

***** For Immediate Release *****

Snohomish County Clerk offers online payment services

New web system allows citizens to make Superior Court payments online at the Snohomish County Clerk's Website

Everett, WA, April 19, 2011 – Online payment service brings added convenience to citizens making payments to the Snohomish County Clerk's office.

Sonya Kraski, Snohomish County Clerk, has announced that the Clerk's Office has new, enhanced payment options. Citizens can now settle most Superior Court Clerk's Office financial obligations online via the Snohomish County Clerk's website. Users are charged a nominal convenience fee for the service to offset the banking fees. In this way, only those using credit cards are paying the cost and there is absolutely zero cost to Snohomish County.

Mary Albert, fiscal manager for the Clerk's Office, says "nCourt, in providing this service, allows citizens to make payments from their computer twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. This convenient payment method also helps staff operate more efficiently and increases our collection rates".

Working with nCourt LLC, an Atlanta based government technology company, Snohomish County is now providing services to the public that were only dreamed about two or three years ago. David Morris, CEO of nCourt, said dozens of county, municipal, probate and traffic courts in 23 other states have partnered with his company since it began offering online payments. "It is a user-pay, voluntary program that has demonstrated enormous appeal, both to the public and the courts who serve them. This 'no-cost to the court' solution greatly increases the efficiency of court operations, allows people to use a credit card to pay and, therefore, brings more money to municipalities. Simply stated, it's better government, greater convenience to the public and more revenue. How can you beat that?" Morris said.

"We are consistently seeking new ways to streamline our services while keeping costs in check," said County Clerk Sonya Kraski. "Many private businesses offer online payments, and bringing this online payment service to the Clerk's Office ensures additional access for citizens."

With the implementation of this service, the Snohomish County Clerk's Office is keeping pace with the increasing trend towards online payments. Online bill payment has been steadily increasing and, according to Harris Interactive, in the past year accounted for fully 35 percent of all bills paid – compared to only 37 percent paid by check. The citizens of Snohomish County now have access to the same convenient method of payment they have grown accustomed to when purchasing goods and services available via the internet.

Ms. Albert went on to say, "nCourt has been wonderful to work with, they provide excellent support and have tailored the service to fit the needs of the Clerk's Office". Customers may make an online payment at <http://www1.co.snohomish.wa.us/Departments/Clerk/>.

About nCourt:

nCourt LLC, a private company headquartered in Woodstock, GA has provided citizens with online access to the judicial system since 2002. Services include online citation payment, small claims filing, utility payment, and probation payment. Hundreds of thousands of payments for courts in 24 states have been processed through the company's secure website. The nCourt websites are VeriSign certified.

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