**Court Leader’s Advantage Video Podcast**

**Question Time Marker Sheet**

March 18th, 2025, Episode

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| 1 minute  52 seconds | In many cities, municipal courts are viewed as a revenue source, with fines and fees helping to fund city services. At the very least, they are often expected to be financially self-sufficient. Does your city perceive its municipal court as a revenue generator? How does this perception affect court operations? |
| 5 minutes  12 seconds | Given that limited jurisdiction courts such as municipal courts often fall under city oversight, concerns about judicial independence are common. How are your judges, court administrators, and clerks of court appointed and supervised? What steps have been taken to safeguard judicial neutrality? Are there additional reforms that could enhance independence and public trust? |
| 9 minutes  46 seconds | Many limited jurisdiction courts are underfunded, leading to operational inefficiencies. Cities frequently allocate proportionally more resources to policing than to court operations. Has your court faced budget shortfalls? What strategies have you used to advocate for better funding? Have your justice partners—such as public defenders, probation officers, or IT staff—also struggled with inadequate resources? How has this affected court efficiency and access to justice? |
| 13 minutes  10 seconds | Accusations of bias in pretrial release decisions and sentencing are not uncommon for municipal courts. Has your court faced such allegations? If so, how did you respond? |
| 13 minutes  50 seconds | Given these challenges, what advice would you offer to limited jurisdiction courts striving to maintain independence and efficiency while managing their relationship with city government? |