Cisco Connected Justice Addresses Today's Challenges and Trends in the Judicial System

Cisco Connected Justice Addresses Today's Challenges and Trends in the Judicial System

At-a-Glance

What Is the Value of Cisco Connected Justice?

With shrinking budgets and rising caseloads, now is the time to bring innovation into your courthouse and improve the way justice is delivered—from law enforcement, to the court system, through corrections.

Cisco® Connected Justice provides a unified network platform to automate the justice workflow, removing the barriers between systems and facilitating the transfer of information, with rich communications through the different steps of the process. Consider the following benefits:

- Reduced costs
- Enhanced operational efficiency
- Agility to work beyond courthouse walls
- Improved courthouse safety

What Problems Does It Help Solve?

Courts today face backlogs that strain resources throughout the system. As you evaluate ways to keep pace, you must also address other current challenges and trends, including:

- Increasing economic pressures and budget cuts
- Rising crime rate
- Need to improve productivity with same or fewer resources
- Escalating operational expenses due to transportation, paper, and personnel costs

- Need to ensure safety and security within the courthouse and in the community
- Growing concerns about risk and liability
- Requirement to fulfill sustainability initiatives

Short-term measures do not provide the results courts need to improve their systems. Directing more funds toward the problem—for example, hiring additional resources—is a stop-gap measure that does not scale easily, particularly when budgets are shrinking. Delaying cases causes the case backlog to balloon and does not serve citizens or the justice system.

A more efficient solution—and one with long-term benefits—is to streamline court processes by improving collaboration and increasing the safety and security of the court. With a comprehensive communications strategy in place, it is possible for the court system to address more cases with current resource levels—or, in some cases, a reduced number of resources.

"We have also instituted an e-warrant program that is pretty slick. We gave the judges the same capability, so now they can do real-time warrants. That has been huge."

—Jason Tabor, Telecommunications Manager, City of San Antonio

Cisco Connected Justice: Implementing Long-Term, Sustainable Change

The foundation of Cisco Connected Justice is the secure network. This 21st century government architecture breaks down the barriers that inhibit efficiency and productivity, helping court administrators to reshape procedures through seamless connectivity, real-time interaction, and ubiquitous access to resources. Voice, video, and collaboration services are layered on top of this foundational network, along with partner solutions that offer additional capabilities to facilitate and support the court processes.

Cisco Connected Justice includes three main components:

- Secure network foundation to address court requirements today while providing a foundation for future needs.
- Communications and collaboration applications to address specific requirements in the justice system. These applications can be built and scaled, improving the quality of justice offered to defendants and prosecutors.
- Solutions, partnerships, and alliances with the vendors who deliver vital court applications.

Cisco Connected Justice Addresses Today's Challenges and Trends in the Judicial System

What Are the Benefits of Cisco Connected Justice?

Agencies participating in the justice system can take advantage of the IP network to improve processes and information flow across operations, including pre-trial, trial, and post-trial phases. Courthouses can go digital, significantly reducing expenses by replacing paper-based processes with electronic-based systems across the court, including back-office systems, data transfers (such as sentencing triggers, warrants, and DA summons), online database queries, Internet-based activities (such as online payments and juror disqualifications), e-receipts, e-filing, e-citation, and more. Shared court recording and reporting improves efficiency by remotely engaging recorders/reporters in any courtroom. Meanwhile, real-time, interactive video arraignments, sentencing, and remediation hearings eliminate the need to transport prisoners, minimizing both risk and cost, as well as scaling resources.

In summary, Cisco Connected Justice allows you to:

- Increase cost savings
- Boost workflow productivity
- Improve transparency throughout the justice process

Why Cisco?

As the leader in world-changing technology for more than 20 years, Cisco is uniquely positioned to improve everyday experiences for court administrators, judges, and other court personnel; law enforcement and public safety officers; correctional facility officers; and many other stakeholders. Cisco offers the justice community a secure, resilient network backbone, enabling you to be more responsive and agile by removing barriers to communications, facilitating information sharing and collaboration, and promoting innovation.

Cisco Capital: Build Solutions You Need Today with Customized Financing Options

Budgets are tight, and affordability is more top-of-mind than ever before. When funding and grants fall short, Cisco Capital® can customize an alternative acquisition strategy that makes sense for your organization. Learn more about Cisco Capital at:

www.cisco.com/go/ciscocapital

Cisco Services: Realize New Levels of Efficiency, Productivity, and Success

Our professional services team has a six-step methodology to work closely with your court and develop a customized solution that addresses short-and long-term objectives. Together, Cisco, or a Cisco partner, and your organization will review the department vision and assess how that aligns with the current infrastructure. From there, the Cisco Services team performs a gap analysis and creates a roadmap for the transition. Cisco Services will also work with you to evaluate benefits and outline a compelling business case.

Next Steps

To learn more about Cisco Connected Justice technologies, services, and partners, visit: www.cisco.com/go/government

Or contact: ask-connectedjustice@cisco.com