

# Hight-Jackson Associates PA

architecture ■ engineering ■ planning ■ interior design



**NCSC** Est. 1971  
National Center for State Courts

Trusted Leadership. Proven Solutions. Better Courts.

current need | the how and why

## Why do we need a feasibility study?

**existing courthouse needs upgrades**

*must be safe, functional, and secure by today's standards*

**we must get it right**

*a new courthouse is an 80-100 year decision for Benton county*

**how will the study be funded?**

*Benton county | group of downtown & community-based organizations & individuals*

**how long will the study take?**

*120 days, minimum*

who will conduct the study?

# BENTON CO COURTHOUSE FEASIBILITY STUDY team

**Brian Jackson, PE**  
*president, civil engineer*

**Gary Jackson, AIA**  
*founding partner & principal in charge*

**Allie McKenzie, AIA**  
*project architect*

**Chang-Ming Yeh**  
*judicial facility planner | National Center for State Courts*



# Achieving Excellence in Court Facility Planning and Design

**What Court Leaders Need to Know & Do in Planning, Designing, Building & Modifying Court Facilities – Benton County, Arkansas**



Presented by Chang-Ming Yeh  
National Center for State Courts

# Courthouse Design Trends and Challenges

- Complex Use -Functionality & Flexibility
- Functional Space Adjacency / Separate Circulation / Access Control
- Cost Conscientious
- Extensive Use of Technology
- More Security
- User Friendly
- Green Design/Environment Friendly

# Historic Courthouse Williamsburg, VA



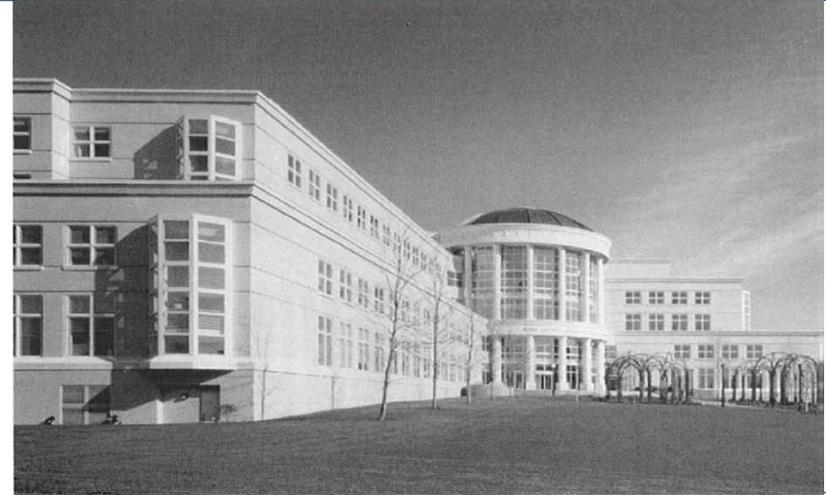
# Typical Courtroom Floor



# Court Administration Floor

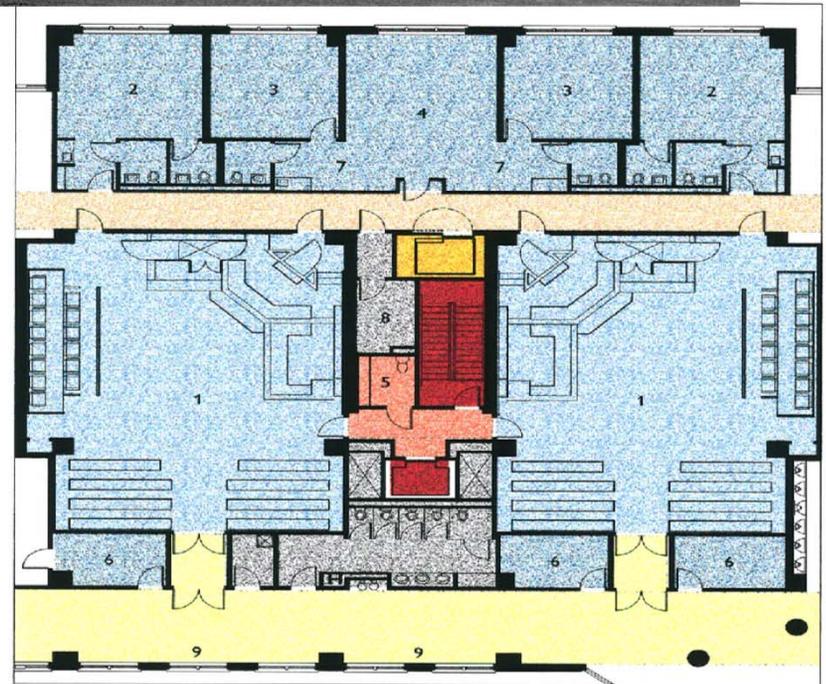


# King County Regional Justice Center Kent, Washington



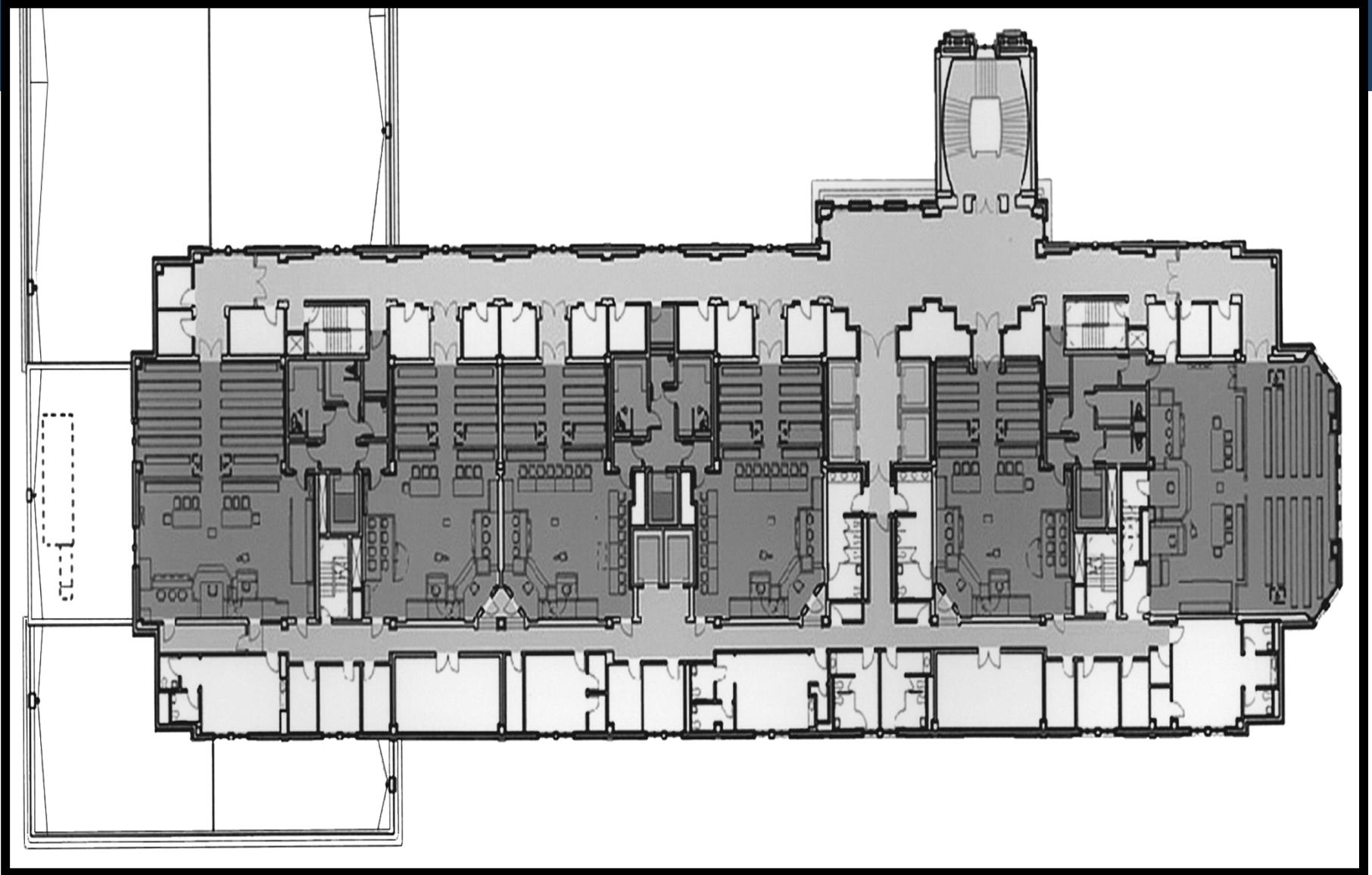
SUPERIOR COURT PLAN

- 1 SUPERIOR COURTROOM
- 2 JURY DELIBERATION
- 3 JUDGES' CHAMBERS
- 4 CLERK/BAILIFF OFFICE
- 5 HOLDING ROOM
- 6 VICTIM/WITNESS CONF.
- 7 FILES STORAGE
- 8 MECHANICAL/ELECTRICAL
- 9 WAITING



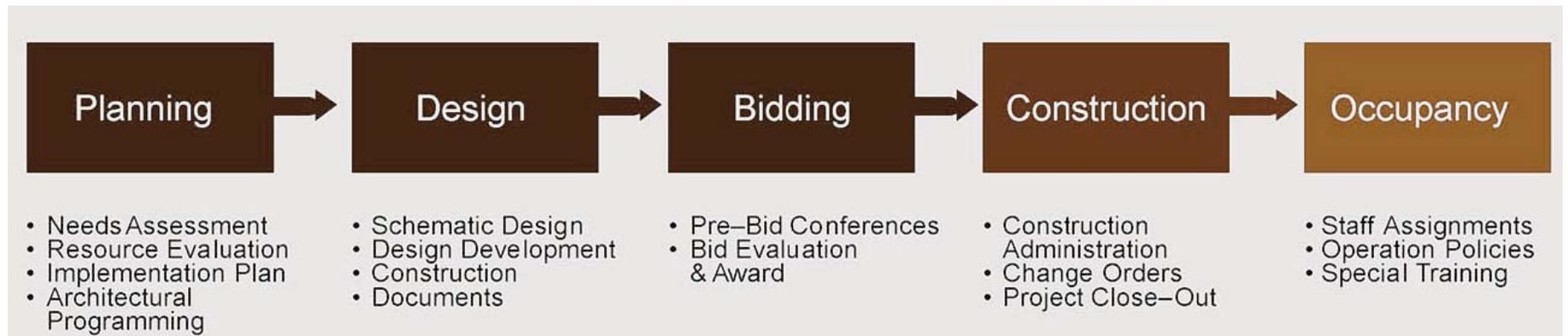
# Osceola County Government Center Kissimmee, Florida





# Project Life Cycle

## Current Facilities

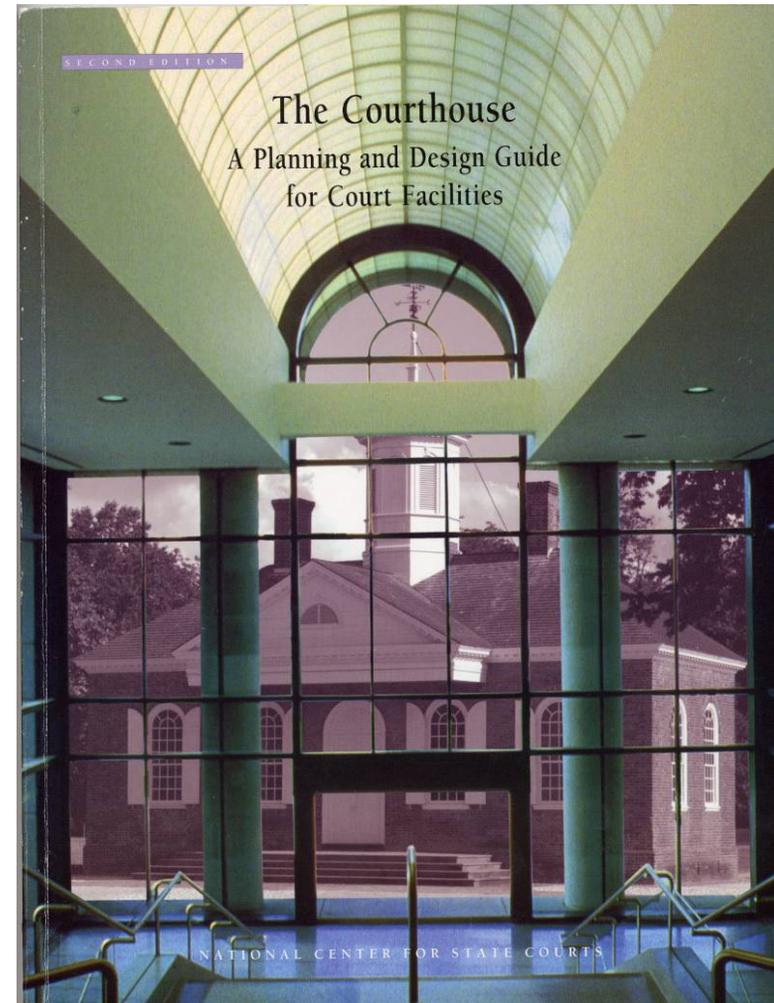


# Planning Objectives Are to Answer the Following:

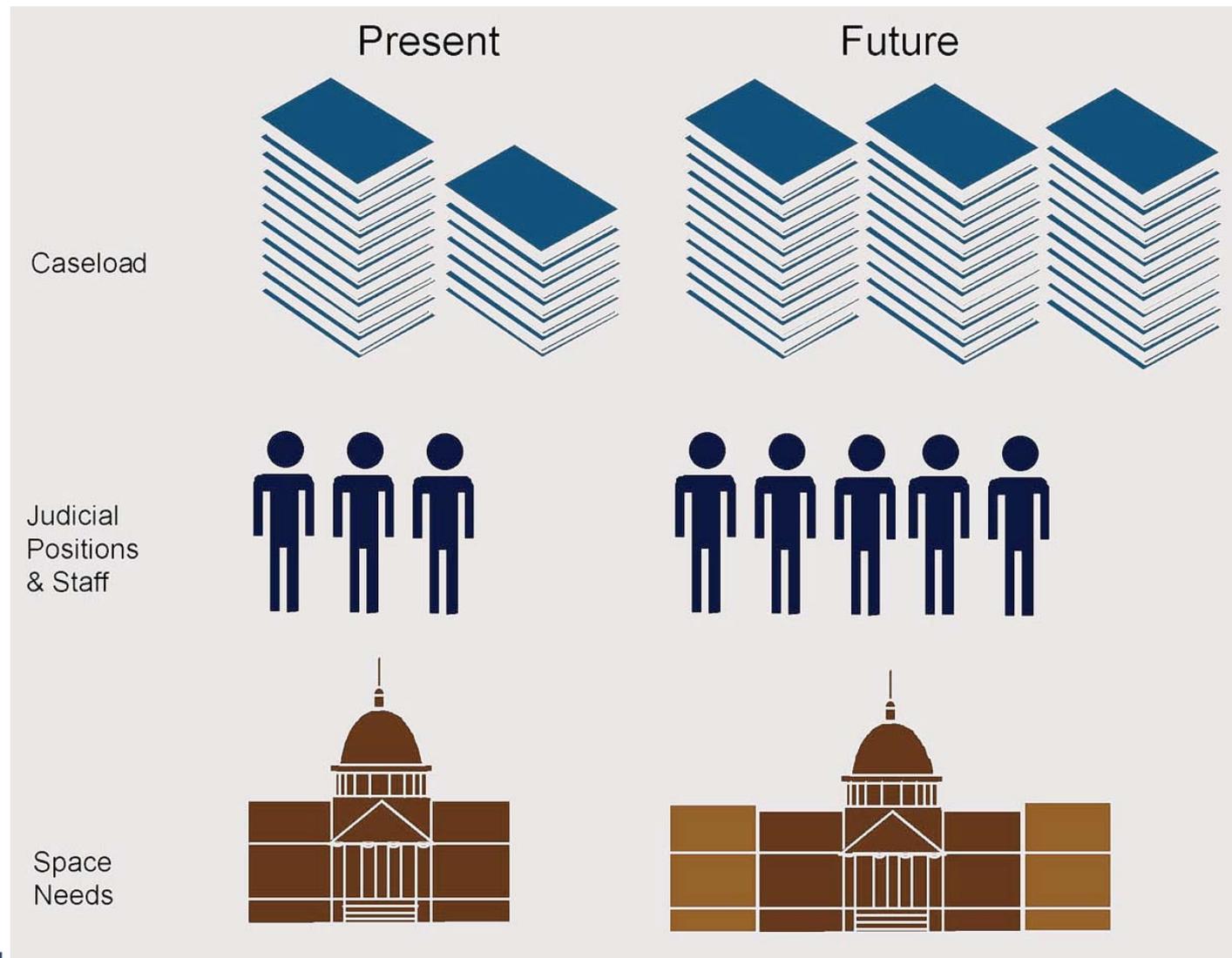
1. Where Are We Today?
2. What Will We Be in the Future?
3. *How Do We Get There?*

# Modern Courthouse Space Planning Issues

- Functional Space Standards
- Functional Space Adjacency Relationships
- Stacking & Blocking
- Security Requirements
- Technology Requirements



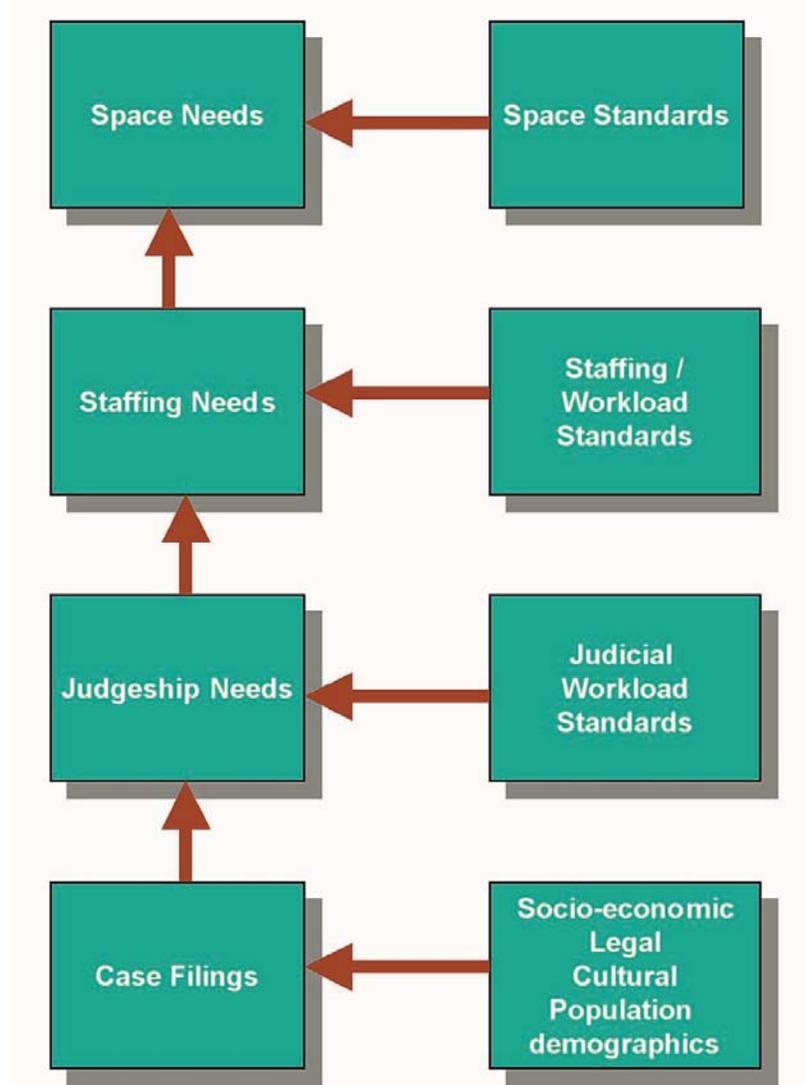
# Caseload Growth Relationship to Personnel & Space Needs



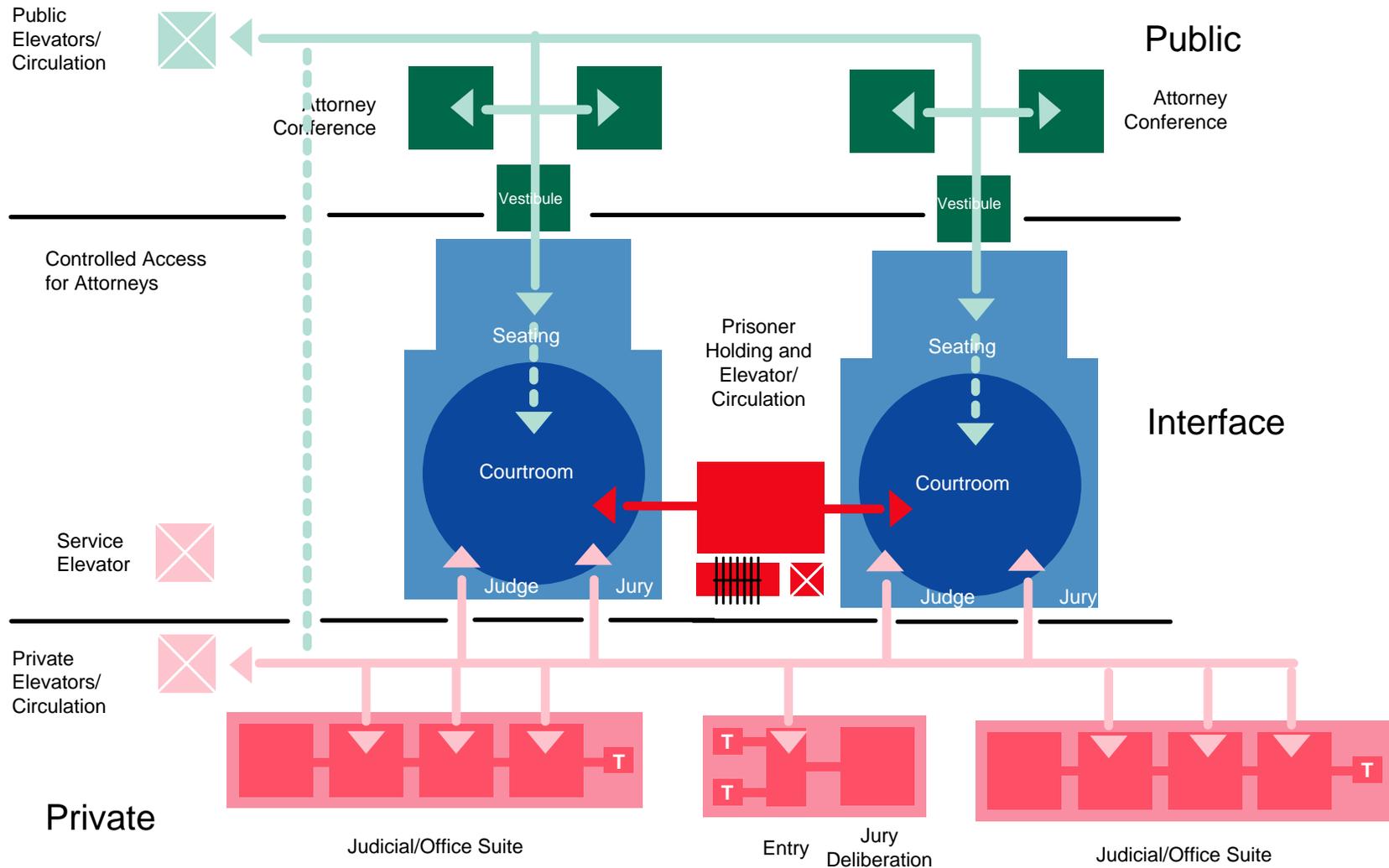
# Court System Planning & Facility Impacts

- Realistic Forecasting
- Court Administration Best Practices on Efficiency
- Systemic Coordination
- Assessing Operational Impact of Alternative Solutions
- Sustainable Building Solutions and Site Considerations

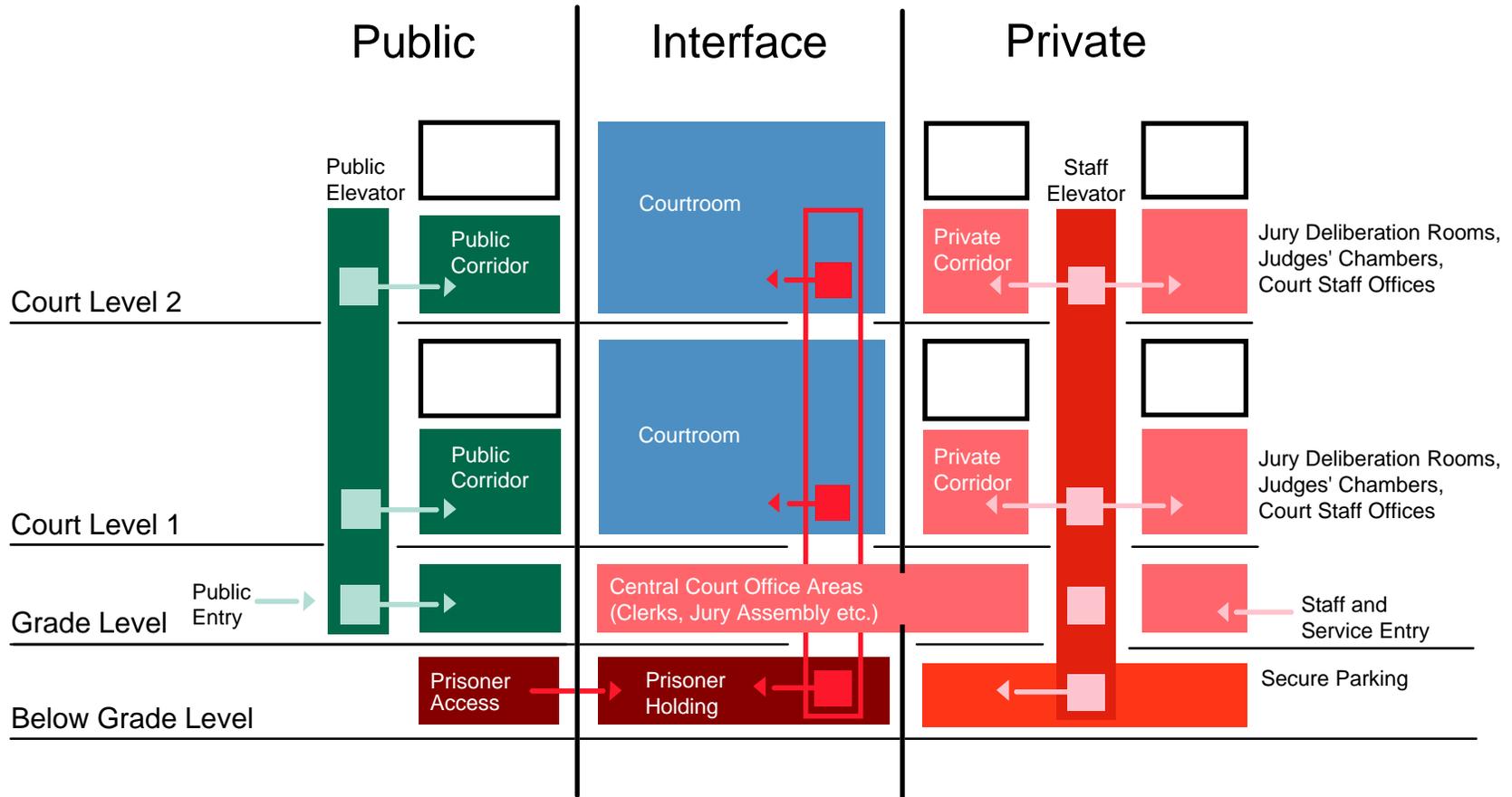
# Determination of Court Facility Space Needs



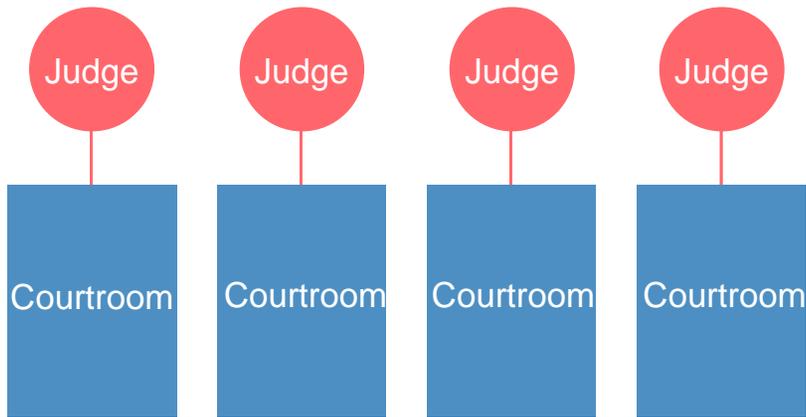
# Courtroom Set & Court Floor Scheme



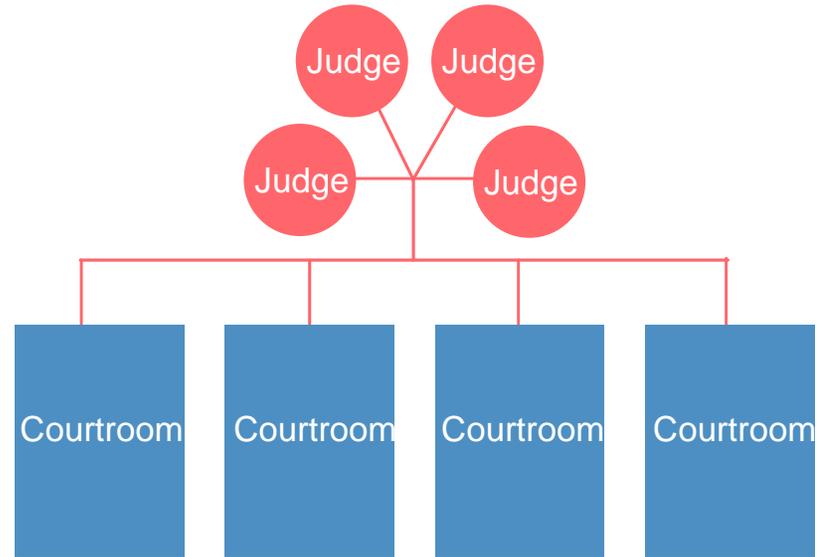
# Courthouse Section



# Courtroom to Chamber Relationship



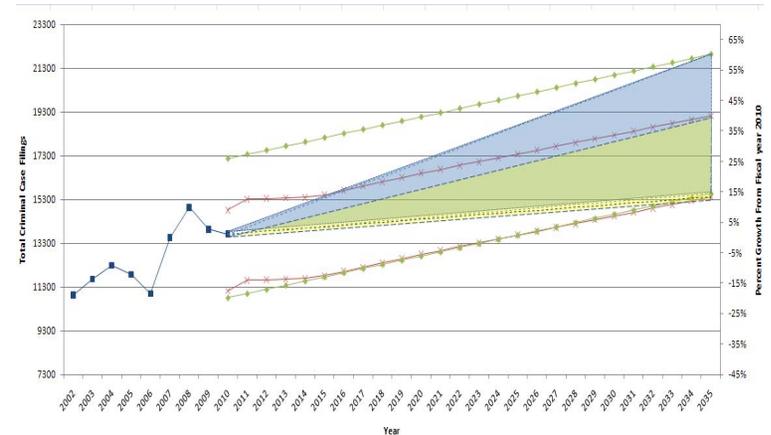
**A** Decentralized Chambers



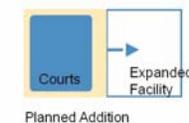
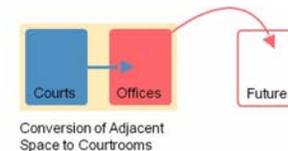
**B** Clustered Judicial Suite

# Master Plan Deliverables

- Long-term Court System Growth Projections
- Building Space Requirements/ Program
- Site Master Plan
- Cost Modeling & Implementation Phasing

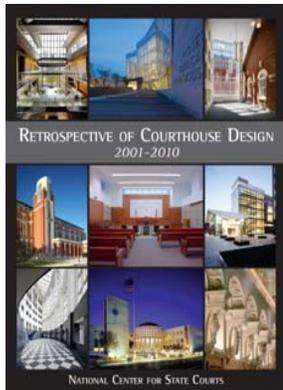
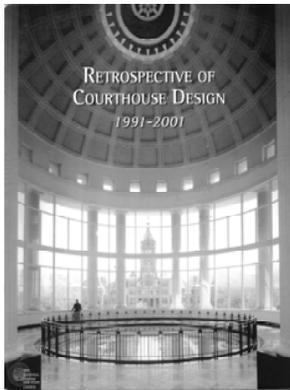
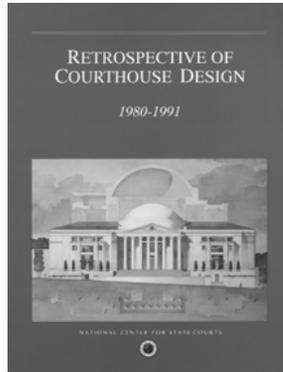


BUILDING		
<b>COURTHOUSE</b>		
PHASE I	12 COURTS 4 STORIES	= 100,000 S.F.
	APPENDAGE A 4 STORIES	= 35,000 S.F.
	APPENDAGE B 4 STORIES	= 35,000 S.F.
TOTAL		170,000 S.F.
		2015 PLAN
PHASE II	6 COURTS 4 STORIES	= 50,000 S.F.
TOTAL		220,000 S.F.
		2030 PLAN
<b>PARKING</b>		
PROVIDED PHASE I		
STAFF	150 SPACES	
JUDGES	60 SPACES	
PUBLIC	300 SPACES	
TOTAL		510 SPACES
<b>PARKING REQUIRED</b>		
PHASE I	700 SPACES	2015 PLAN
PHASE II	200 SPACES	2030 PLAN
TOTAL		900 SPACES



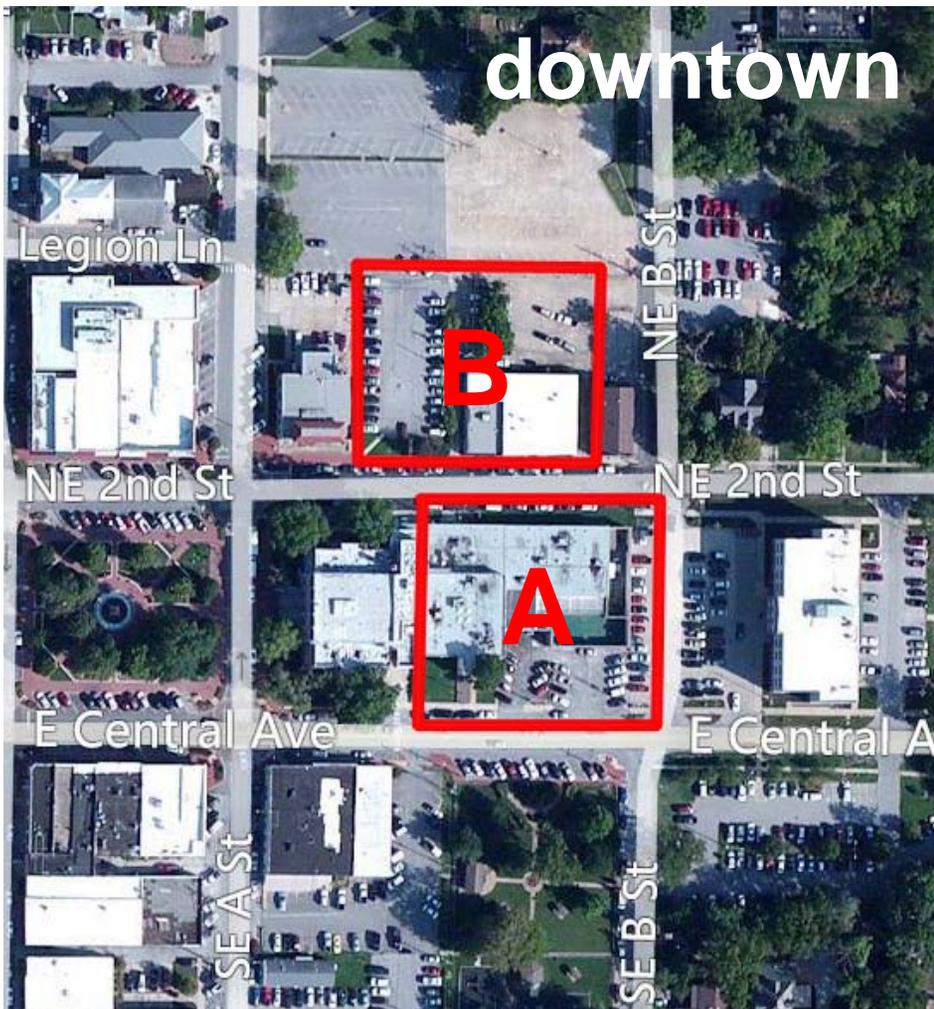
# National Center for State Courts

## 30 Years of Courthouse Planning Experience and Design Standards



- Maricopa County, AZ Downtown Criminal Court Tower Design & Planning Consultation
- Franklin County, OH Courthouse Design & Planning Consultation
- Justice Center Needs Assessment & Space Planning for the City of Scottsdale, AZ
- City of Houston, TX Municipal Court Facility Master Plan
- Pinal County, AZ Master Plan Judicial Space Planning
- Mesa, AZ Municipal Court, Court Space & Technology Consulting
- Mohave County, AZ Justice Facility Needs Assessment
- Court Facility Design & ADAAG Standards
- Workload Standards
- I.T. , Electronic Filing & Security Best Practices

# potential locations



# potential downtown location | study A



possible **building scale**

# potential downtown location | study A



possible **site plan**

# potential downtown location | study A

02



second floor

04



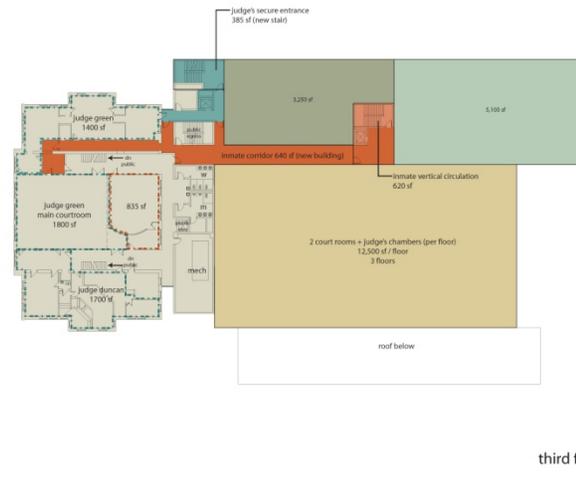
fourth floor

01



possible floor plans

03



third floor

# potential downtown location | study B



possible **building scale**

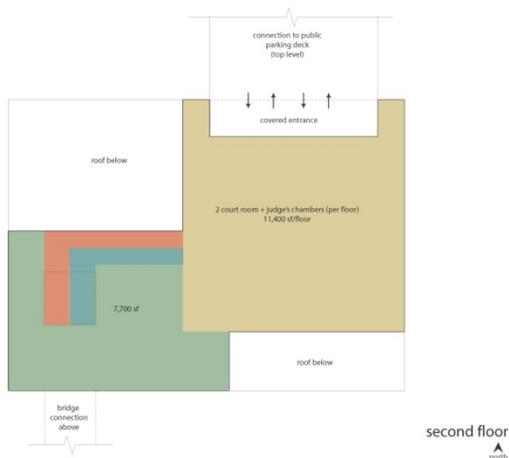
# potential downtown location | study B



possible **site plan**

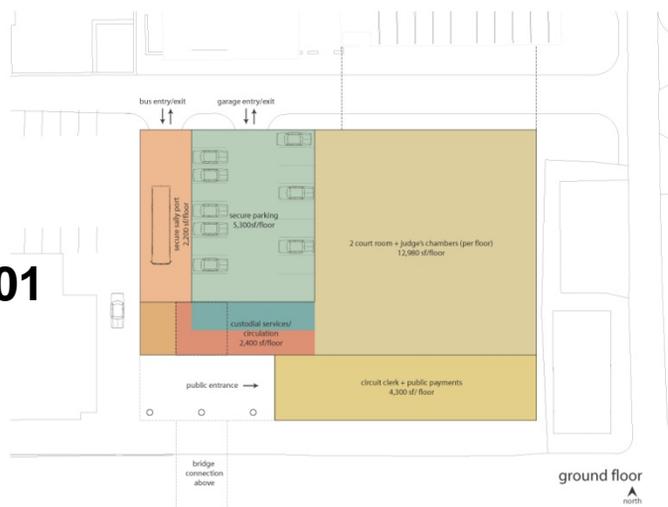
# potential downtown location | study B

02



second floor  
▲  
north

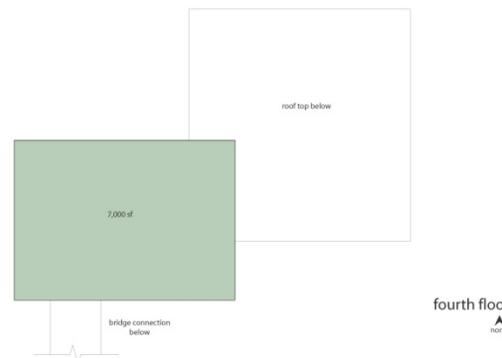
01



ground floor  
▲  
north

possible floor plans

04



fourth floor  
▲  
north

03



third floor  
▲  
north

# potential HWY 102 location | study C



possible **site plan**

**thank you.**

## **in summary....**

### **objective analysis**

*evaluate pros and cons of each location*

### **determine a program that meets the needs of benton county**

*the building must function for many years to come*

### **potential for existing historic courthouse**

*create a viable building that meets today's needs*

### **cost benefit analysis of potential locations**

*land cost | construction costs | operational costs*

### **constructability and phasing requirements**