**OASIS ECF TC Open Repository Proposal**

(DRAFT – 02-12-2020)

**Purpose Statement:**

OASIS Electronic Court Filing provides a technical architecture, specifications, schema, xml instance examples, and other artifacts necessary for successful electronic court filing.

Employing these standards, e-filing implementers have developed variant systems conformant with these specifications. Systems have been developed by multiple software vendors and courts or other local entities. Some vendors may be focused on providing e-filing systems and services, while other vendors have integrated e-filing capabilities into existing software suites, such as court case management systems (CMS). Courts or other state, county or municipal entities have developed e-filing software systems and components based on the OASIS ECF specifications.

Some e-filing implementations utilize components all developed by a single resource, whereas other implementations are comprised of components developed by multiple different providers.

Development and implementation of ECF conformant e-filing systems and system components is not an easy task. Many implementer specific decisions must be made. Different implementers may make different decisions. Lessons are learned.

ECF is built upon and leverages many other specifications, including NIEM (National Information Exchange Model) and OASIS UBL (Universal Business Language). The world is not static. Underlying (e.g. NIEM, UBL, etc.) specifications change, are updated, corrected, or modernized. These changes may impact implementations based on ECF. These implementations are far more enduring. New or updated versions of ECF are produced and provided responsive to these related changes.

As an ECF community there is value in sharing experience, adaptations, extensions, techniques, considerations, etc. The ECF community is not merely comprised of the ECF TC or even OASIS members. In fact, many in the ECF community may not know or may not have even heard of OASIS, NIEM, UBL, or even the ECF TC.

The ECF TC proposes to provide an Internet site that is openly accessible to all (e.g. TC Open Repository). This Internet site will solicit, accept and provide content related to the implementation, usage, extension and advancement of ECF 4 and 5. This Internet site will be managed by the OASIS ECF TC which reserves the right to set and enforce contribution guidelines and standards, and to refuse, restrict, revise and organize submitted contributions as necessary to enforce guidelines and standards.

One example of content to be provided by this Internet site would be useful, non-normative, implementation-specific extensions to the ECF 4.x and 5.x specifications.  When ECF specifications were written, the ECF TC provided guidance on how implementers should extend ECF messages with their own XML schemas, types, elements, and code lists.  ECF 5.0, in particular, includes a defined set of extension points where additional content can be added.

Additional examples may include:

* Implementation-specific extension and exchange schema and specifications
* Implementation-specific messages and exchange examples
* Tools (e.g. transforms, etc.)
* How-to articles
* Best Practices
* Use Cases
* Testing approaches, methods and techniques

**Initial Maintainer(s):**

To be determined - Ideally, such person(s) have substantial experience with GitHub.

*Maintainers have responsibility for assigning and closing issues, creating and associating milestones, creating releases, designating a default branch, creating and applying labels, merging and closing pull requests, assigning evaluation of a pull request, resolving merge conflicts, etc. Maintainers thus keep the community focused upon key development goals, keep repository assets clearly identified and organized, and help keep conversations on topic. The Maintainers may identify and approve additional Maintainers for the repository, pursuant to community consensus.*

**Open Source License**

**Open Source License Choices**

TC will need to review and select one of the following license choices:

* [**BSD-3-Clause License**](https://www.oasis-open.org/sites/www.oasis-open.org/files/BSD-3-Clause.txt) (see the [source](http://opensource.org/licenses/BSD-3-Clause))
* [**MIT License**](https://www.oasis-open.org/sites/www.oasis-open.org/files/MIT-License.txt) (see the [source](https://opensource.org/licenses/MIT))
* [**Apache License v 2.0**](https://www.oasis-open.org/sites/www.oasis-open.org/files/Apache-LICENSE-2.0.txt) (see the [source](http://www.apache.org/licenses/LICENSE-2.0.txt))
* [**CC-BY 2.0**](https://www.oasis-open.org/sites/www.oasis-open.org/files/CC-BY-2.0.txt) (see the [source](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/legalcode))
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* [**Eclipse Public License v 1.0**](https://www.oasis-open.org/sites/www.oasis-open.org/files/EPL-v10.txt) (see the [source](https://www.eclipse.org/legal/epl-v10.html))

**GitHub Repository Name**

ecf-knowledgebase

**Short Description**

OASIS TC Open Repository: Official LegalXML Electronic Court Filing open repository providing implementations specific supplemental information, experience, and extensions.

**Initial Repository Content**

* Articles
* Examples
* Extensions
* Tools
* Documentation
* Specifications