MDEC Milestones: Walk-through Sessions Begin

On Monday, June 23, the Maryland Electronic Courts (MDEC) initiative reached another significant milestone with the introduction of the MDEC system business process walk-through sessions. These new sessions mark the end of business process sprints and begin the hands on walk-through and validation activities.

The business process walk-through sessions allow clerks from Anne Arundel County Circuit and District courts to enter real cases into MDEC using the processes and documents developed in the sprint sessions and will allow the users to simulate real live data entry, as well as test each step of the process beginning at case initiation. Prior to the introduction of the walk-through sessions, clerks were able to interact with the case management system through the use of the MDEC “Playstation” located in the Court Business Office. The “Playstation” mimicked the equipment needed to input case information into MDEC and offered clerks a first chance to test parts of the MDEC system during their own time. The new business process walk-through sessions, however, have a clearly defined schedule and objectives.

Objectives for the walk-through sessions include:

- To use real cases to test and evaluate the business process decisions made during MDEC sprints;
- To introduce court users to the application;
- To develop a core set of advanced users by providing them with early firsthand system exposure;
- To test system roles and rights to ensure proper system access for court staff; and
- To update the system configuration based on session feedback.

During the week of June 23, walk-through sessions were held featuring different topics each day for Circuit and District court issues. These topics included Guardianship and adoptions, civil procedure for Circuit and District courts, juvenile child welfare and landlord/tenant. Further coverage of these sessions will be featured in upcoming weeks of MDEC News.