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E-JUSTICE IN CHINA

The opportunities and challenges that information technology brings to justice can be said to be unprecedented. Big data, cloud computing, artificial intelligence, blockchain, 5G and other information technologies are not only new tools, new thinking and new methods, but also many types of disputes with new characteristics and new trends have been born.

While information technology has profoundly changed people's production and life, it has also brought unprecedented opportunities and challenges to justice. Facing the technological progress, rule of law, needs and the expectations of the people, the People's Court of China closely follows the pulse on time, based on the actual conditions of the country, vigorously explores new judicial models in the Internet era, promotes the comprehensive and in-depth integration of information technology and judicial work, and promotes the judicial system and trial capacity modernization.

The traditional trial process is shifted from offline to online, and data and information are shifted from paper to "cloud" or "chain", corresponding to case filing, mediation, service, court hearing, proof, and profound changes have taken place in litigation links such as cross-examination, and corresponding online litigation rules need to be established [1]. At the same time, the people's courts tried new types of Internet-related cases in accordance with the law and established a series of governance rules through typical case judgments. The organic unity of the models and rules is what we call e-justice.

Through the comparison between the Internet court and the e-court, including the use of the entire system, the author shows the current situation of China's electronic judicial development and puts forward a prospect for the future development.

Electronic courts, Internet courts have been established in various provinces of China. The common ground among them are next: both can only accept cases under the jurisdiction of intermediate people's court; both can complete all the court functions from case filing to execution online. Difference between them consists in that: e-courts can accept all civil cases, while Internet courts can accept only cases involving Internet disputes.

Litigation process covers the following rules: 1. Prosecute: need to understand the use of litigation tools and the corresponding litigation rules; 2. Pay: online payment and electronic delivery; 3. Evidence interaction and receive delivery documents online: evidence platform and judicial blockchain; 4. Online trial: asynchronous trial, asynchronous mediation and smart

court trial; 5. Implementation: Execution platform.

The history of development of e-justice in China includes next stages [2].

- 1. On June 19, 2015, the Higher People's Court of Jilin Province launched the country's first provincial-level electronic court, Jilin Electronic Court has its own Web page (www.e-court.gov.cn/).
- On August 18, 2017, China established the world's first Internet court—the 2. Hangzhou Internet Court. Hangzhou Internet Court has its own Web page (www.netcourt.gov.cn/). In September 2018 it successively established Beijing and Internet Courts. Beijing Internet Courtshas its own page (www.bjinternetcourt.gov.cn/) as well, Guangzhou Internet Courts its own Web page (www.gzinternetcourt.gov.cn/).
- 3. In September 2018, the Supreme People's Court formulated and issued the "Regulations on Several Issues Concerning the Trial of Cases by Internet Courts", which effectively clarified the rules for online litigation such as identity authentication, online case filing, electronic evidence, online court hearing, electronic service, and electronic dossier. A useful exploration was made to improve the online litigation procedures and rules.
- 4. According to data from the Supreme Court, since 2018, the three Internet courts in Beijing, Hangzhou, and Guangzhou have accepted a total of 217,256 first-instance and other Internet cases, and concluded 208,920 cases. Among them, 15,327 cases were accepted in 2018, and 12,792 cases were closed; 104,714 cases were accepted in 2019, and 99,405 cases were closed; in 2020 97,215 cases were accepted, and 96,723 cases were closed. Some other courts also hear a large number of Internet cases [3].

A trial model that is deeply integrated with Internet technology. The upgrading and transformation of the traditional trial process on the Internet, and the integration and forming of network technology in the judicial scene, such as cross-domain case filing, online payment, electronic delivery, blockchain deposit, smart case push, etc.

Online procedural rules reflect the characteristics of the Internet. That is to construct a set of electronic litigation rules and evidence rules with online litigation as the core. For example, if the parties do not participate in the online court hearings on time, how to deal with them according to the rules; what legal consequences will be caused to the parties if they withdraw without authorization during the court hearings; the scope, conditions and effectiveness of electronic service, etc.

Establish substantive judging rules governing the Internet according to law. The people's courts have gradually determined cyberspace behavior norms, rights boundaries and responsibility systems through typical case judgments and promoted the rule of law in cyberspace governance. These rules also provide important materials and references for further improving relevant legislation.

Expectations for the future of E-justice are next. As a new thing, E-justice represents the direction of future judicial development and marks the beginning of a new judicial era. Standing at the tide of the new round of technological revolution, the People's Court will follow the trend, take advantage of the situation, actively embrace science and technology, boldly pioneer and innovate, in order to advance the strategy of cyber power, promote the construction of a cyberspace community of human destiny and realize a cyberspace governance system and modernization of governance capabilities.

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PRACTICE OF E-JUSTICE IN CHINA

Currently the main forms of e-justice in China are remote trial, network broadcast, electronic evidence, electronic service and case execution information system.

- 1) Remote trial refers to a new type of trial in which litigants can participate in the same trial in different geographical locations at the same time through video and sound transmission technology. Since 2008, when the Supreme People's Court first tried defendants face-to-face by video, remote trials in China's economically developed eastern regions have seen rapid development. It is understood that by the end of 2009, the courts of ZheJiang province had basically realized that the basic courts of every court (including the people's court) were equipped with standard digital courts. In 2011, the LiShui Court held a remote trial for the first time. The defendant receives video trial in Wenzhou's first Online Remote Court session [1].
- 2) Network broadcast. The first live trial began in 1998 at Beijing No. 1 Intermediate People's Court. In 2001, the Supreme People's Court reaffirmed that, with the permission of the people's court, journalists may record, sound, video, photograph and broadcast live trials. In 2009 the Supreme People's Court (SPC) issued the Third Five-year Reform Outline of the People's Courts (2009-2013), which stated that the SPC should continue to promote the reform of the open system of trial and execution and improve judicial transparency. We will improve the system of auditing court hearings and standardize live and broadcast court hearings [2].
- 3) "Electronic service" means informing the parties or sending relevant litigation materials to the parties by telephone, E-mail and its attachments. The party shall be deemed when the other party has received a telephone notice or there is no evidence that the party has not received the material and requests for re-delivery. A way that has been served. The earliest attempt of e-justice in China was made by Beijing Chao Yang District People's Court in 2006 in summary civil cases. In the pilot work of recording telephone notification and summoning litigants.
- 4) Electronic evidence refers to evidence in electronic form that can prove the facts of a case. Electronic evidence is essentially the same as ever. There is no substantial difference in the traditional evidence, but the main body of evidence is different.
- 5) The National Court execution case information Management system means that the courts at all levels throughout the country file and terminate more than 2 million execution cases every year. Every step, procedure and measure are recorded into the database of the national execution case information management system in time.
 - 6) Electronic seal refers to the electronic seal system that can identify the identity of the