



## **Center for Judicial Ethics**

Nevada Administrative Office of the Courts  
District Court Judges Seminar & Family Law Conference  
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### Executive Summary

This document explores the ethical considerations and practical implications of using Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) in judicial settings, based on a presentation by David J. Sachar, J.D., Director of the Center for Judicial Ethics at the National Center for State Courts.

### Opening Statement – From Claude.AI

As I prepared my materials I decided to ask Claude – an AI LLM that I use often for drafting outlines – to write a poem. My prompt said to write a poem about Nevada judges. Include how hard they work, how important their job is, and note that they are from cities all over the state. This is what was produced:

## Nevada's Guardians of Justice

By Claude.AI

From Carson City's courtrooms to Reno's halls, Nevada's judges stand righteous and tall. In Las Vegas, where the neon never sleeps, the scales of justice they faithfully keep.

They rise each morning to a docket filled; Their minds sharp-honed, professionally skilled. Through hours of testimony, evidence weighed, the foundation of fairness carefully laid.

In Elko and Winnemucca, though far apart, they serve with devotion and steadfast heart. From Henderson to Sparks, in chambers they ponder the weight of decisions they must not squander.

The Silver State's guardians, impartial and wise, See truth beyond emotion, beyond disguise. Democracy's defenders in black-robed array, Protecting our freedoms day after day.

In Mesquite, Boulder City, and Pahrump they preside, With the Constitution and law as their guide. When voices grow angry and tensions ignite, they stand as the bulwark for what's just and right.

Their burden is heavy, their calling profound, in their wisdom our civic virtues abound. Nevada's strength rests in these women and men, who uphold our laws again and again.

## GenAI in the Judicial System

### Opportunities and Applications

#### 1. E-Filing Systems

- Example: Palm Beach County, FL - \$1.9 million in annual savings
- Processes filings 5 times faster
- 40% of filings handled automatically

## 2. Chatbots for Court Users

- Los Angeles County: "Gina" handles 4,000 court users weekly
- Orange County: "Eva" provides civil procedural information to staff
- Training time reduced from 3-5 years to three months

### Benefits of GenAI

1. Speed: Can handle larger and more complex data sets than humans
2. Idea/Content Creation: Generates new perspectives and approaches
3. Resource Generation: Useful for data set generation and modeling
4. Interface: Provides multi-language communication capabilities

### Challenges and Limitations

#### 1. Cost Considerations

- Cloud-hosted ongoing costs
- High computing costs
- Environmental impact
- Labor displacement concerns

#### 2. Data Issues

- Limited data availability
- Potential bias in existing data
- Public data usage restrictions
- Need for careful process scrutiny

#### 3. Reliability Concerns

- Requires human supervision
- Potential for AI hallucinations

- Accuracy of detection tools
- Need for "Prompt Engineering"

### Ethical Guidelines and Compliance

ABA Resolution 112 (2019)

Urges courts and lawyers to address:

1. Bias, explainability, and transparency in AI decisions
2. Ethical and beneficial AI usage
3. Controls and oversight of AI vendors

Best Practices for Implementation

1. Focus on user needs during development
2. Collaborate with interdisciplinary teams
3. Use iterative testing and human review
4. Continuously evaluate and improve
5. Dedicate appropriate resources

### Recommendations for Getting Started

Step-by-Step Approach

1. Select simple "low risk" tasks for initial implementation
2. Review existing documents and processes
3. Ensure proper permissions and understand terms of use
4. Train staff and judges adequately
5. Prepare for more advanced tasks

### Key Questions to Consider (Zarnow Framework)

1. What problem are we trying to solve?
2. Who is the affected population?
3. What are the potential harms and costs?
4. What privacy and security protections are in place?
5. How can we verify the AI tool's effectiveness?
6. Is the solution sustainable and likely to improve?
7. What political considerations exist?

### Resources and Support

The NCSC provides various resources through their AI Rapid Response Team (RRT):

- Data visualization maps of court activity by state
- Court orders, rules, statutes, and proposed legislation
- Case law and decisions
- State court guidelines and policies

[Resource Center | NCSC](#)

[Artificial Intelligence: Guidance for Use of AI and Generative AI in Courts](#)

[Preparing your Court for AI](#)

[Tech Series: The intersection of AI and cybersecurity | NCSC](#)

[Introduction to AI for Courts](#)

[Transforming Courts: NCSC's Leading Role in Court Technology](#)

[Court Chatbots: How to build a great chatbot for your court's website](#)

<https://aisandbox.ncsc.org>

[AI Policy Resources | NCSC](#)

**Practising Law Institute** is offering a free on-demand program on AI in law practice for summer associates and interns:

<https://www.pli.edu/programs/artificial-intelligence-in-law-practice-for-summer-associates-and-interns>

Professor Linna (contact information below) worked with PLI to develop this program to educate law students about the potential benefits and risks of using AI in law practice. In their internships and careers, law students will be expected to use AI responsibly and well. This program aims to equip law students to meet those expectations. The program is free for all.

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[NU Law bio](#) & [NU Engineering \(Computer Science Dept.\) bio](#)

[LASC - Chatbot Service \(Prod\)](#)

[Chatbots for justice: The impact of AI-driven tech tools for pro se litigants - Thomson Reuters Institute](#)

[Microsoft Word - Resolution 2 - In Support of the Guiding Principles for Post-Pandemic Court Technology .docx](#)

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