

The A2J Initiative

Brian Donnelly

Director of Educational Technology
and Lecturer in Law Columbia Law
School

donnelly@law.columbia.edu

The final version of this presentation will be posted at:

<http://web.law.columbia.edu/educational-technology/special-projects>

URL for final
version of this
presentation

- A2J Overview
- Organizations and Individuals that collaborate to support A2J
- Focus on the implementation by New York State Courts of A2J
- Describe the technical components of the software
- Q/A

Plan for this presentation

A2J described briefly in a
few words and pictures

Welcome to A2J Author!

Continue



1 DO YOU QUALIFY?

2 DO YOU AGREE?

3 YOUR INFORMATION



ACCESS TO JUSTICE



This program was developed under grants from the State Justice Institute (SJI grant number SJI-04-N-121), Center for Access to the Courts through Technology; Chicago Kent College of Law, Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction (CALI), and Legal Services Corporation (LSC). The points of view expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the SJI, Center for Access to the Courts through Technology, Chicago-Kent, CALI, or the LSC.

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SJI

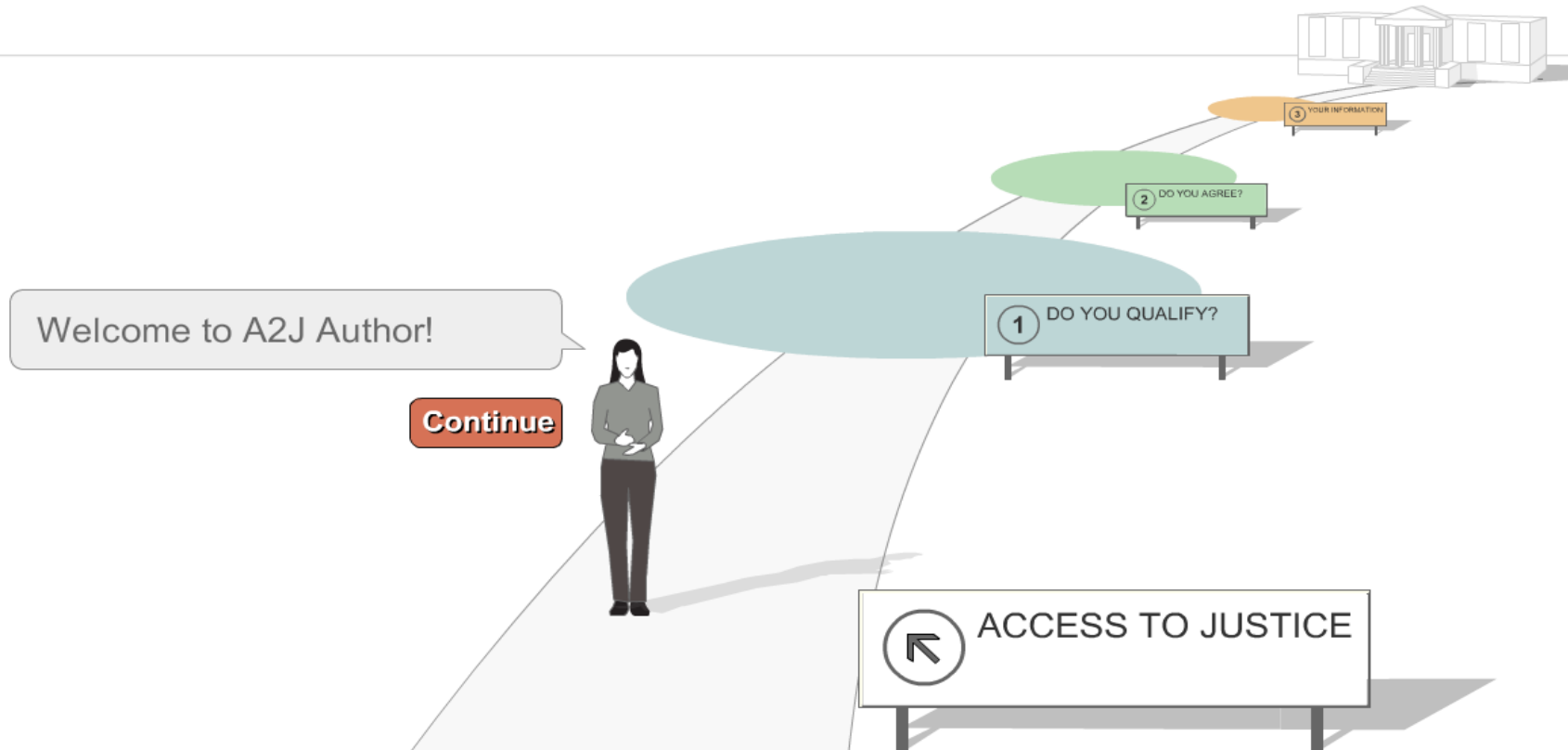
What is the name of the **first** child?

First:

Last:

Continue





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SJI

A2J Author[®] is currently used in 35 states, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam and Canada. More than 550 A2J Guided Interviews[®] are actively being used on the national server, Law Help Interactive. A2J Guided Interviews[®] are increasingly popular as a means to conduct online web intake for legal aid, and A2J Guided Interviews[®] creators are now able to designate graphics more in tune with the purpose of their A2J Guided Interviews[®]. Step-by-step instructions and graphics virtually lead users along the path to the correct legal aid office. - See more at: <http://www.kentlaw.iit.edu/news/2012/access-to-justice-on-a-smartphone#sthash.bg8JVFsc.dpuf>

CALI's A2J Author[®] software has helped 471,942 pro se litigants fill out their court forms! We are on target to help over 629,000 people address their legal needs across the country. From the projected 629,000 A2J Guided Interviews[®] that will be run in 2014, almost 500,000 court forms will be assembled and ready for the pro se litigant to use in court. Since 2005, we have helped 2.5 million people fill out almost 1.5 million court forms!

<http://www.cali.org/blog/2014/10/15/cali%E2%80%99s-a2j-author-has-helped-over-470000-people-year>

Eastern District Missouri

<http://eprosec.moed.uscourts.gov>

- [Civil Complaint](#)
- [EEOC Complaint](#)
- [Social Security Complaint](#)
- <http://www.moed.uscourts.gov/sites/default/files/E-PRO SE BROCHURE.pdf>

Federal Court
Implementing
A2J:

"Tad" H.W. Biggs, II
Manager of Information
Systems
U.S. District Courts Eastern
Missouri

Tadd Biggs

Tad_Biggs@moed.uscourts.gov
[\(314\) 244-7814](tel:(314)244-7814)

Eastern District of
Missouri

Supports A2J for a few
Federal Courts

“open to assisting other
Federal Courts”

E-Pro Se



BACK



NEXT

MY PROGRESS

1 Welcome to E-ProSe This program is designed to



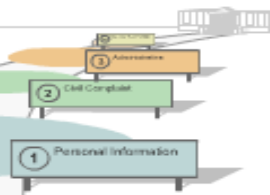
SEND FEEDBACK

a2j

Access To Justice
AT CHICAGO-KENT COLLEGE OF LAW

Welcome to E-ProSe

This program is designed to help you complete a Civil Complaint. When you are finished with this program, you will be able to print a copy of your complaint. **You must be aware that this program will not file your complaint for you. To file your complaint, you must print it, review it for accuracy, sign it, and take it to the Clerk's office.**



Welcome

Proceed

Exit

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SJI

□ E-Filing

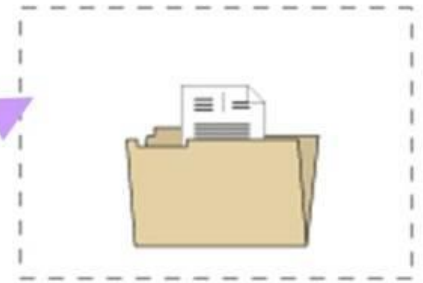
**LEXISNEXIS
HotDocs
OnLine**



Customer Data

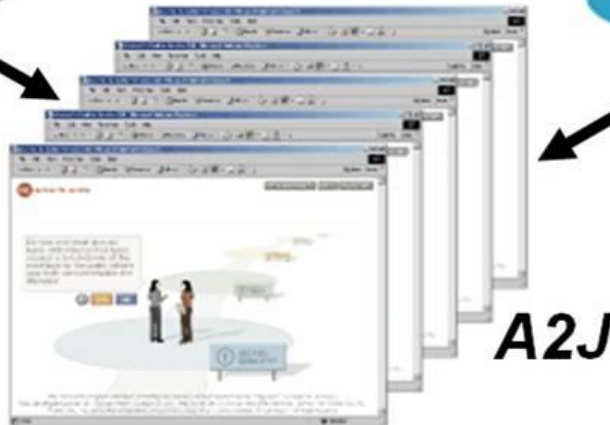
User Information
user information
user information
user information
user information
user information
user information
user information

PDF
XML



**CM/ECF
E-Filing**

XML



A2J

<http://www.a2jauthor.org/group/s/case-management-and-e-filing-integration>



**The Center for
Access to Justice & Technology**
AT CHICAGO-KENT COLLEGE OF LAW



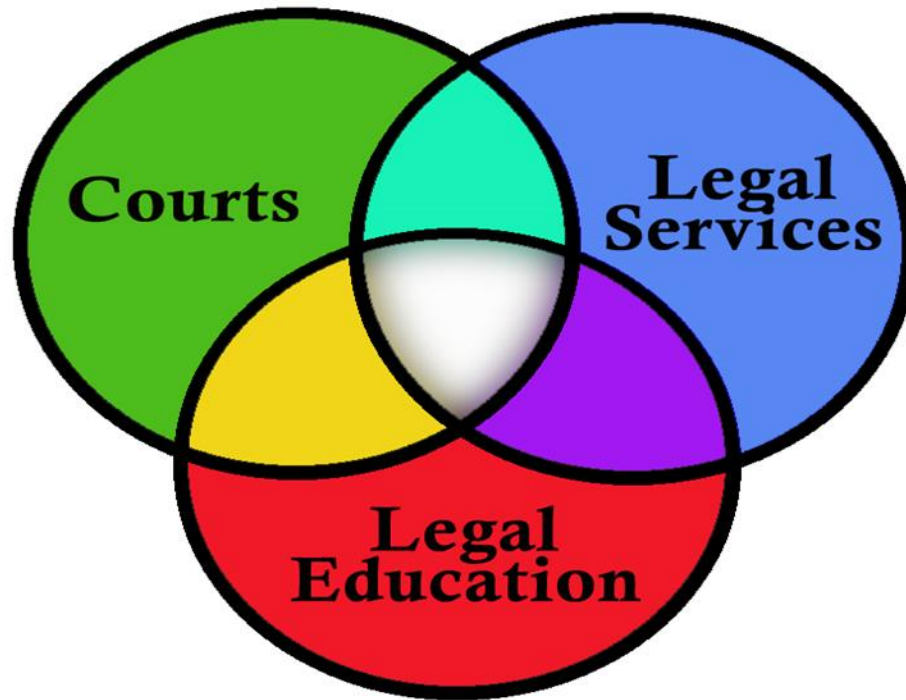
Institutions and People

Professor Ronald Staudt

- <http://www.kentlaw.iit.edu/faculty/full-time-faculty/ronald-w-staudt?>
- <http://www.kentlaw.iit.edu/Documents/Institutes%20and%20Centers/CAJT/access-to-justice-meeting-the-needs.pdf>



Chicago- Kent
College of Law



- <http://www.a2jauthor.org/groups/leveraging-law-students-and-technology> (June 2006)
- <https://www.kentlaw.iit.edu/institutes-centers/center-for-access-to-justice-and-technology/2013-law-review-symposium> (June 2013)

**Leadership
Workshop on
Access to Justice
Leveraging Law
Students and
Technology**

Jessica Bolack Frank

Program Coordinator
Center for Access to Justice &
Technology
Chicago-Kent College of Law
565 W. Adams St.
Chicago, IL 60661
(312) 906-5331
jbolack@kentlaw.iit.edu

- <http://www.kentlaw.iit.edu/institutes-centers/center-for-access-to-justice-and-technology>
- <http://www.kentlaw.iit.edu/institutes-centers/center-for-access-to-justice-and-technology/a2j-author>

Center for Access to Justice and Technology



[Http://www.cali.org/](http://www.cali.org/)

John Mayer – Executive Director

- <https://twitter.com/johnpmayer>
- <http://www.cali.org/blog/2014/10/15/cali%E2%80%99s-a2j-author-has-helped-over-470000-people-year>
- <http://www.cali.org/blog/2011/03/30/best-practices-court-systems-using-a2j-author>
- <http://spotlight.cali.org/2013/01/02/law-schools-team-up-with-cali-to-harness-skills-of-law-students-develop-online-tools-for-low-income-litigants>

Center for Computer-
Assisted Legal Instruction



- <http://www.a2jauthor.org>
- <https://twitter.com/A2JAuthor>
- <https://www.youtube.com/user/A2JAuthor>

a2jauthor.org

<http://www.probono.net>

Mark O'Brien

Executive Director & Co-Founder, Pro
Bono Net

- <https://twitter.com/mhpob>
- <http://www.probono.net/about/item.245>
[6-Sites powered by probononet](#)
- <https://www.lawhelpinteractive.org>

probono.net and
LHI



Welcome to LawHelp Interactive

You can use this site to create the documents you selected. This is a free service.

Note: Your interview session will expire after 2 hours (120 minutes) of inactivity.

Inactivity means you have not clicked or typed somewhere within the interview for 2 hours.

Please **[SIGN UP TO SAVE](#)** your answers periodically, if possible. You will need to register with the site to do this.

Get Started



- Application to Sue or Defend as an Indigent in Cook County (A2J) for Illinois
- An online program that will create the form you need to file for free in Cook County.

[Proceed](#)

You can also...

 [Sign Up to Save Your Work](#)

 [Already Signed Up? Log In](#)

Judge Fern Fisher

Deputy Chief Administrative Judge

- http://www.nycourts.gov/Admin/directory/fisher_fern.shtml
- **The New York State Access to Justice Program 2014 annual report** http://www.nycourts.gov/ip/nya2j/pdfs/NYA2J_2014report.pdf
- <http://www.nycourts.gov/courthelp/DIY/index.shtml>
- <http://nycourts.gov/courthelp/DIY/faq.shtml>
- http://www.nycourts.gov/ip/nya2j/pdfs/BestPractices_courtsystemdocument_assemblyprograms.pdf

New York State
Courts



Rochelle Klempner, Chief Counsel
New York State Courts Access to
Justice Program

- http://www.nycourts.gov/ip/nya2i/pdfs/RochelleKlempner_Court-BasedDIYForms.pdf

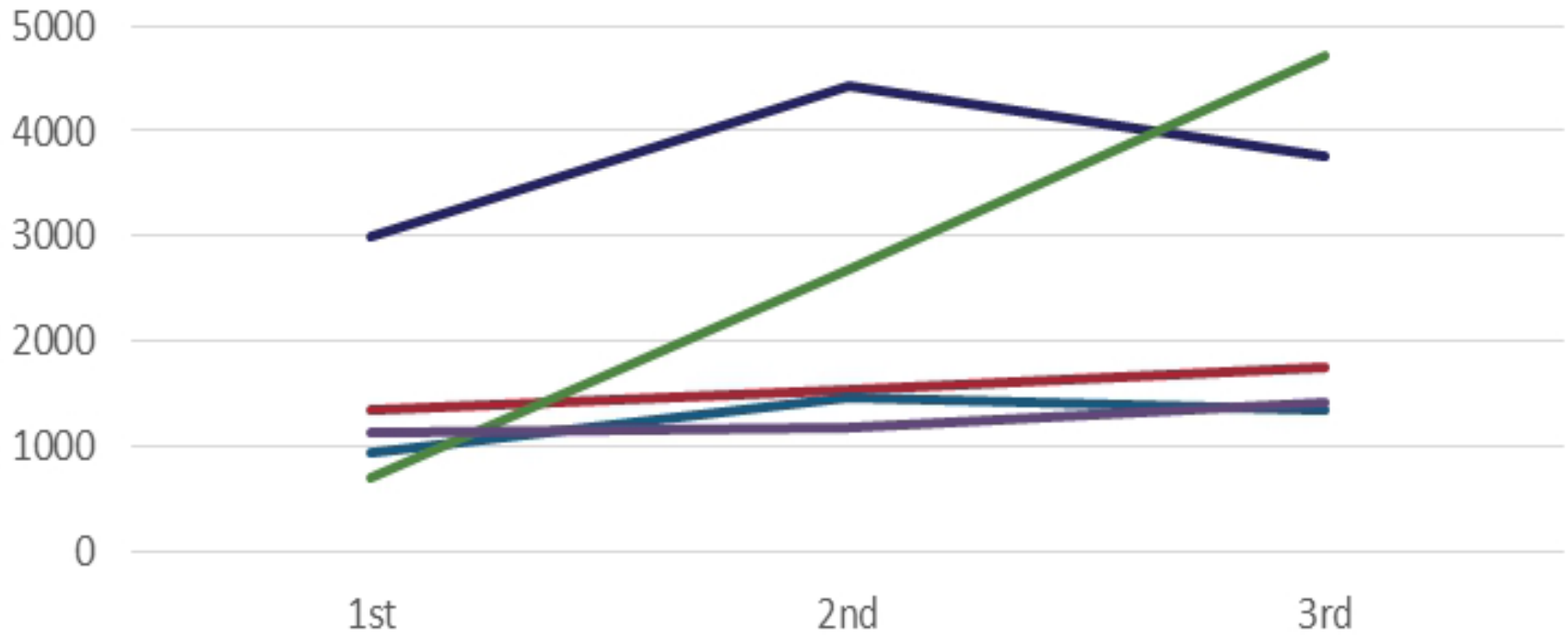
Jeff L. Hogue, supervising attorney of
Legal Assistance of Western New
York, Inc

- <https://twitter.com/hogueinstitute>
jhogue@lawny.org

New York
(cont.)

According to the LHI statistics, the New York State courts again lead LHI in the number of assemblies for the year. There were 129,024 assemblies from DIY programs; a 10% increase in assemblies from 2013 and the third consecutive year where over 100,000 assemblies were generated. The following chart shows the usage growth of the NYS DIY Form programs over the past six years.

DIY Program Debuts



- Uncontested Divorce (2014 Q2)
- Custody Modification (2013 Q1)
- Support Violation (2011 Q2)
- Support Modification (2009 Q2)
- NYS Small Property (2011 Q4)

In addition, in 2014, DIY User Surveys data provided the following findings:

- 95% of litigants found that the DIY Form program saved them time
- 66% of litigants were referred to the DIY Form program by a court employee
- 60% of litigants used the DIY Form program in a court facility such as a Clerk's Office or Help Center
- 71% of litigants were between the ages of 18 and 44
- 33% of litigants had an income of less than \$19,999
- 98% of litigants said they understood the questions in the program

NYS DIY Forms are only for court users who don't have a lawyer and legal services and pro bono attorneys and staff helping clients who cannot afford lawyers. Commercial use is prohibited and no one may charge for using these programs. When you begin the program, you will be asked to accept these terms of use.

Case type	Program	Court
Divorce	<u>Uncontested Divorce</u>	<u>Supreme Court</u>
Custody/Visitation	<u>Custody/Visitation Enforcement Petition</u> <u>Custody/Visitation Modification Petition</u>	<u>Family Court</u>
Child Support	<u>Support Enforcement/Violation Petition</u> <u>Support Modification Petition Program</u>	<u>Family Court</u>
Paternity	<u>Paternity Petition</u> <u>Petición de Paternidad</u> (Paternity Petition in Spanish)	<u>Family Court</u>

When Someone Dies	<u>Safe Deposit Box Petition</u> <u>Small Estate Affidavit</u>	<u>Surrogate's Court</u>
Guardianship	<u>Guardianship Article 17A</u>	<u>Surrogate's Court</u>
Name Change	<u>Adult Name Change Petition</u> <u>Adult Name Change Petition</u> <u>Child Name Change Petition</u>	<u>Supreme Court</u> <u>New York City Civil Court</u>
Problems With Money	<u>Vacate Default Judgment in a Consumer Debt Case</u>	<u>Supreme, County, City, District, Town, Village & New York City Civil Court</u>

Housing
For Small Property
Owners

[Small Property Owner
Nonpayment Petition](#)
[Small Property Owner
Licensee Holdover
Petition](#)
[Roommate Holdover
Program](#)

[Tenant Vacate Default
Judgment](#)

[New York City Housing
Court](#)

[District, City, Town &
Village Court](#)

Housing
For Tenants

Nonpayment

Answer *****

Programa de Respuestas
para Demandas
por Incumplimiento del
Pago del Alquiler

(Nonpayment Answer
Program Spanish)

Tenant Affidavit to
Vacate a Default
Judgment

Affidávit de un Inquilino
para Anular un Fallo en
Rebeldía

(Tenant Affidavit to
Vacate a Default
Judgment Spanish)

Tenant Affidavit to
Restore Case to
Calendar

Afidávit para Restaurar
un Caso al Calendario

New York City Housing
Court

Inside the A2J Interview

Document Assembly with Hot Docs

- <http://www.hotdocs.com/>

HotDocs Basics Parts 1 & 2 for A2J Clinics

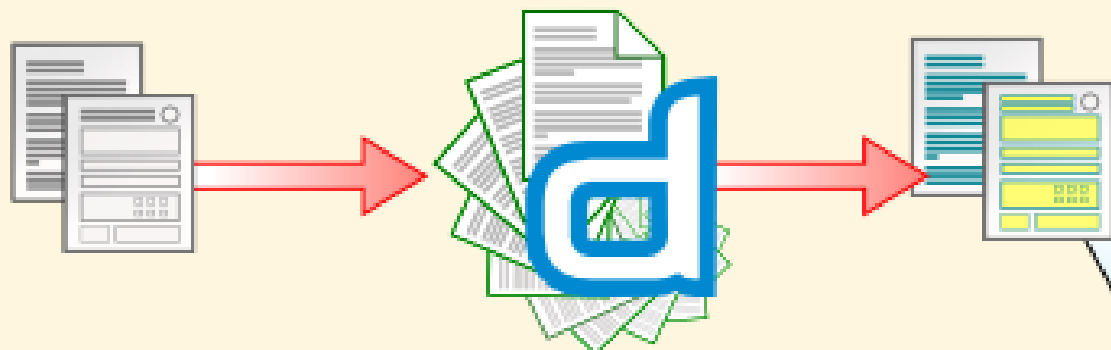
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4pCZJaJzpgI>

Hot Docs

Original Documents

HotDocs Developer

HotDocs Templates



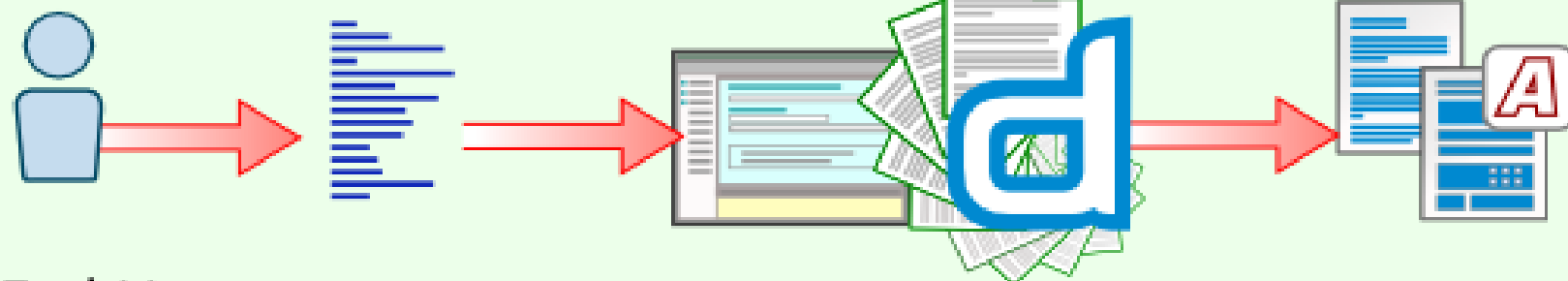
Template Developer

End User

Answers

HotDocs Developer LE,
User, or Player
Interview

Completed Document
and Answer File



End User

Select a Form Template within a HotDocs Library



Answer Questions at the HotDocs Interview



Completed Form

Answer File



Re-use the Answer in an Answer File Complete Other Form



Interview

Document Preview

Question Summary

Answer Summary

Variable Sheet

- Client
- Spouse
- Family Members
- Initial Options
- Other Beneficiaries
- Spouse: Other Beneficiaries
- Specific Distributions
- Debts, Funeral/Cremation and Administrat
- Residuary
- Appointment of Executor
- Appointment of Funeral Representative
- Appointment of Guardian
- Definitions and Miscellaneous Provisions
- Notary
- Witnesses
- Firm and Attorney
- Formatting and Assembly

Client

First name

John

Title, if any

Refer to client as

John

Marital status

Married

Single

Single w/ Partner

Address

- NCB Lending Library
 - Master
 - STD LOAN
 - Note - Fixed Rate
 - Note - Fixed Rate
 - Mortgage (Standard)
 - Assignment of Leases and Rents - Credit Line
 - Environmental Indemnity (Credit Line)
 - UCC-1 Financing Statement
 - Opinion of Borrower's Counsel
 - Closing Checklist
 - LOC LOAN
 - Note - Floating Rate (Credit Line)
 - Note - Floating - Libor Rate
 - Mortgage (Credit Line)
 - Assignment of Leases and Rents - Credit Line
 - Environmental Indemnity (Credit Line)
 - UCC-1 Financing Statement
 - Opinion of Borrower's Counsel
 - Closing Checklist - Credit Line
 - Consent of Existing Mortgage
 - Loan Agreement - Secured
 - STOCK SUBSCRIPTION
 - Stock Subscription (Existing)
 - Stock Subscription (Multiple)
 - Stock Subscription (Single)

- Answer File Manager
- Component Manager
- Template Manager
- Publishing Wizard...
- Template Set Generator
- HotDocs Automator
- Upload Answers...
- Refresh Cache
- Assembly Queue
- Options**

Documents Selected

LOC Affidavit re Recordation Tax TF = TRUE»
 Exemption from Recordation Tax - Credit Line

STD Affidavit re Recordation Tax TF = TRUE»
 Exemption from Recordation Tax - First Mortgage

LOC Affidavit re 255 Assignment TF = TRUE»
 Affidavit pursuant to 255 re Assignment of Leases and Rents - Credit Line
 «END IF»
 «IF DOC STD Affidavit re 255 Assignment TF = TRUE»
 Affidavit pursuant to 255 re Assignment of Leases and Rents - First Mortgage
 «END IF»
 «IF DOC Affidavit Undertakes re Violations TF = TRUE»
 Affidavit Undertakings re Building Violations
 «END IF»
 «IF DOC LOC Assign Leases TF = TRUE»
 Assignment of Leases and Rents - Credit Line
 «END IF»
 «IF DOC STD Assign Leases TF = TRUE»
 Assignment of Leases and Rents - First Mortgage

<http://www.a2jauthor.org>

A2J Author 4.0 and 5.0

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iTY9no-uwxw>

How to Use A2J Author – Legal Aid Kentucky

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hFarrOALmC>

A2J Author

A2J Author & HotDocs: How They Work Together

Please complete the following information about your child:


Name:

Date of Birth:

Address:

County:

Continue



- Child name TE**
- Child DOB DA**
- Child address TE**
- Child county TE**

Interview Variables

open save save as clear

Variable	Loop	Value
User Gender	n/a	
User Avatar	n/a	blank
Client first name TE	n/a	
Client middle name T	n/a	
Client last name TE	n/a	
Child	n/a	
Child name TE	n/a	
Child DOB DA	n/a	
Child address TE	n/a	
Child county TE	n/a	

A2J Author Answer File (.anx)



SEND FEEDBACK

Interview

Variables

Steps

Questions

Report

Preview

Upload

Filter: All Steps

(0)1-Intro Name: Welcome to the Illno
 (0)1a-Introduction: Hello %N/your first
 (1)0a-Do you want to do this? %N/yo
 (1)0a1 - Landlord not Adult Citizen: %N/
 (1)0a1 - %N/your first name TE)%N, I
 (1)0a1-Adult citizen of Illinois? %N/yo
 (1)0a1 a-No Adult citizen of Illinois? -1
 (1)0b-Do you want to do this? -1 %N/yo
 (1)0c-Do you have proof? %N/your fr
 (1)0d-Do you have proof?-1 %N/your
 (1)1-Where do you live: When you lived
 (1)1a-Lives in Chicago: Do any of the
 (1)1b-Landlord lived in the Building? -1
 (1)1b-Lives in %N%A2J_WhereDoYouL
 (1)1c-Does not qualify-Landlord Did n
 (1)1d-Lives is Chicago- How many of
 (1)2 - Move in Date: %N/your first nam
 (1)2 - Move in Date-1: You stated that I
 (1)2 - Move in Date-in future: %N/your
 (1)2-How Many Units: %N/your first no



Starting Point: (0)1-Intro Name: Welcome to the Illn



100% 50% 25%