

# Florida Court Clerks & Comptrollers

Improved Efficiency with Technology



127%

higher new case volumes than previous record

97,225

average submissions per weekday

1.9M

submissions per month

\$61M

estimated cost savings in postage over 8 years

## **MUST HAVE SOLUTION**

govRecords (eUniversa)

#### **OVERVIEW**

Florida Court Clerks and Comptrollers (FCCC) is a statewide association of the 68 independently elected Clerks of Court & Comptrollers performing over 1,000 constitutional and statutory tasks geared toward protecting resident interests, including providing checks and balances for tax dollar spending and serving as the keeper of court records. Spanning all 67 counties in Florida, FCCC embraces technology to connect all who file documents in the state. Digital solutions are critical to upholding FCCC's mission to protect the public trust across the state, and the association has achieved long-term success with the Granicus e-filing solution.

## SITUATION | A NEED FOR GREATER EFFICIENCY

In the past, attorneys, Clerks, and individuals representing themselves in court cases relied solely on paper filings. A paper system allowed only one person at a time to view a file, which often created backups in the system. Additionally, filing had to be done in-person at a Clerk's office and during business hours. For those filing by mail (or who lived too far to file in-person), the postage fees could be excessive. The paper-based process was time-consuming, expensive, and in need of modernization. In 2013, the Supreme Court of Florida mandated that all attorneys e-file civil case documents, and the directive to e-file criminal cases followed a year later.

## **SOLUTION** | STREAMLINED PROCESSES

Upon implementing the govRecords eUniversa solution in 2011, FCCC found greater efficiencies in handling all of Florida's court e-filings. The software connected all 67 counties in the state regardless of the case maintenance system used. Over the years, the Florida Courts E-Filing Authority has updated the system and applied helpful changes that serve the Clerks' offices. With filing volumes consistently increasing, it is vital that the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal is always available. The long-term partnership with Granicus has helped the state realize greater accessibility. E-filing has made it possible for people to access the Portal from anywhere, at any time. All court files are housed online and can be viewed by multiple parties at once.

## **RESULTS** | MAKING SAVINGS AND ENHANCING SECURITY

Overall, the digital solution has improved processes and saved the Clerks, and all users, valuable resources. Prior to implementing the e-filing solution, Florida attorneys were required to send documents to all necessary parties in the physical mail using envelopes and stamps. This digital move eliminated that step and has resulted in huge time savings and an estimated \$61 million in cost savings over eight years. The E-Filing Portal creates a secure way to transmit timestamped documents to the Clerk's Office for acceptance, adding it to the official court file for each case.

