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## RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE IMPORTANCE OF COURT SECURITY

**WHEREAS**, access to secure, safe courts promotes public confidence in the stability of government; and

**WHEREAS**, breaches of court security and violence towards judges, their families, court personnel and participants in the judicial process have resulted in serious injuries or death; and

**WHEREAS**, continued incidents of violence in state and territorial courts have highlighted the need for improved security for court facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, it is vital that citizens feel confident and safe in seeking access to their courts and that court personnel feel safe in the performance of their duties; and

**WHEREAS**, although there is a federal interest in ensuring that all government facilities are secure and safe, the additional federal and state resources made available through homeland security, estimated at \$75 billion annually, have been unavailable to state and territorial courts; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Association for Court Management has published a Court Security Guide highlighting the essential need for security plans and practical steps to improve overall court security; and

**WHEREAS**, many state and territorial courts have been upgrading their security policies, procedures, and equipment to respond as they are able, but some jurisdictions are unable to bear the increasing cost of providing adequate security for court facilities;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the National Association for Court Management:

- Encourages Congress to ensure that state and territorial courts are included in the planning and disbursement of federal funding related to homeland and court security; and
- Urges the federal government to provide funding directly to state and territorial courts for court security preparedness and response; and
- Supports federal legislative efforts to ensure that state and territorial courts are eligible to apply for security-related federal grants and that improving courthouse security is a stated purpose for use of existing funding in the federal homeland security programs and other federal grant programs; and
- Supports federal legislative efforts to provide state and territorial courts with access to existing federal resources, such as federal security training programs, risk assessments, and excess federal security equipment.

Adopted this 27th day of February 2012

By the NACM Board of Directors

Kevin J. Bowling, JD  
President