

Maryland Administrative
Office of the Courts
Judicial Information Systems Department



Web Filtering and Monitoring Policy

Effective: January 1, 2010

Revised: May 24, 2010

Introduction

To enhance Judiciary network security and performance, it is necessary to restrict access to Internet web sites that host content that has been deemed objectionable and/or has been found to downgrade network performance. As a result, this policy is established for such a purpose and is intended to comport with the Judiciary's Policy on Electronic Communications Systems Usage and the Security Policy and Standards.

Policy

A web-filtering appliance is installed on the Judiciary Network to restrict access to web sites that host the following categories of content:

- Pornographic/Adult Content
- Internet Radio/Television
- Peer-to-Peer File Sharing
- Video Sharing
- Internet Telephony
- Web Based Storage
- Gambling
- Illegal/Questionable Activity
- Security Risks

In addition to blocking access to the above categories, the web-filtering appliance records, by PC or laptop source IP address, all access to the Internet from within the Judiciary Network. Depending on the volume of Internet activity on the network, the appliance has the capacity to store the most recent ten to twelve weeks of Internet access history.

Procedures for Tracking Internet Activity

- All requests to track Internet activity are to be submitted by an Administrative Official;
- Requests are to be submitted to the JIS Director or designee;
- JIS will log and retain requests for tracking purposes.