

Arkansas Court Automation Programs

ELECTRONIC FILING

CASE MANAGEMENT

JURY MANAGEMENT

ONLINE PAYMENTS

ONLINE PUBLIC ACCESS

ELECTRONIC CITATIONS

INTERGOVERNMENTAL
DATA EXCHANGES



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Administrative Office of the Courts

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www.courts.arkansas.gov/acap

"Supporting Courts; Ensuring Justice"

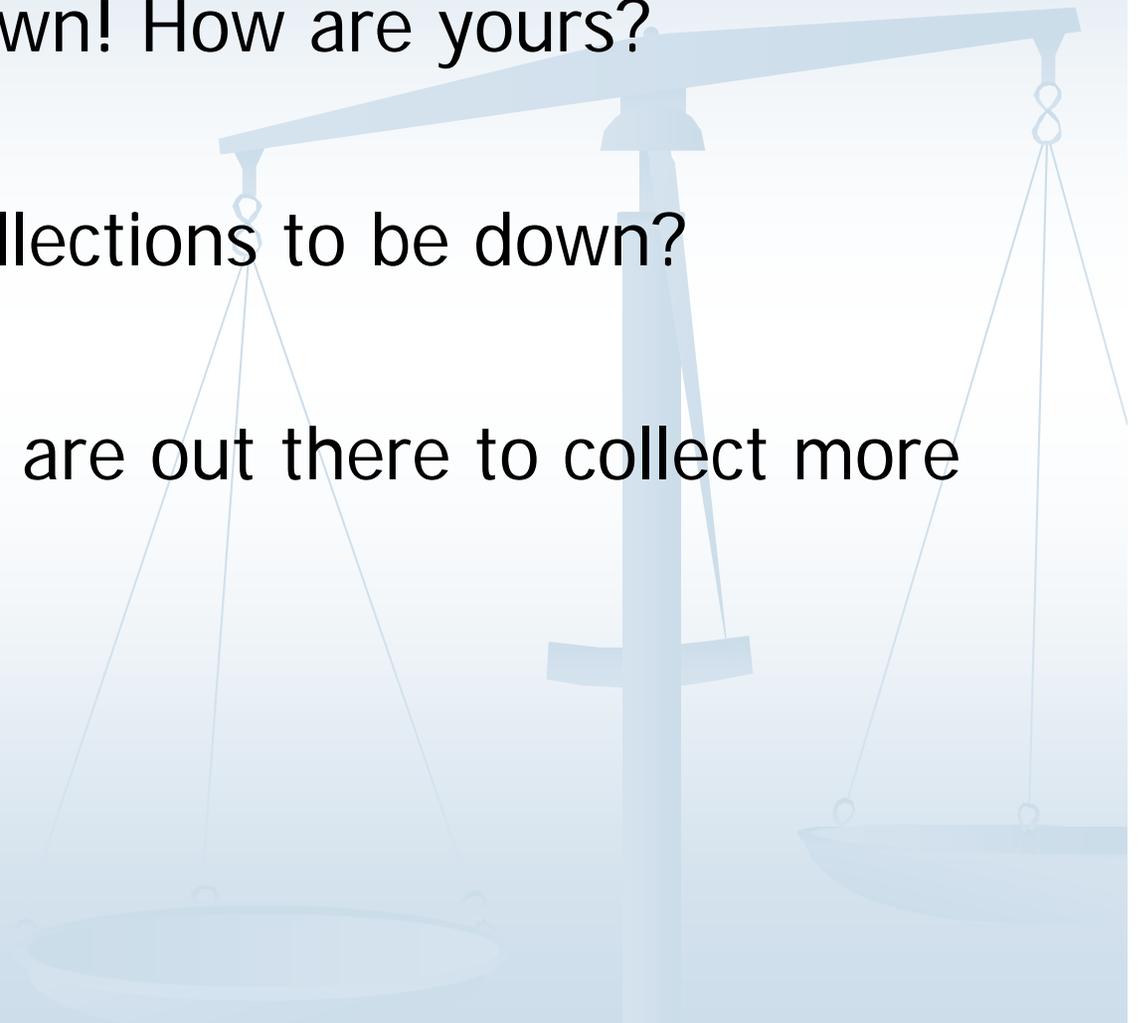
Fee, Fines, Foes, Funds

"Supporting Courts; Ensuring Justice"

Michial Armstrong
Arkansas Supreme Court
Administrative Office of the Courts
November 9th, 2015

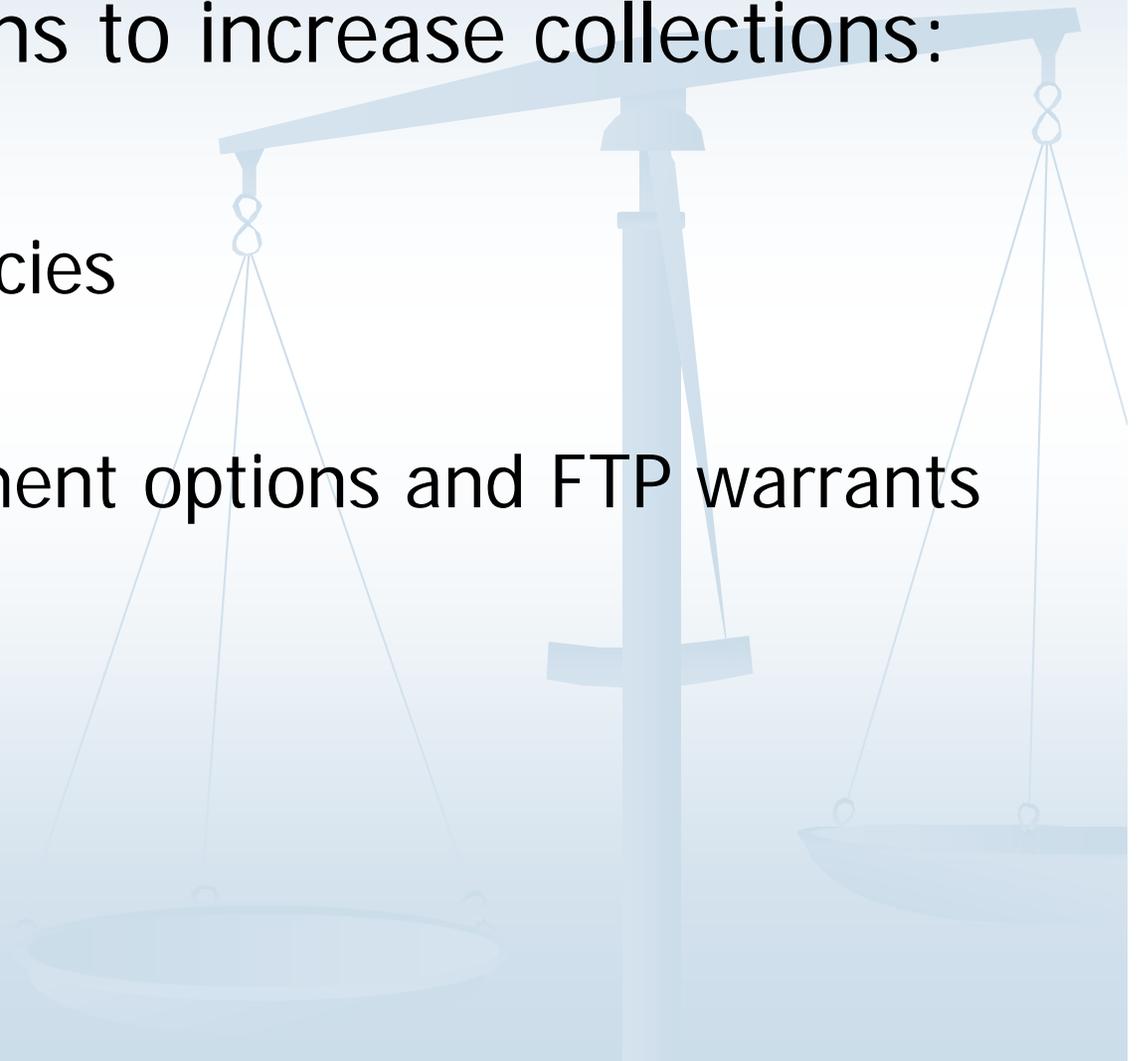
Fees, Fines, Foes, Funds

- Collections are Down! How are yours?
- What's causing collections to be down?
- What Mechanisms are out there to collect more money?



Fees, Fines, Foes, Funds

- Possible Solutions to increase collections:
 - Collection Agencies
 - Tax Setoff
 - Additional payment options and FTP warrants



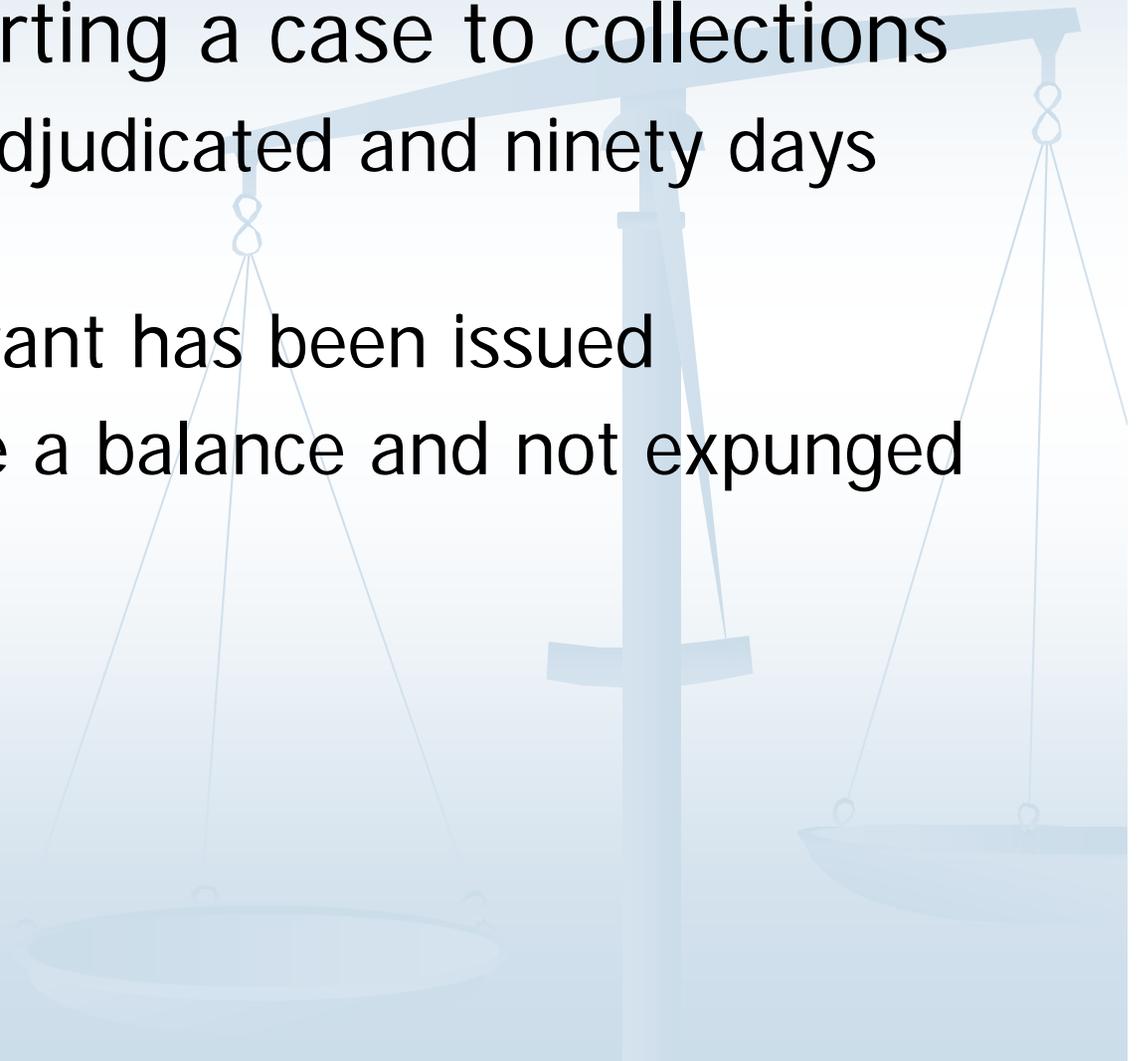
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■ Collection Agencies

- Very delinquent payment plans or case balances may be sent to a collection agency
- Collection Agency keeps a percentage of what's collected
- LRDC Contexte export - direct electronic reporting of cases/payment plans that are ready for collections

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- Criteria for reporting a case to collections
 - Case must be adjudicated and ninety days have passed
 - Active FTP warrant has been issued
 - Case must have a balance and not expunged or sealed



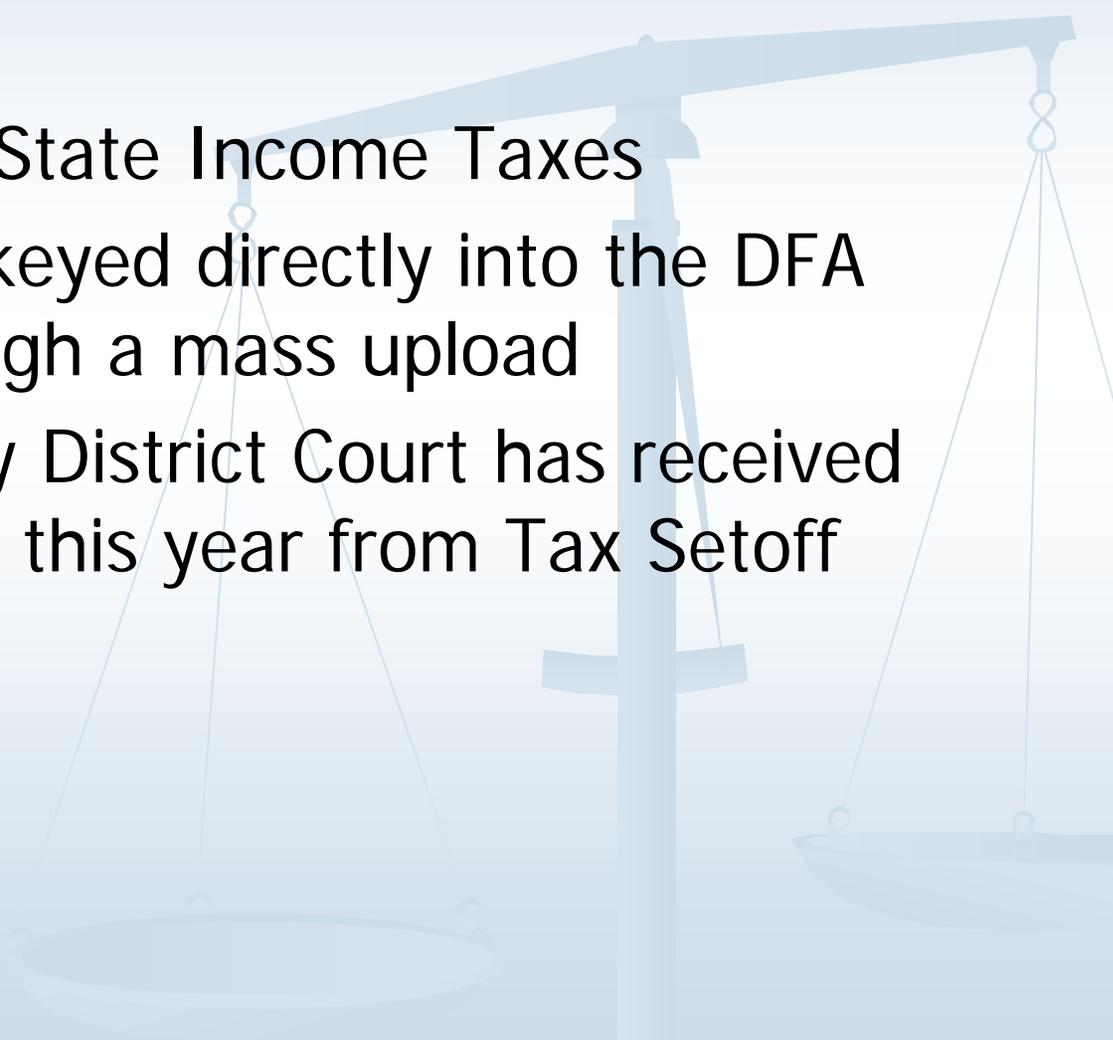
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■ Collection Agency Figures for Little Rock District Court

■ Year	Collection
■ 2012	\$308,469
■ 2013	\$324,170
■ 2014	\$277,975

- Payments are made directly to the Court and is billed for Collection Agency's portion

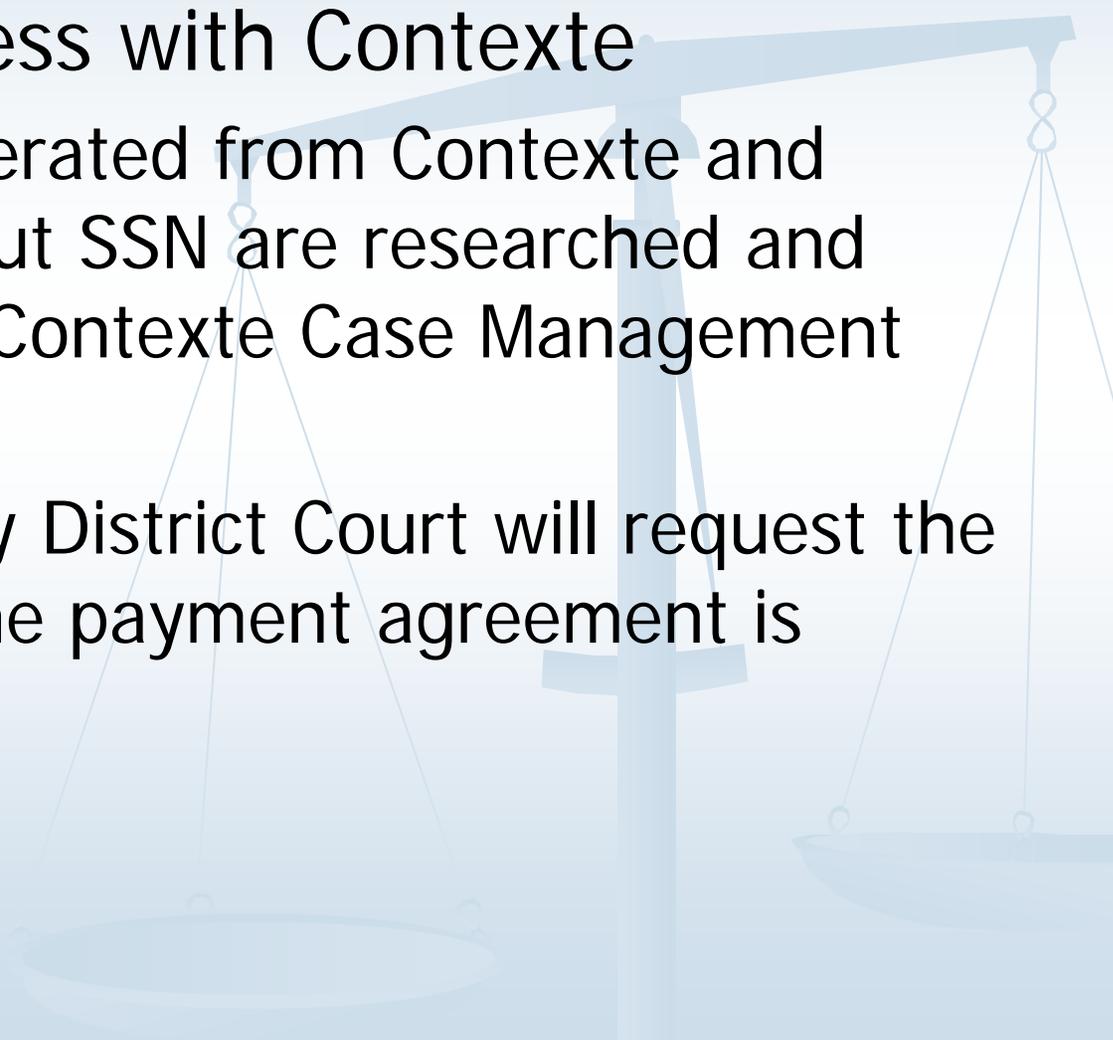
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■ Tax Setoff

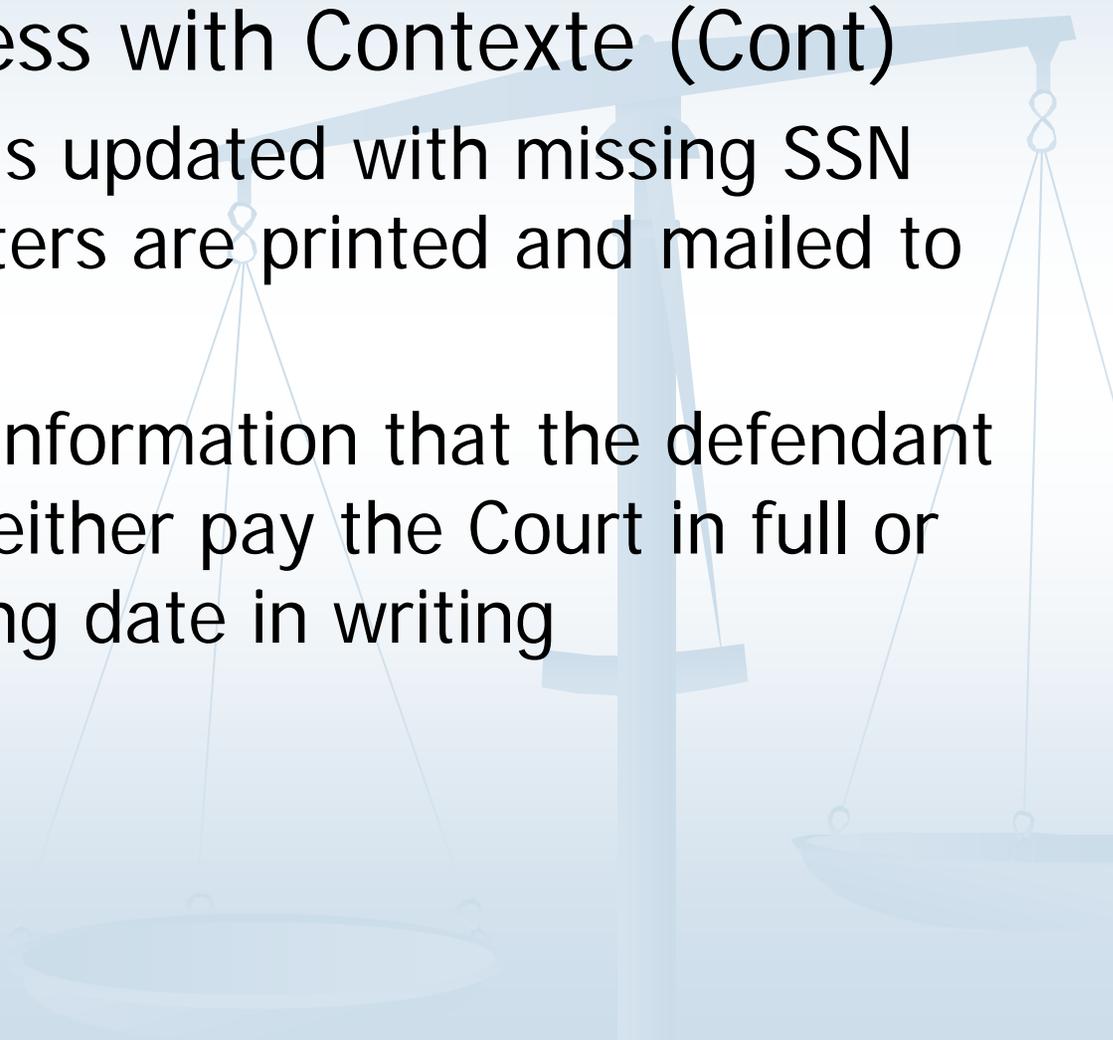
- Interception of State Income Taxes
- Yearly process keyed directly into the DFA system or through a mass upload
- Faulkner County District Court has received about \$197,000 this year from Tax Setoff

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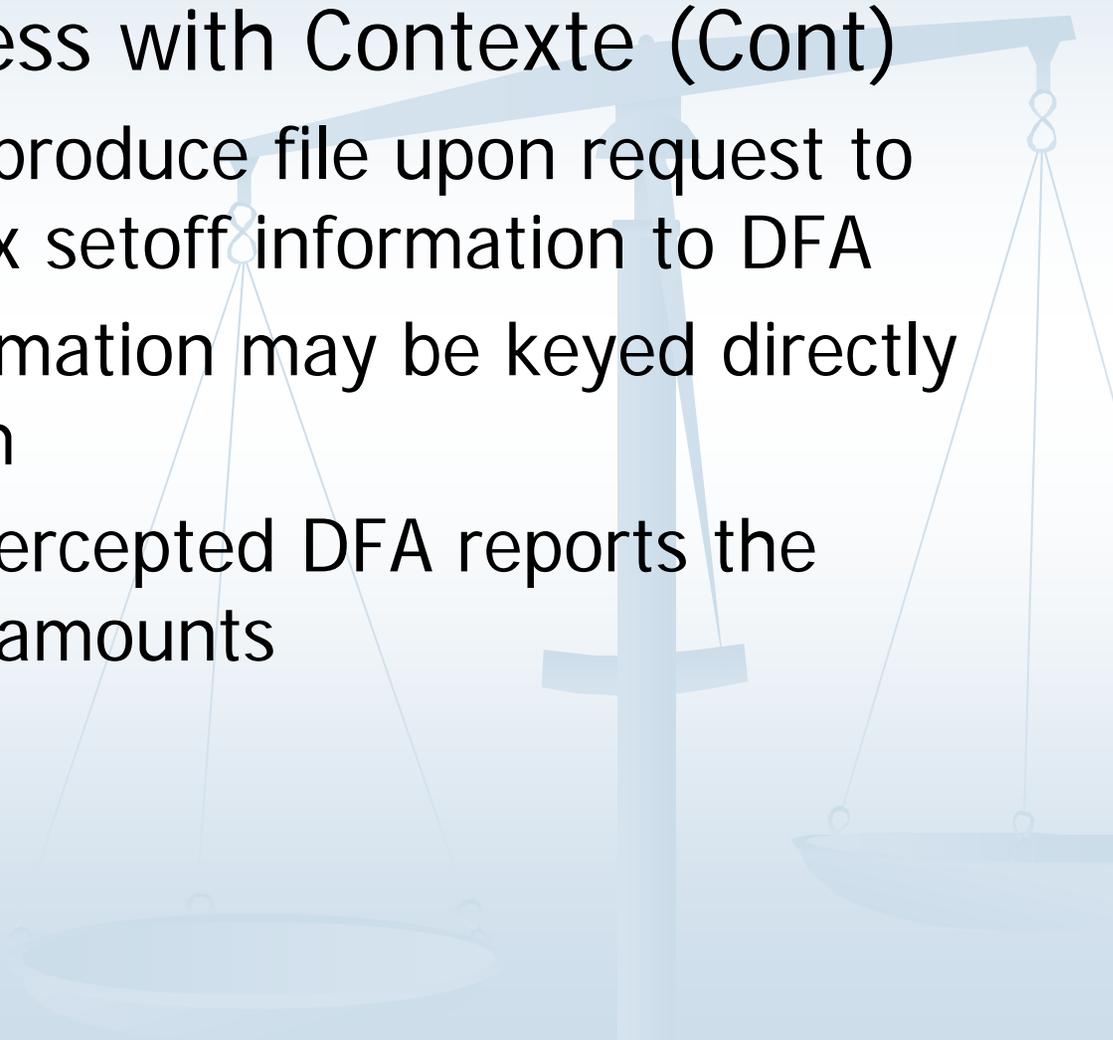


- Tax Setoff Process with Contexte
 - Letters are generated from Contexte and instances without SSN are researched and updated in the Contexte Case Management System
 - Faulkner County District Court will request the SSN when a time payment agreement is signed

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- Tax Setoff Process with Contexte (Cont)
 - Once Contexte is updated with missing SSN information, letters are printed and mailed to defendants
 - Letter includes information that the defendant has 30 days to either pay the Court in full or request a hearing date in writing
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- Tax Setoff Process with Contexte (Cont)
 - ACAP Staff will produce file upon request to mass-upload tax setoff information to DFA
 - Tax Setoff information may be keyed directly into DFA system
 - As taxes are intercepted DFA reports the individuals and amounts
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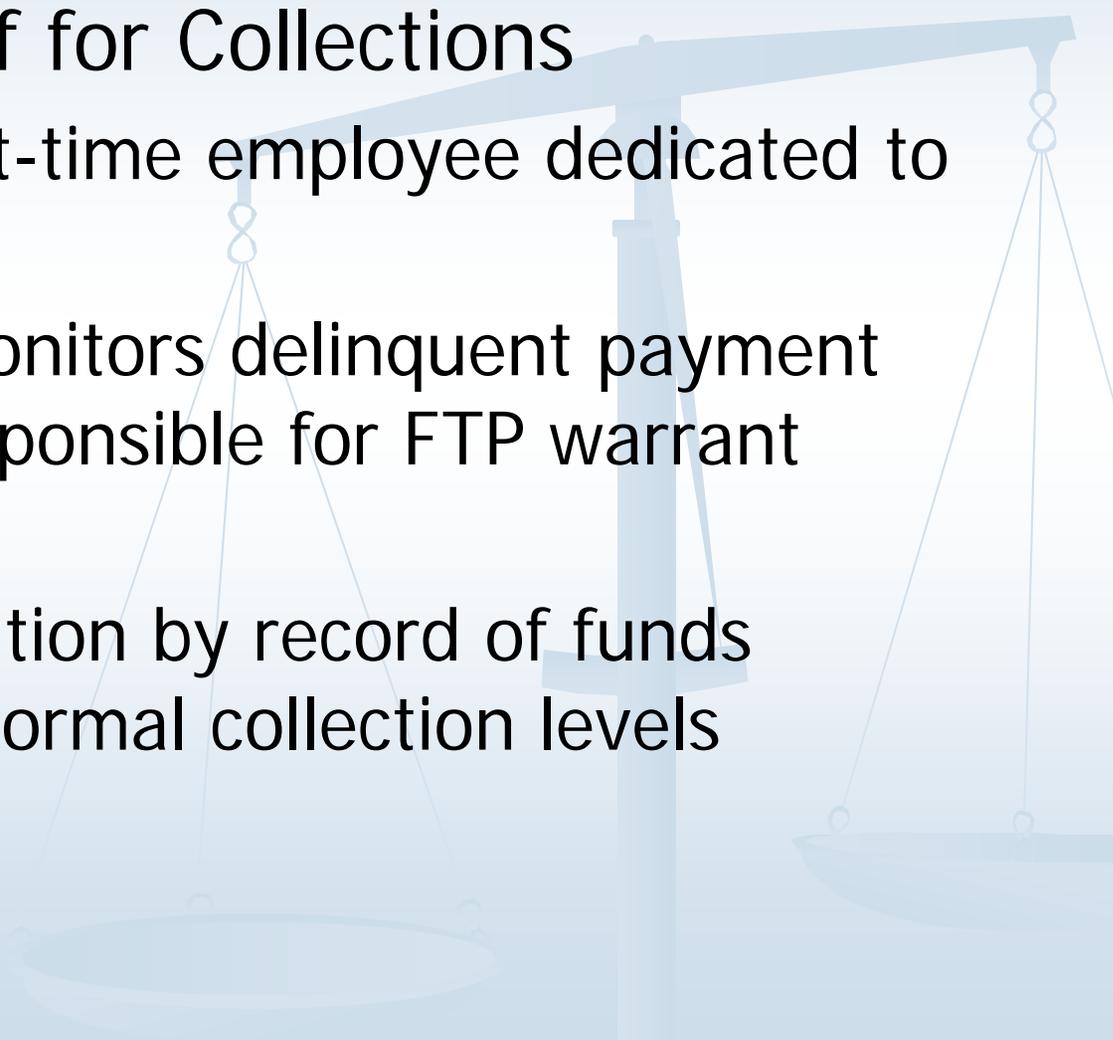
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- Tax Setoff Process with Contexte (Cont)
 - 10% is reduced from total debt and retained by DFA
 - Monetary receipt is applied in Contexte once check from DFA is received
 - Non-monetary receipt is applied in Contexte for 10% on FINE balance
 - See 26-36-302(2)(D) for legal setoff information

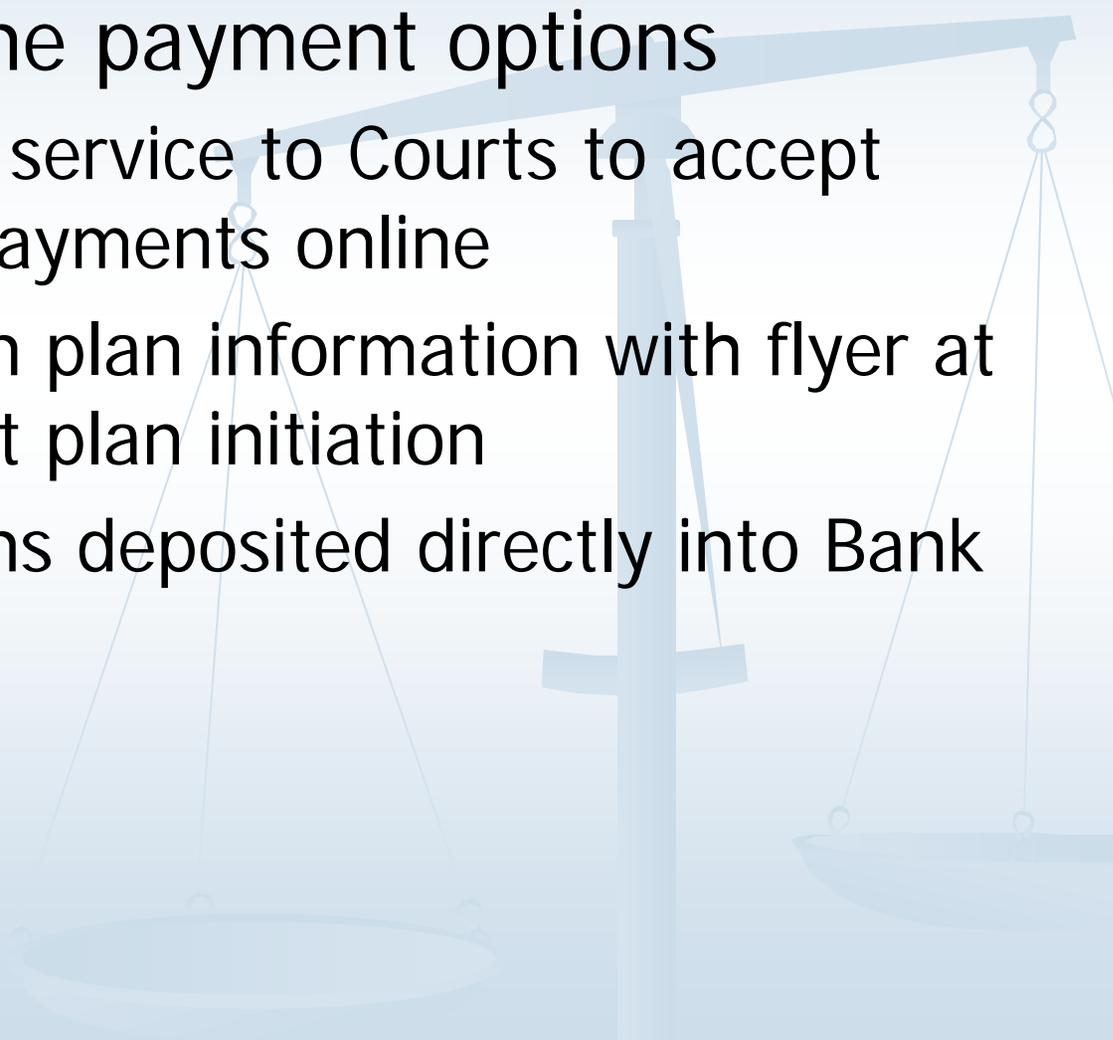
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- Increasing Payment Plan Collections
 - Accept payment methods like Credit Cards
 - INA offers a credit card service at no cost to the Court. A fee is charged to the customer.
 - Contexte has reports of who is delinquent and a form for mass FTP warrant creation
 - Contact work release program to collect from eligible prisoners

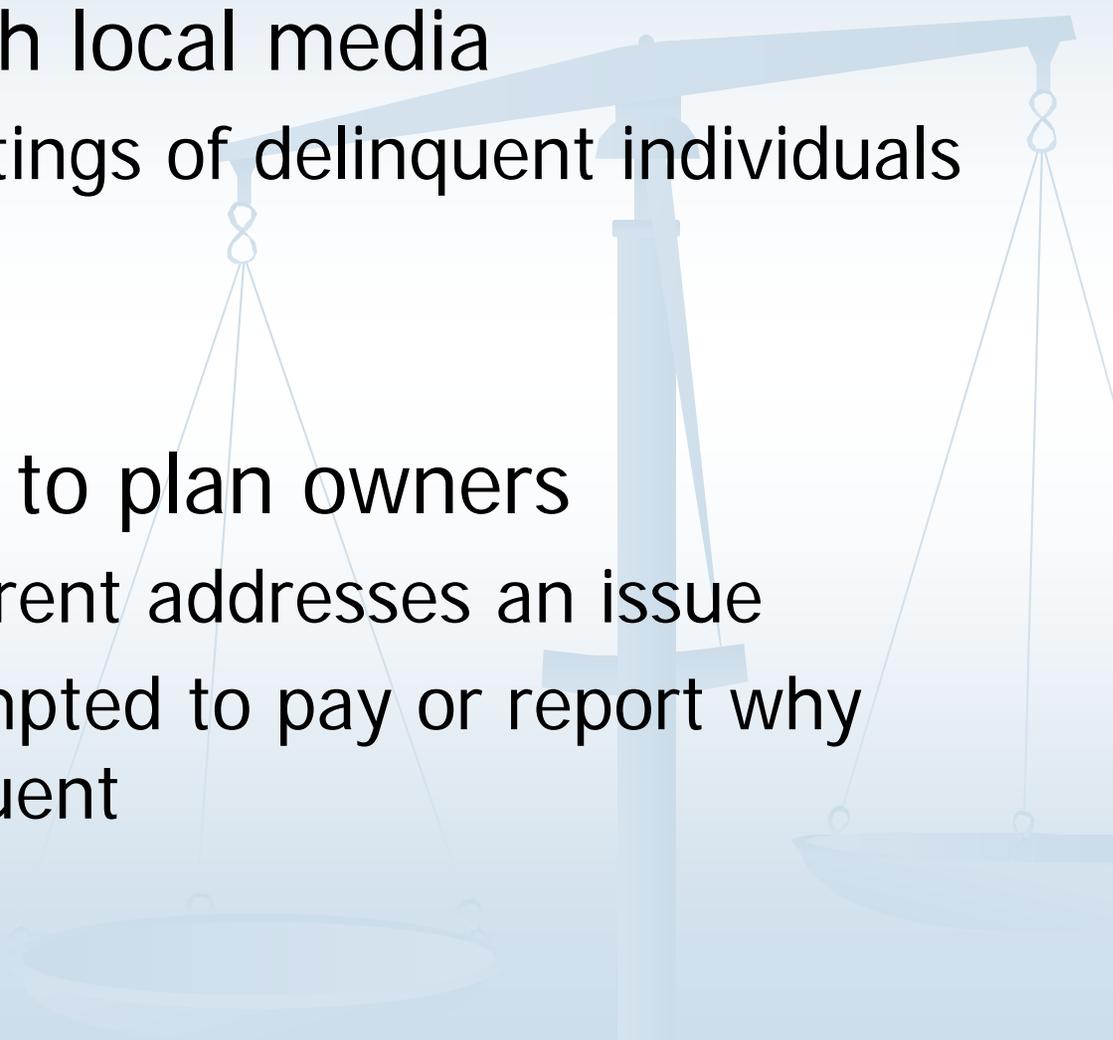
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- Designated Staff for Collections
 - Full-time or part-time employee dedicated to collections
 - This position monitors delinquent payment plans and is responsible for FTP warrant creation
 - Justify new position by record of funds collected over normal collection levels
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Fees, Fines, Foes, Funds

- Investigate online payment options
 - AOC offers free service to Courts to accept payment plan payments online
 - Defendant given plan information with flyer at time of payment plan initiation
 - Online collections deposited directly into Bank Account
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- Get in touch with local media
 - Newspaper postings of delinquent individuals
 - Amnesty period
- Mail statements to plan owners
 - Correct and current addresses an issue
 - Defendant prompted to pay or report why they are delinquent

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Q & A Session

