

A MOBILE APP CONCEPT FOR COURT DOCKETS AND LEGAL BRIEFS

E-filing has made life much easier for bench and bar. However, the touchscreen-based devices we increasingly rely on are capable of far more than just scrolling through and zooming in and out on static PDF pages.

An app-like structure would make dockets, briefs, evidence, and authorities easier to access, read, and reference from anywhere. It would also weave together research databases, cloud storage, and collaboration tools into a truly frictionless whole.

The wireframes below walk through how an "app-ified" brief might be structured to allow for more productive legal work, even on tiny mobile phone screens. The utility of this system would increase dramatically on tablets and touchscreen monitors.

This approach would depend on the evolution of e-filing practices to include features like citation scraping and XML tagging within the bodies of filings. Ideally, these processes would be automated to ensure accuracy and consistency. Implementing these features would be no small task. However, especially considering resistance to change in the legal field, e-filing has already come a very long way. It is worth considering what will be possible in the not-too-distant future.

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