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The State of the North Carolina Judiciary: Pandemic & Beyond

<u>Kilpatrick Townsend</u> Partner <u>Steve Berlin</u>, who leads the firm's Winston-Salem office and serves as Chair of the firm's Environmental Team, recently moderated a high-profile panel of judges from the North Carolina Superior Court, North Carolina Court of Appeals, and the Forsyth County District Court. The panel examined "The State of the North Carolina Judiciary: Pandemic & Beyond" at the firm's <u>2022 Small Legal Department Client Summit</u>.

Key takeaways from the discussion include:



The pandemic has changed how justice will be administered in the future. There are more virtual hearings, meetings, and conferences in court proceedings. It is important to be in step with the changes.

Courts are preparing for pandemic-related litigation around delays, closures, injuries, insurance coverage etc. There may be a bigger wave coming concerning this type of litigation.



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Courts are concerned that technological advances hastened by the pandemic will cause access-to-justice issues.

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