



# North Carolina Association of Women Attorneys

P.O. Box 32725, Charlotte, NC 28232 | PH: (704) 940-1707 | EMAIL: [admin@ncawa.org](mailto:admin@ncawa.org)

July 13, 2021

Re: North Carolina Association of Women Attorneys' Support for  
Proposed Senate Budget to Fund eCourt Technology

Dear Legislator,

I write to you today on behalf of the North Carolina Association of Women Attorneys (NCAWA). NCAWA strongly supports the provision in the proposed Senate Budget to support the eCourt project, and we hope the final budget will include increased investment in the judicial system and funding for eCourts.

North Carolina's court technology has been outdated for many years. The current systems vary by county, and are difficult to access and use. The eCourt program will improve access to justice for all North Carolinians and will create a foundation to provide more cost-effective and efficient court services moving forward.

The eCourt system will enable those of us who work in the justice system, such as lawyers, judges, clerks, and court staff to have greatly increased access to our courts. Other citizens, such as small business owners, for example, will benefit from after-hours access to the system.

Additionally, it will enable us to expand remote court proceedings. During the pandemic, many of us learned that much of our courts' business can be done effectively by remote means. Remote hearings are more efficient for witnesses, including law enforcement officers and expert witnesses, and allow clients to retain the attorney of their choice, regardless of their location. Remote proceedings can serve to reduce the trauma of in-person appearances for children and victims of domestic abuse.

By investing in improved technology for our court system now, we will not only improve access for all of our citizens, but will also be prepared to continue vital court business in the event of another unforeseen event, such as the pandemic.

If you would like to discuss our organization's support for eCourt funding, our leadership would be happy to speak with you. Please feel free to email NCAWA President Laura Loyek at [laura@lawyersmutualinc.com](mailto:laura@lawyersmutualinc.com).

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# ***North Carolina Association of Women Attorneys***

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Thank you for your consideration of our position on this important budget matter.

Sincerely,

NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF  
WOMEN ATTORNEYS

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Laura M. Loyek". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent. It is positioned above a horizontal line.

Laura M. Loyek  
President