Court Collections Program Status

Court	Status	Components Required for Compliance							Optional Components		
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Berrien County Trial Court	COMPLIANT	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Berrien County Trial Court-Family Division	COMPLIANT	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
5th District Court	COMPLIANT	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Enforcing court orders, including financial obligations, if done effectively, improves courts' credibility and effectiveness while it ensures crime victims are made whole and provides funds to support law enforcement, libraries, the Crime Victim's Rights Fund, and local governments.

Determining an obligor's ability to pay is required when enforcing court-ordered financial obligations. The **Ability to Pay Workgroup** report, which includes tools and guidance for determining an obligor's ability to pay, can be found here.

In order for a court to be compliant, the first seven components must be implemented. Components implemented by the court are indicated by a checkmark under the component number.

Component 1: Staff or staff time is dedicated exclusively to collections activities.
Component 2: Enforcement of the requirements of MCR 1.110 and communication of the expectation of payment.
Component 3: Payment requirement on the day of assessment.
Component 4: Application/financial statement information is verified and evaluated to establish an appropriate payment plan.
Component 5: Payment alternatives such as community service are available for those who do not have an ability to pay.
Component 6: Litigants are closely monitored for compliance, and actions such as delinquency notices, costs to compel appearance, and wage assignments are taken promptly for noncompliance.
Component 7: Submit required receivables and collections reports to the SCAO annually.

Component 8: Promptly and consistently use statutorily permitted graduated sanctions such as 20 percent late penalty, costs to compel appearance, show cause hearings, bench warrants, and/or state income tax garnishment/intercept.
Component 9: Use of locator services.
Component 10: Referral to outside agency for collections after all in-house collections efforts are exhausted.