

Edwards County Court Awarded Technology Grant

Edwards County Circuit Court has been awarded a technology grant from the Technology Modernization Funding program offered by the Illinois Supreme Court and the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts in the amount of \$29,340.83. Resident County Circuit Judge Michael J. Valentine and Circuit Clerk Margaret Branum secured bids for the technology upgrades and drafted the grant proposal that was funded in its entirety.

Judge Valentine explained the importance of securing these funds stating, “The grant Edwards County received will allow the Edwards County Circuit Court and the Circuit Clerk’s Office to update outdated technology including computers, sound systems and video projection for trial use. The grant will also be used to update and improve our legal self-help technology so that self-represented litigants will have better access to legal research and forms. All of this will help streamline the cases here in Edwards County while allowing self-represented litigants, attorneys and their clients better and quicker access to justice. On behalf of Edwards County, we would like to thank Chief Judge Melissa Morgan and her staff for assisting us in securing this funding.”

Circuit Clerk Branum added, “The funds received from the Court Technology Modernization Program will help the Circuit Clerk’s Office to improve efficiency in filing cases, keeping our technology updated and assisting self-represented litigants. The funds will also be used to enhance security features to better protect court staff, attorneys, and all individuals visiting the office.”



Pictured: Edwards County Resident Judge Michael Valentine and Circuit Clerk Margaret Branum