

Statement from Chief Justice Mulligan:

I am deeply honored to receive the National Center for State Court's 2008 Distinguished Service Award. This recognition by the NCSC is a tribute to the many dedicated Massachusetts Trial Court employees on the frontlines and in the administrative offices, who have labored diligently to bring about significant management reforms in court operations.

The guidance and encouragement of the NCSC have been invaluable, as we planned and implemented our reform initiatives. Their *CourTools* performance measurements were tailor-made to address the significant deficits identified in the Monan Report.

Our progress is due to the leadership of Chief Justice Marshall and the Trial Court chief justices, and to the dedicated efforts of judges, clerk magistrates and court staff. This award is a testament to the flexibility and innovative spirit of our organization, as we strive to deliver the highest quality of justice.