PCF00004 – Support Court Filing constraint on list of courts' specific document titles
- PCF00005 - Support Court Filing constraint on list of Party roles
- PCF00006 - Support Court Filing constraint on list of Filing types
- PCF00007 - Support Court Filing constraint on list of Nature of suit

Court Document Support

Provide a communication of policy, which communicates a set of extensions and constraints for Court Document.

These requirements are identified by their three-position prefix of PCD.

- PCD00001 – Require specific element(s) that are optional in DTD
- PCD00002 – Refuse specific element(s) that are optional in DTD
- PCD00003 - Migrate specific policy specification from Court Document to Court Policy

Query-Response Support

Provide a communication of policy, which communicates a set of extensions and constraints for Query/Response.

These requirements are identified by their three-position prefix of PQR.

- PQR00001 – Require specific element(s) that are optional in DTD
- PQR00002 – Refuse specific element(s) that are optional in DTD
- PQR00003 - Migrate specific policy specification from Query-Response to Court Policy

Court Rules & Administration Support

Provide a communication of policy, which communicates a set of metadata needed by the Electronic Filing Provider in support of the Rules of Court for a jurisdiction and its administrative policies.

These requirements are identified by their three-position prefix of PRA.

- PRA00001 – Support the communication of a schedule of fees.
- PRA00002 – Support the communication of Automated Clearing House use and required metadata
- PRA00003 – Support the communication of Credit Card use and required metadata
- PRA00004 – Support the communication of EFP escrow account use and required metadata

- PRA00005 – Support the communication of Court Specific Document
- PRA00006 – Support the communication of the relationship between Court Specific Document Names and a generic document type
- PRA00007 – Support the communication of the Refusal to accept URL as a document
- PRA00008 – Support the communication of the Refusal to accept initiating documents
- PRA00009 – Support the communication of the Refusal to accept document requiring fees
- PRA00010 – Support the communication of the Refusal to accept sealed documents
- PRA00011 – Support the communication of the One filing per envelope
- PRA00012 – Support the communication of the Maximum size of envelope
- PRA00013 – Support the communication of element data typing
- PRA00014 – Support the communication of the maximum element data length/size
- PRA00015 – Support the communication of co-constraints between elements
- PRA00016 – Support the communication of co-constraints between attributes within elements
- PRA00017 – Support the communication of value constraint on elements
- PRA00018 – Support the communication of value constraint on attributes
- PRA00019 – Support the communication of date constraint on elements
- PRA00020 – Support the communication of date constraint on attributes
- PRA00021 – Support the communication of policy on non-receipt
- PRA00022 – Support the communication of policy on corrupted filing
- PRA00023 – Support the communication of policy on incomplete filing
- PRA00024 – Support the communication of policy on unpaid fee filing
- PRA00025 – Support the communication of policy on rejected filing
- PRA00026 – Support the communication of policy on received filing
- PRA00027 – Support the communication of policy on accepted filing
- PRA00028 – Support the communication of policy on communication of court orders
- PRA00029 – Support the communication of policy on communication of court docketing
- PRA00030 – Support the communication of policy on pre-qualification of filers
- PRA00031 – Support the communication of policy on pre-qualification of EFPs
- PRA00032 – Support the communication of policy on virus scanning
- PRA00033 – Support the communication of policy on spell checking
- PRA00034 – Support the communication of policy on electronic document signatures
- PRA00035 – Support the communication of policy on encryption
- PRA00036 – Support the communication of policy on Non XML Documents
- PRA00037 – Support the communication of policy on communication protocols

Access and Notice Support

Provide a communication of policy, which allows for ready access to and timely notice of changes in court rules and procedures

These requirements are identified by their three-position prefix of PAN.

- PAN00001 – Provide electronic access point for the policies
- PAN00002 – Provide notice window for required rechecking of policies
- PAN00003 – Provide registration of "I Care" for Filers
- PAN00004 – Provide registration of "I Care" for EFP
- PAN00005 – Provide push of policy to registered "I Care" for Public Notice Locations
- PAN00006 – Provide push of policy to registered "I Care" for Filers
- PAN00007 – Provide push of policy to registered "I Care" for EFP
- PAN00008 – Provide push of policy to registered "I Care" for Public Notice Locations