



One of the issues that will become critical as we roll out the Portal to the 2d DCA is payment of the filing fee through the Portal.

When someone files a notice of appeal, there are two fees due: one to the trial court and one to the appellate court.

Currently the Portal automatically calculates the fee due and combines the two fees so that the credit card is charged for the entire amount, plus the convenience fee. That amount goes into an FCCC (or Services Group) account and then overnight is transferred to the court entitled to the fee.

In the present system all the money goes into the trial court's bank account and then the trial court clerk has to get the money from there to the appellate court, I am assuming by writing a check and mailing it to the appellate court. This results in a delay in the money getting into the appellate court's bank account and a delay in processing it for sending on to the CFO because the appellate filing fees go into general revenue.

The system needs to be changed so that when the transfers are made overnight, the appellate court's fee transfers into its bank account without going first into the trial court's account. This has not been a serious issue so far because it is rare that the Supreme Court, the only appellate court on the Portal at the present time, seldom ever gets a filing fee from the trial court.