Build Requirements for Judiciary Information System Software

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CASE STUDY

The Attorney General's office has requested us to develop a Judiciary Information System (JIS), to help handle court cases and also to make the past court cases easily accessible to the lawyers and judges. For each court case, the name of the defendant, defendant's address, the crime type (e.g. theft, arson, etc.), when committed (date), where committed (location), name of the arresting officer, and the date of the arrest are entered by the court register. Each court case is identified by a unique case identification number (CIN) which is generated by the computer. The registrar assigns a date of hearing for each case. For this the registrar expects the computer to display the vacant slots on any working day during which the case can be scheduled. Each time a case is adjourned, the reason for adjournment is entered by the registrar and he assigns a new hearing date. If a hearing takes place on any day for a case, the registrar enters the summary of the court proceedings and assigns a new hearing date. Also, on completion of a court case, the summary of the judgement is recorded and the case is closed but the details of the case are maintained for future reference. Other data maintained about a case include the name of the presiding judge, the public prosecutor, the starting date, and the expected completion date of a trial. The judges should be able to browse through the old cases for guidance on their judgement. The lawyers should also be permitted to browse old cases, but should be charged for each old case they browse. Using the JIS software, the Registrar of the court should be able to query the following:

(a) The currently pending court cases. In response to this query, the computer should print out the pending cases sorted by CIN. For each pending case, the following data should be listed: the date in which the case started, the defendant's name, address, crime details, the lawyer's name, the public prosecutor's name, and the attending judge's name.

(b) The cases that have been resolved over any given period. The output in this case should chronologically list the starting date of the case, the CI, the date on which the judgement was delivered, the name of the attending judge, and the judgement summary.

(c) The cases that are coming up for hearing on a particular date.

(d) The status of any particular case (cases are identified by CIN),

The lawyers and the judges need to refer to the past court cases. The lawyers need to refer to these to prepare for their line of arguments. The judges need to refer to the past court cases to examine the lines of judgments given previously to similar cases. It should be possible to search for the history of past court cases by entering keywords. However, the lawyers should be charged for each time they see the details of a court case to recover some of the computerization costs. For this purpose, it is necessary to provide separate login accounts to the JIS software and trace how many court cases each lawyer’s views. The registrar should be able to create login accounts for the different users (i.e judges, lawyers, etc.) and should be able to delete these accounts.

R1: Login_to_designation

Input : Designation Name

Process: If Registar then run RR1 else if Lawyer run LR1 else if Judge then run JR1

Output: Lawyer/Registrar/Judge

RR1 : Register_Court_Case

Input: Name of defendant, defendant's Address,Crime Type, when committed (date), where Committed (location), name of arresting officer, and the date of the arrest

Process: Store the details

Output: Details Entered and CIN Number

RR2: Assign_hearing_date

Input: CIN Number of the case

Process: Fetch vacant slots from the database and display slots for the next available day

Output: Display vacant time slots

RR3: Assign_new_hearing_date

Input: Reason for change in date of hearing

Process: If adjournment then accept the reason else if hearing is completed accept hearing summary and fetch next available slots

Output: Display next available slots for the new hearing

RR4: Show Currently Pending Court Cases

Input: The Registrar queries about the pending cases by selecting the Pending Cases option.

Process: The system opens the file which stores the pending cases details.

Output: The computer prints out the pending cases sorted by their CIN with the corresponding data including the date on which the judgement was delivered, the name of the attending judge, and the judgement summary

RR5: Show Resolved Cases

Input: The Registrar queries about the resolved cases by selecting the Resolved Cases option.

Process: The system opens the file which stores the resolved cases details.

Output: The computer chronologically lists the case data.

RR6: Display cases on a particular date

Input: The Registrar selects the Due Cases option and enters the date of hearing.

Process: The system opens the file which stores the due cases details.

Output: All the cases that are scheduled on that day are listed in the form of their CIN.

RR7: Case Status

Input: The Registrar selects the Case Status option and enters the CIN of the case he is interested in.

Process: The system opens the file which stores the case details.

Output: The computer displays the status of the particular case.

RR8: Create/Delete Accounts

Input: The Registrar creates accounts by selecting the Create New Account option and entering the name of the judge/lawyer. He deletes an account by selecting the Delete Account option and entering the name of the judge/lawyer.

Process: The system opens the file which stores the log-in details of the users and creates/deletes the corresponding user’s details.

Output: A username and password is created for every account created and deleted for every account deleted.

JR1: Judges Log-In

Input: The judges log into the system by selection the Judges Log-In option and can select the previous cases by selecting the Resolved Cases option and entering key words like their CIN.

Process: The system opens the file which stores the log-in details of the users and matches it against the input.

Output: The case details of the particular case are displayed.

LR1: Lawyers Log-In

Input: The lawyers log into the system by selection the Lawyers Log-In option and can select the previous cases by selecting Resolved Cases option and entering key words like their CIN.

Process: The system opens the file which stores the log-in details of the users and matches it against the input.

Output: The case details of the particular case are displayed. Also, the number of previous cases views for each lawyer is displayed.

LR2: Pay Charge

Input: The lawyers can pay for their charges by logging into JIS and selecting Pay Charges.

Process: The system opens the file which stores the amount details of the lawyers and resets the amount to the NIL of the corresponding lawyer.

Output: This connects the JIS to the Billing System which generates the printed bill and resets the charges to NIL for the lawyer.