

Planning Process

This long-range strategic plan was developed by the Task Force on Judicial Branch Planning through a deliberately constructed process designed to gather broad input by multiple methods. That data was then subjected to analysis by focus groups composed of knowledgeable individuals who together represent a wide range of perspectives and expertise. The recommendations of the focus groups were then provided to the task force and used in developing the plan. Finally, the draft plan was circulated to individuals who participated in the focus groups to confirm that it was consistent with their analyses. This methodology, documented in detail in Appendix A, can be summarized as follows:

1. Public outreach:

- A public opinion telephone survey of 2,054 Florida residents was conducted in January 2008.
- Online and paper surveys of 8,768 jurors, court users, attorneys, judicial officers and court staff, were conducted in the summer of 2008.
- In the fall of 2008, nine public forums were held in communities across the state; approximately 200 individuals attended, with 87 people providing statements. Task force members chaired and served on panels at the public forums.
- In January 2009, a meeting of representatives of justice system partner organizations was held in Tallahassee. Twenty-seven representatives were in attendance.

2. Analysis of data:

- The data collected through the public outreach efforts were consolidated into a single summary document. The summary organizes and presents the salient results of each component of the outreach process in an accessible format. The summary is presented in Appendix B.

3. Focus groups:

- In February and March 2009, the task force convened four focus groups in Tallahassee composed of approximately 20 participants, including representatives from among the judiciary, court staff, and key constituencies. The four focus groups developed guidance for the task force on, respectively, Issues 1 through 4. Each focus group also provided guidance on Issue 5. Participants in the focus groups are identified in Appendix C.

4. Final development and vetting:

- In April and May 2009, the task force reviewed the input provided through the outreach process and the guidance generated by the focus groups, and deliberated on the issues, goals, and strategies to be included in the long-range strategic plan. A draft of the final plan was circulated in May to all participants of the focus groups with a request for comments. In June 2009, the task force further revised and then finalized the plan. The plan was approved during Court Conference on July 1, 2009.