

# AJA BENCHMARK


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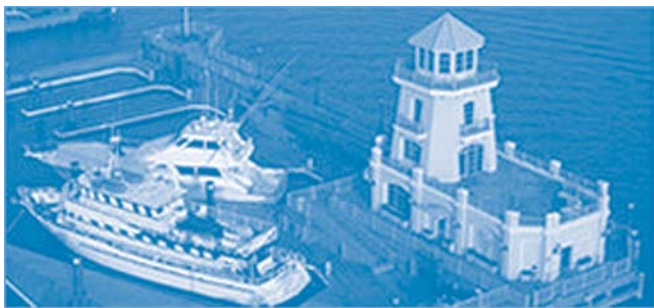
## Come on Down to Biloxi!

**D**on't forget to sign up for AJA's 2002 midyear meeting, April 18–20 at the fabulous Beau Rivage Hotel on the lovely Gulf Coast in Biloxi, Mississippi. Registration fees are \$125.00 for judges and \$75.00 for spouses/guests and include

- a reception at the Walter Anderson Museum
- lunch on Friday at the hotel
- a fish fry on Friday evening—casual attire required!

In addition, Judge Leslie Johnson, director of the Mississippi Judicial College, will address two topics of importance to all judges at an educational session on April 19: "A Review of the Use of Expert Witnesses" and "Honing the Judge's Listening and Note-taking Skills."

Contact the Association Management Office today to receive complete registration information: National Center for State Courts, 300 Newport Avenue, P.O. Box 8798, Williamsburg, VA 23187-8798; (757) 259-1841 or (800) 616-6165. 



## New Web Resource Provides Access to Court Information

**T**he National Center for State Courts has established a new *Court Information Portal* on the World Wide Web (at <http://www.ncsconline.org/CourtInfoPortal/index.html>). This new portal provides a single point of access for court-related information, regardless of where that information resides.

This new portal links the National Center's Web site with those of local courts, state judiciaries, court-related organizations, and other court-related sites (such as the federal Department of Justice). These sites can be searched via a specialized "Web crawler" and search engine, which cuts down on false hits. The information linked to the portal is of two types: *structured* (which is uniform and relatively easy to pull together) and *unstructured* (which is in the form of articles, reports, and other documents). About 98 percent of the existing information about court administration is unstructured.

The portal also features profiles of participating courts. These profiles, which will be maintained by the courts themselves, will provide information on specific topics. The first set of profiles takes up the subject of technology; for example, users can learn which courts have implemented case management, document imaging, or other systems.

The National Center is developing this portal in collaboration with the Joint Technology Committee of the National Association for Court Management and the Conference of State Court Administrators, with funding from the State Justice Institute and the Bureau of Justice Assistance. For more information about the new *Court Information Portal*, contact Doug Walker ([dwalker@ncsc.dni.us](mailto:dwalker@ncsc.dni.us)) of the National Center's Technology Programs division. 