



# Press Release

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## Alaska Court System Receives Funding to Launch Eviction Diversion Program

**Anchorage, AK, July 18, 2022** – The Alaska Court System has received a grant from the National Center for State Courts' (NCSC) [Eviction Diversion Initiative](#) to strengthen eviction diversion efforts and improve housing stability across the state.

The court system was selected through a competitive application process and review by an advisory council led by NCSC. It is one of twelve courts nationwide to receive such a grant and will become part of national network of state courts committed to reforming housing court and reducing the harm of eviction.

According to Jeannie Sato, Alaska Court System Director of Access to Justice Services, “We are very excited to be a part of this national project, and to create a program to help landlords and tenants resolve their disputes before they get to the courthouse stairs.”

The court system will use the grant funding to hire a dedicated staff person to implement an Alaska-specific model. The program’s goal is to create a sustainable program to help landlords and tenants resolve housing disputes. The court will work with partner organizations to provide information to landlords and tenants about free resources including legal assistance and mediation services, housing and financial counseling, and rental assistance programs. Landlords and tenants may choose to use the program’s resources before they file a court case, allowing them to avoid the cost and time involved in traditional litigation. Services will also be available after starting an eviction case.

Funding for the program was made possible through a \$10 million Wells Fargo Foundation grant awarded to the National Center for State Courts to strengthen eviction diversion efforts in state courts and improve housing stability. NCSC is responsible for administering the grant program and working directly with the participating courts

The Eviction Diversion Initiative cohort includes courts located in Alaska, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Nevada, New York, Tennessee, Wisconsin, and the District of Columbia.

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### About the National Center for State Courts

Headquartered in Williamsburg, Va., the [National Center for State Courts](#) is a nonprofit court organization dedicated to improving the administration of justice by providing leadership and service to the state courts. Founded in 1971 by the Conference of Chief Justices and Chief Justice of the United States Warren E. Burger, NCSC provides education, training, technology, management, and research services to the nation’s state courts.

### About the Alaska Court System

The mission of the [Alaska Court System](#) is to provide an accessible and impartial forum for the just resolution of all cases that come before it, and to decide such cases in accordance with the law, expeditiously and with integrity.