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A collaborative program between the
ADA National Network and the
US Access Board



The Session is Scheduled to begin at 2:30pm Eastern Time
We will be testing sound quality periodically

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1



Webinar Features



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2

Presenter

U.S. Access Board



Dave Yanchulis

3

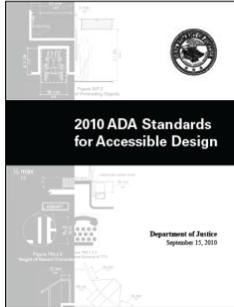
Accessible Courthouses

Session Agenda

- **Entrances**
- **Courtrooms**
- **Holding Cells**

4

New ADA Standards



DOJ's 2010 standards
(mandatory March 15)



**Based on the Board's
ADA-ABA Guidelines (2004)**



5

ADA and ABA Standards

- **State & Local Courthouses:**
ADA Standards



- **Federal Courthouses:**
ABA Standards (GSA)



6

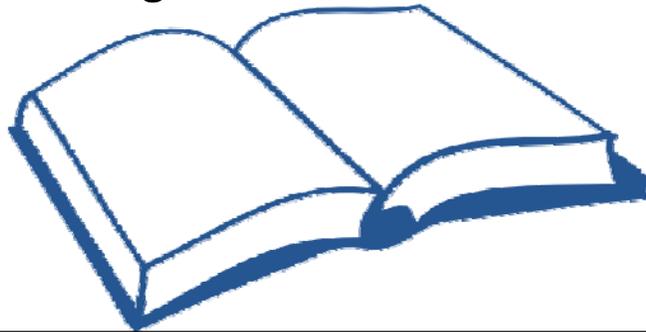
ADA and ABA Standards

§206 Accessible Routes

§231 Judicial Facilities

§808 Courtrooms

§807 Holding Cells



Courthouse Accessibility

- Too often treated as an afterthought
- Must be integrated into all stages of design, including mock-ups
- Can be achieved without compromising security, sightlines, and other requisites



Advisory Committee



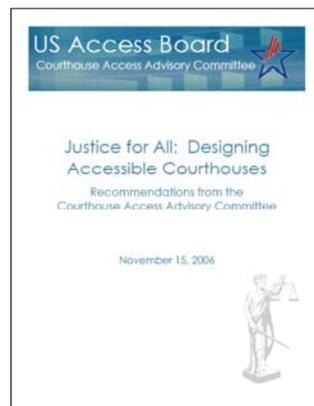
Courthouse Access Advisory Committee

9

Committee Report

Guidance on:

- **Meeting the standards**
- **Best Practices**
- **Common Errors**



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9

Entrances

11

Entrances (§206.4)

- **Public Entrances: 60% min.**
- **(plus those serving parking structures, elevated walkways/ tunnels)**
- **Restricted Entrances: at least 1**
- **Detainee/ Inmate Entrances: at least 1**

12

Entrances



Best practices:

- Minimize elev. at entry/ avoid plinths
- Access to primary entrance
- Door automation (required for Federal)

13

Entrances



Plinths often require complex access routes

14

Entrances

Automation of Exterior Doors



Required:

**Federal Courthouses
(GSA's Public Building
Standards)**



Recommended:

Other Courthouses

15

Entrances

**Bollards and other security barriers cannot
obstruct accessible routes (§206.8)**



16

Entrances

Accessible route required through or around security screen devices (§206.8)



17

Restricted Entrances



**2-Way Communication
Devices:**

**Visual and audible
signals required (§230)**

18

Detainee/ Inmate Entrances

Exceptions for manual doors
operated only by security personnel
(§404.1):

- Hardware
- Closing speed
- Opening force

Automatic: only clear width &
threshold requirements apply)



19

Courtrooms

20

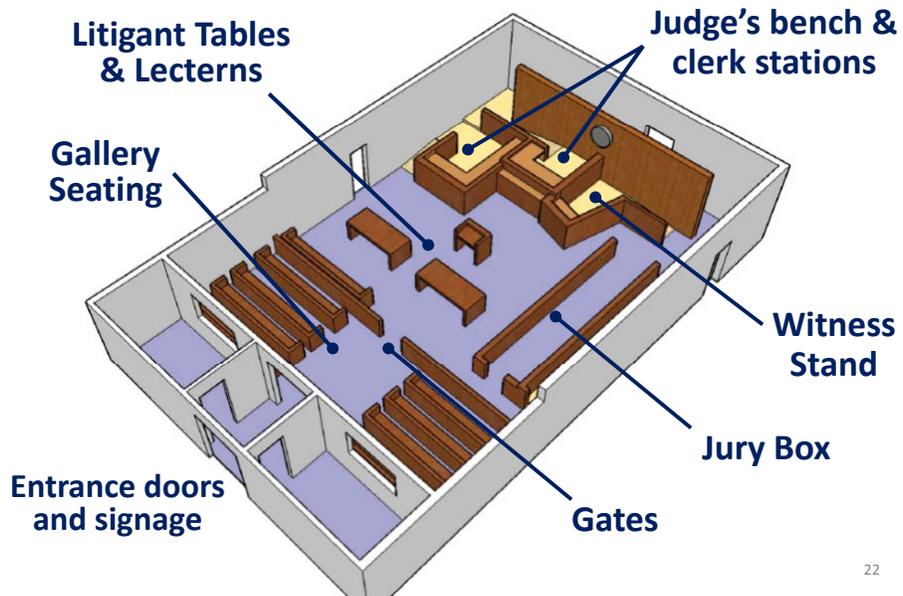
Scoping

- **New Construction: All Courtrooms (\$231)**
- **Alterations: Each altered courtroom (\$202)**
- **Existing: Program Access**



21

Courtrooms



22

Courtroom Entrances



Doors

- compliance with §404
- 5 lbf max opening force
- otherwise automate

23

Courtroom Entrances

Automated Doors (§404.3)

**Clear floor space at
controls located outside
door swing**



24

Courtroom Entrances

Doors in series (§404.2.6)



48" min. separation between swing of doors

25

Courtroom Signage



Courtroom Number/ Labels:
visual and tactile (§216)

Also required for:

- Other room numbers
- "Permanent" room labels, including restrooms
- Exits
- Floors Levels

3239

Braille characters

26

Courtroom Signage



- **Visual only**: directional and informational signs, rules of conduct
- **Exempt**: occupant names, building names, temporary signs

27

Gallery Seating



28

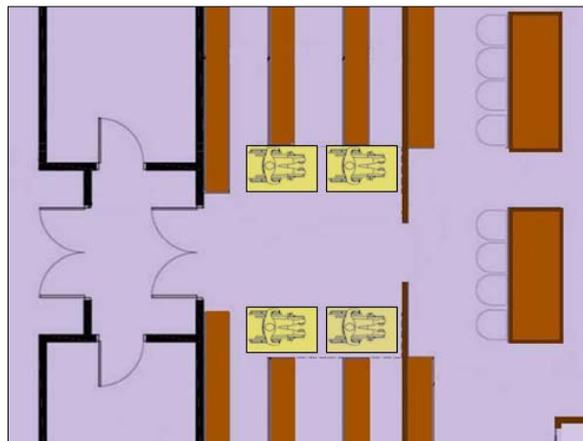
Gallery Seating

Wheelchair spaces required according to total seating capacity (§221)

<u>Total</u>	<u>W/C Spaces</u>
4 – 25	1
26 – 50	2
51 – 150	4
151 – 300	5

29

Gallery Seating

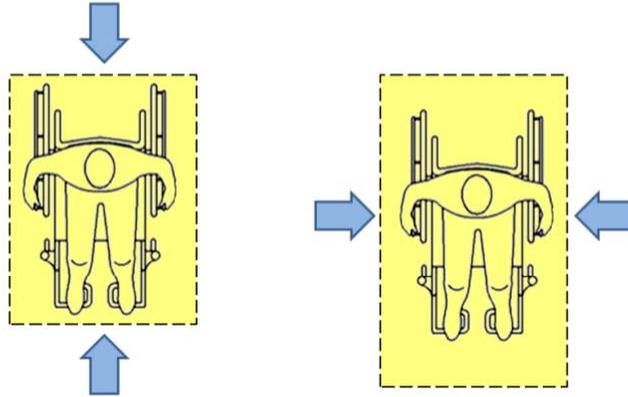


Wheelchair spaces must be located within seating footprint

30

Gallery Seating

Assembly Area Wheelchair Space (§802)

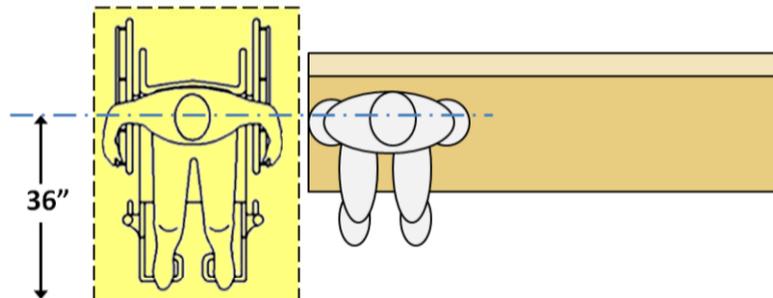


Front or Rear Entry
36" x 48" min.

Side Entry
36" x 60" min.

31

Gallery Seating



WC spaces must be located to provide shoulder - to-shoulder alignment with adjacent seating

32

Gates



Recommendation: No Gates

33

Gates (\$404)

- 32" min. clear width (1 leaf)
- Smooth surface on push side
- Opening force: 5 lbf max.
- Closing speed (spring hinges - 1.5 sec. min.)
- Compliant hardware



34

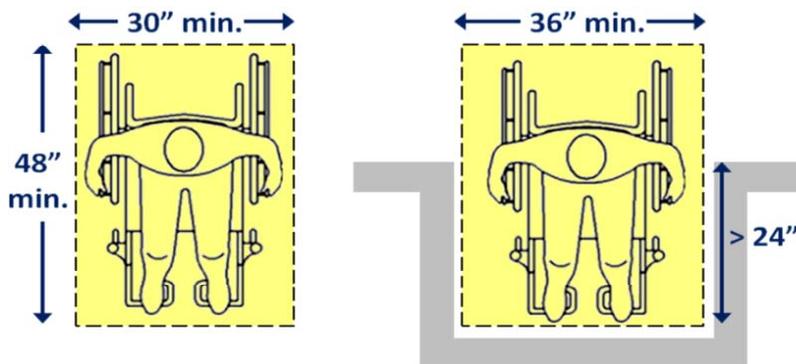
Jury Box and Witness Stand

- Clear floor space within defined area (removable seats allowed)
- Gates/ enclosures: unassisted access
- Ramp or lift (if raised) – must be permanent
- Not allowed: portable solutions, fold-out/ telescoping ramps (except in some retrofits)
- Turning space in areas served by ramp

35

Clear Floor Space (§305)

Forward Approach



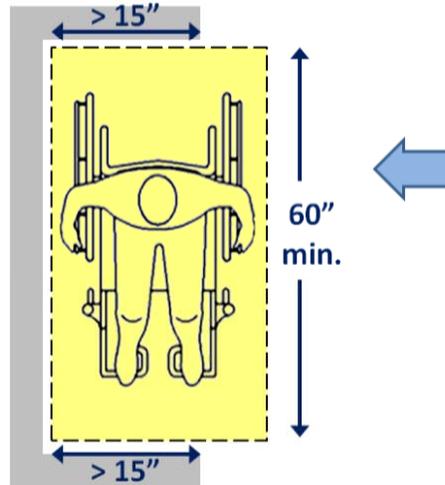
Greater width (36") required where space is confined more than half the depth

36

Clear Floor Space

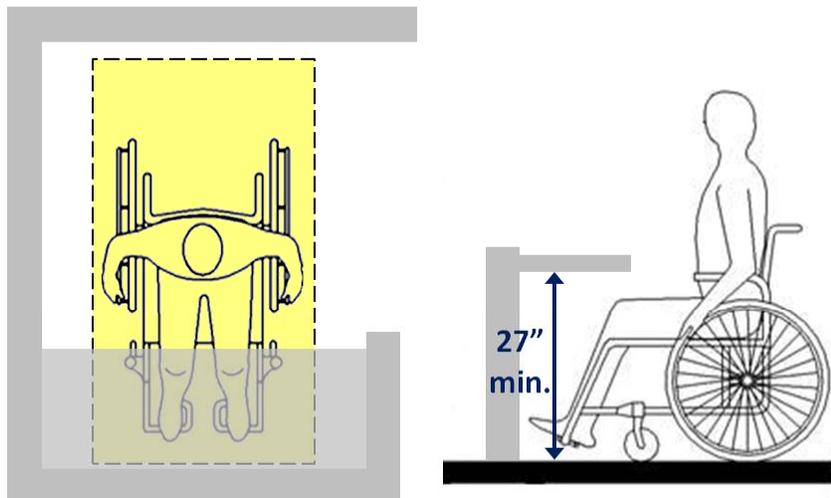
Side Approach

Greater length (60") required where space is recessed/ confined more than half the width



Clear Floor Space

Knee and Toe Clearance



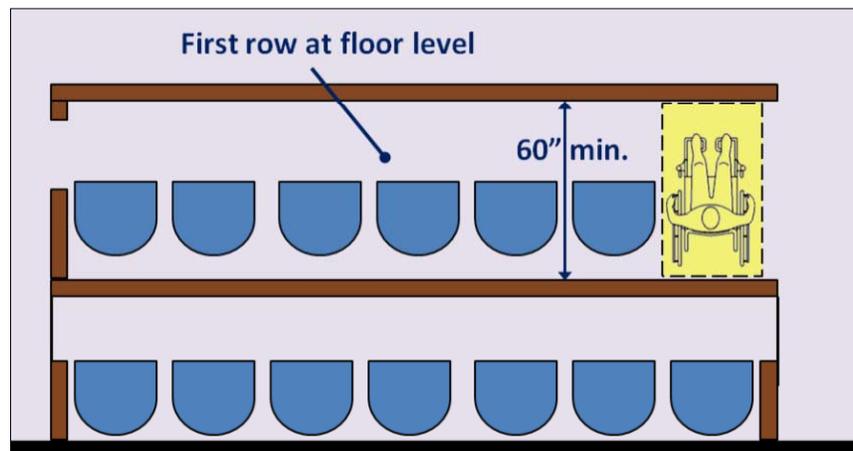
Jury Box and Witness Stand

Alterations:

- If ramp/ lift would obstruct MOE, wheelchair space can be located outside defined area (§808.3)
- Qualified historic facilities – departures allowed where compliance would impact historic integrity (§202.5)

39

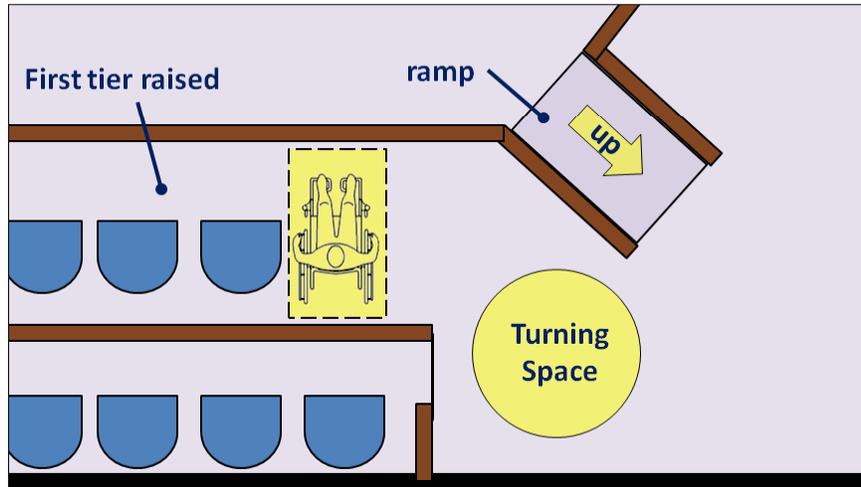
Jury Box



Row at floor level provides easier access

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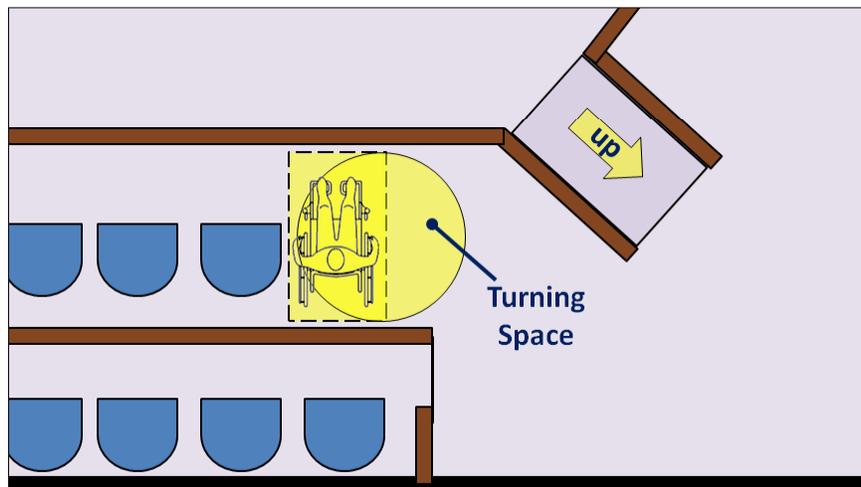
Jury Box



Turning space required on levels served by ramp
(or lifts with entry ramps)

41

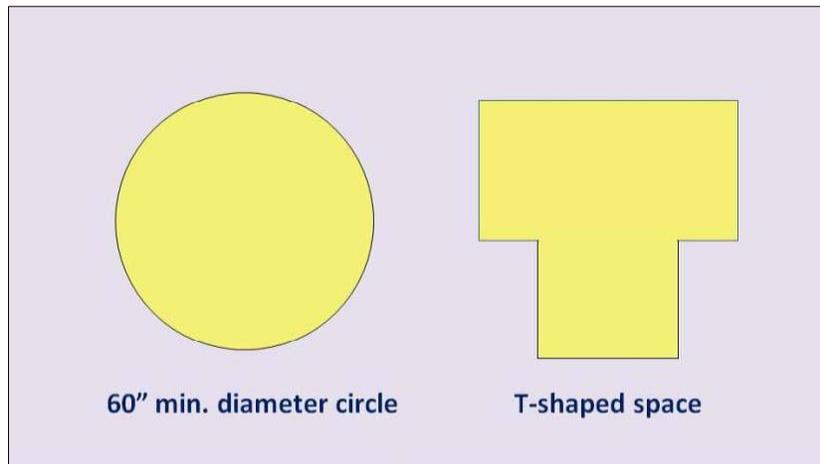
Jury Box



Turning space can overlap WC space (if not serving
other locations, such as witness stand)

42

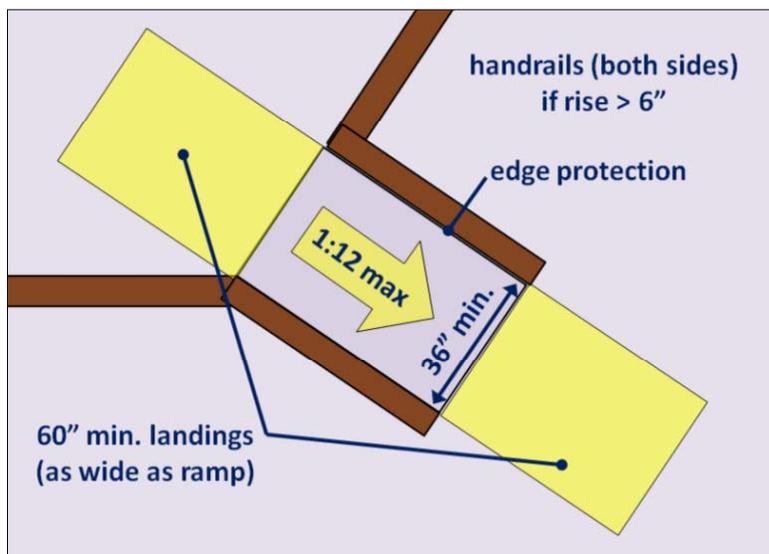
Turning Space (§304)



Turning space can be at circular or T-shaped

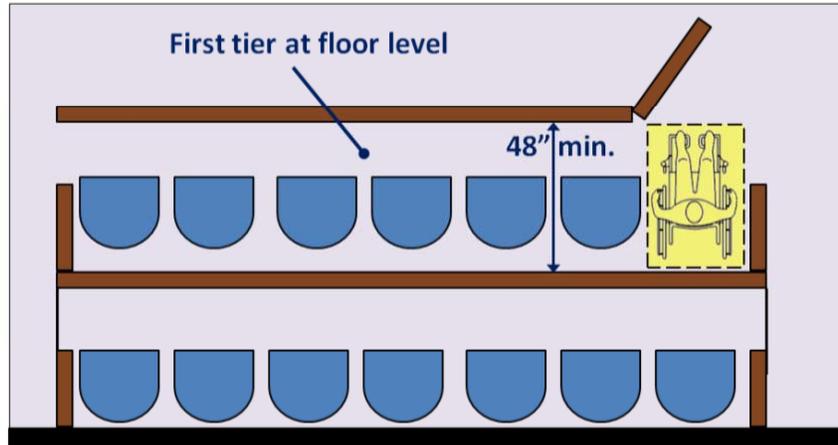
43

Ramps (§405)



44

Jury Box



**Back-in space requires less space but entry gates
often impact usability**

45

Jury Box

**Gates at WC space that do not provide
unassisted access should be avoided**



- Often heavy due to millwork (> 5 lbf max. opening force)
- Difficult to manually close from within the space

46

Jury Box

Another example of enclosure with gate at WC space



47

Witness Stand

Witness stand at floor level provides easier access



48

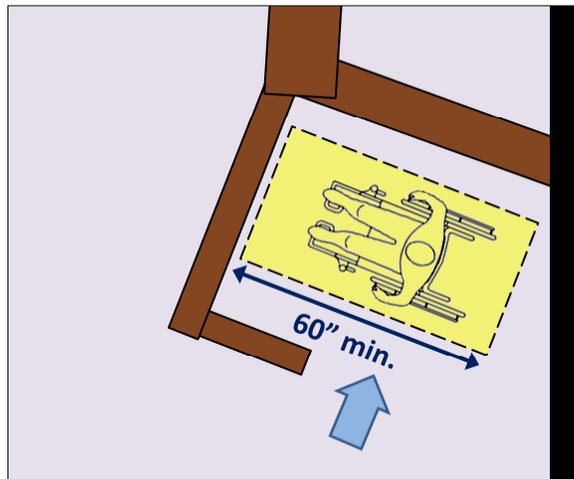
Witness Stand

If raised, ramps preferred means of access



49

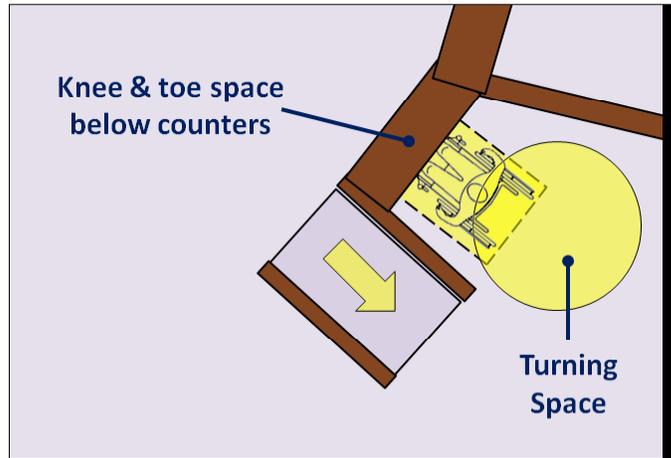
Witness Stand



WC space confined at front and back – 60" min. length required for side entry

50

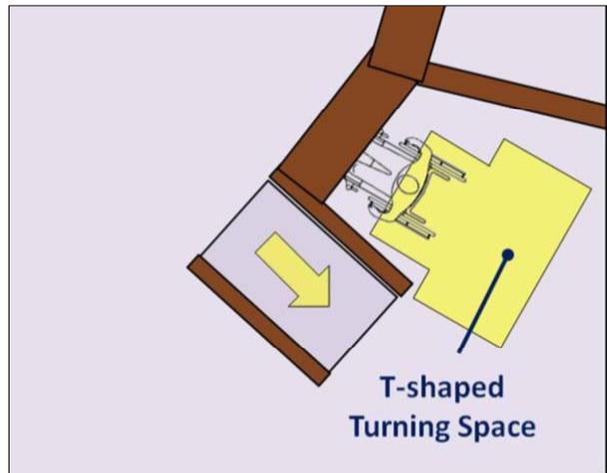
Witness Stand



Turning space required on levels served by ramp
(or lifts with entry ramps)

51

Witness Stand



T-shaped turning space (alternative to 60" circle)

52

Ramps v. Lifts

Ramps recommended over lifts:

- Preferred by most users
- Independent use, less conspicuous
- Reliable – no maintenance

53

Platform Lifts

Considerations:

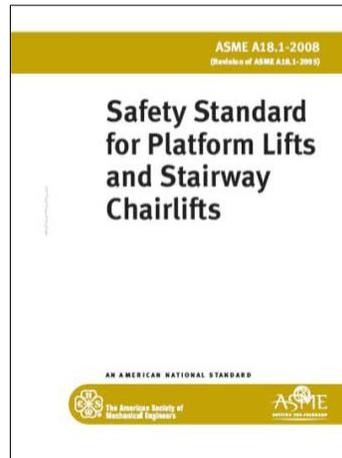
- Custom design – no standard design for courtrooms
- Architectural finishes and platform/ enclosure details
- Unassisted Operation
- Maintenance/ Repair
- Compliance with §410 and ASME A18.1 Standard

54

Platform Lifts

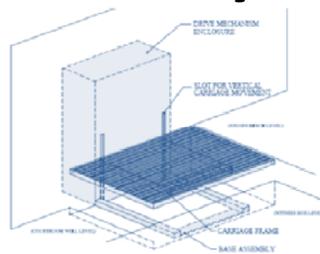
**ASME A18.1 Standard
(2008) has new section
on Courtroom Lifts**

**(This edition not yet
referenced by the ADA
& ABA standards)**

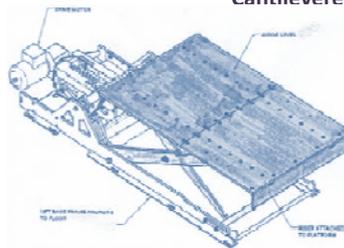


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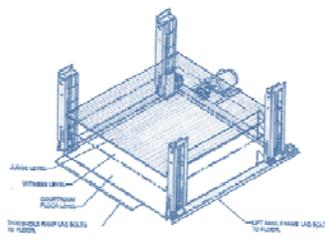
Lift Drive Systems



Cantilevered Platform (Screw Drive) Lift



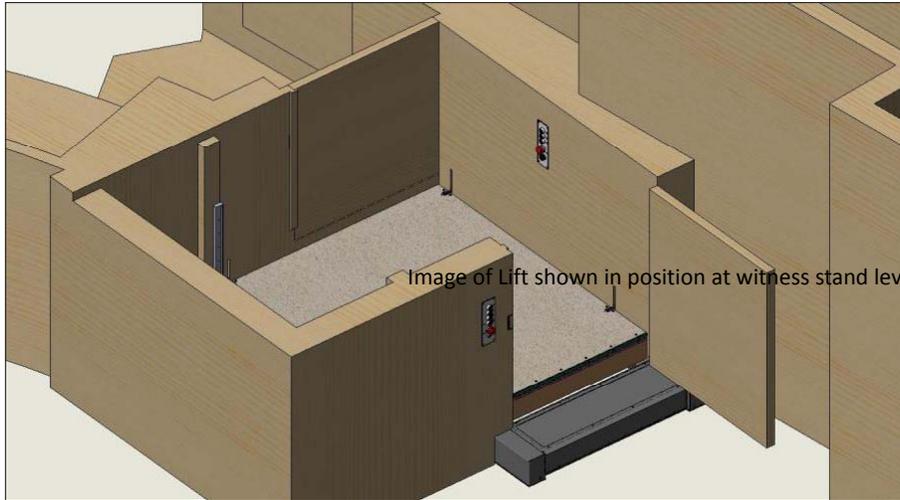
Electric/Scissor Lift



Four-Cornered Screw Drive Lift

56

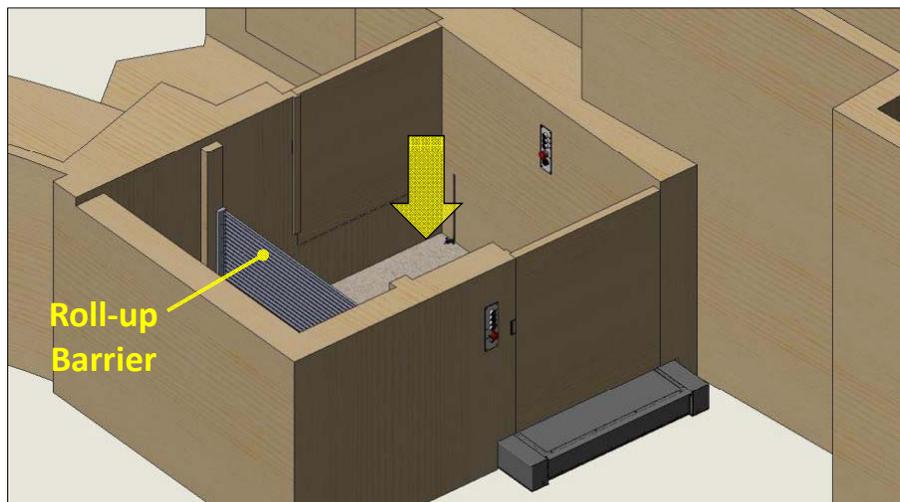
Platform Lifts



Lift in normal position at level of witness stand

57

Platform Lifts



Lift at lower level – doors closed, roll-up barrier extended

58

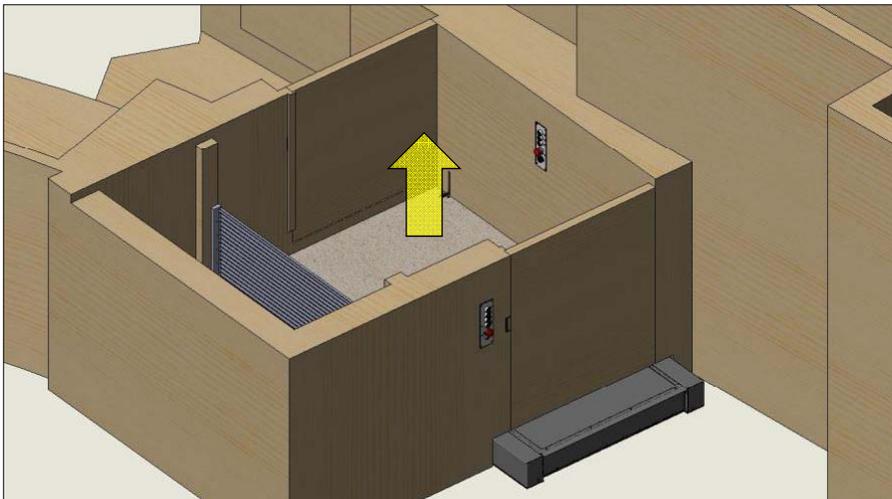
Platform Lifts



Door open at lower position; automated step/ramp

59

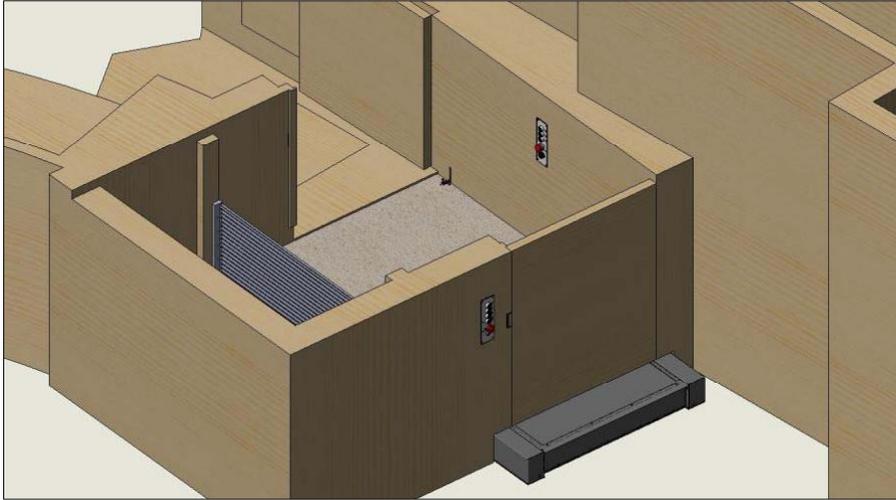
Platform Lifts



Lift in mid travel (witness stand floor)

60

Platform Lifts



Lift at upper level (judge's bench)

61

Platform Lifts



62

Platform Lifts



Roll-up Barrier Stowed

63

Platform Lifts



Roll-up Barrier Extended

64

Platform Lifts

Recommendations:

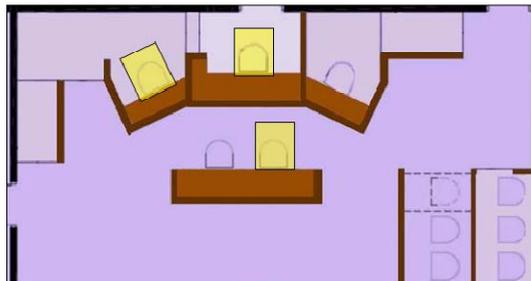
- **Coordination of millwork and lift design/ installation is essential**
- **Establish minimum warranty requirements**
- **Local/ regional service and parts availability**

65

Judge's Bench/ Work Stations

(including clerk, court reporter, bailiff stations)

- **Clear floor space/ knee & toe space**
- **Work surfaces (28" – 34" height)**
- **Vertical access (adaptability permitted)**



66

Judge's Bench/ Work Stations

Ramp or lift can be installed after construction if necessary space/ electrical service provided (§206.2.4)

- Not permitted for jury box or witness stand
- Allowed by IBC (2009) - but not earlier editions
- State/ local requirements may be stricter

67

Judge's Bench/ Work Stations

Best practices:

Vertical access provided in construction:

- in all courtrooms or
- at least 1 of each type of courtroom (adaptable access in the rest)

68

Judge's Bench

Recommendations:

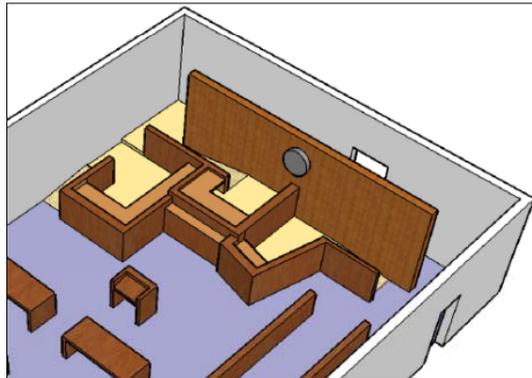
- Ramp instead of lift
- Installed in construction
- Located outside courtroom (security, decorum)



69

Judge's Bench

Ramp location behind wall

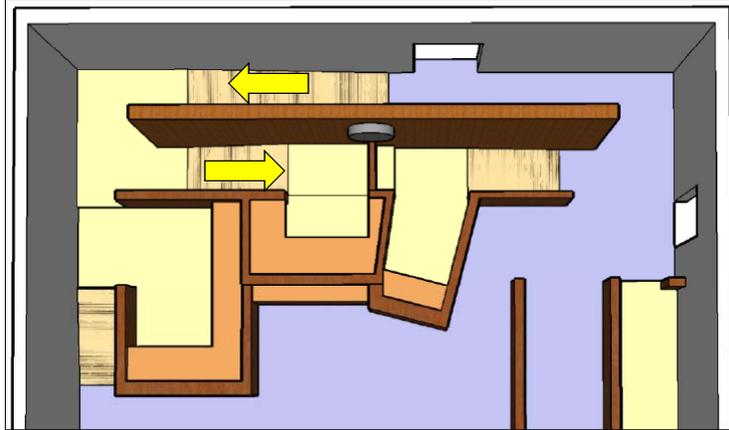


Ottawa County Courthouse
Grand Haven, Michigan (HDR/FTC+H)

70

Judge's Bench

Ramp location behind wall



Ottawa County Courthouse
Grand Haven, Michigan (HDR/FTC+H)

71

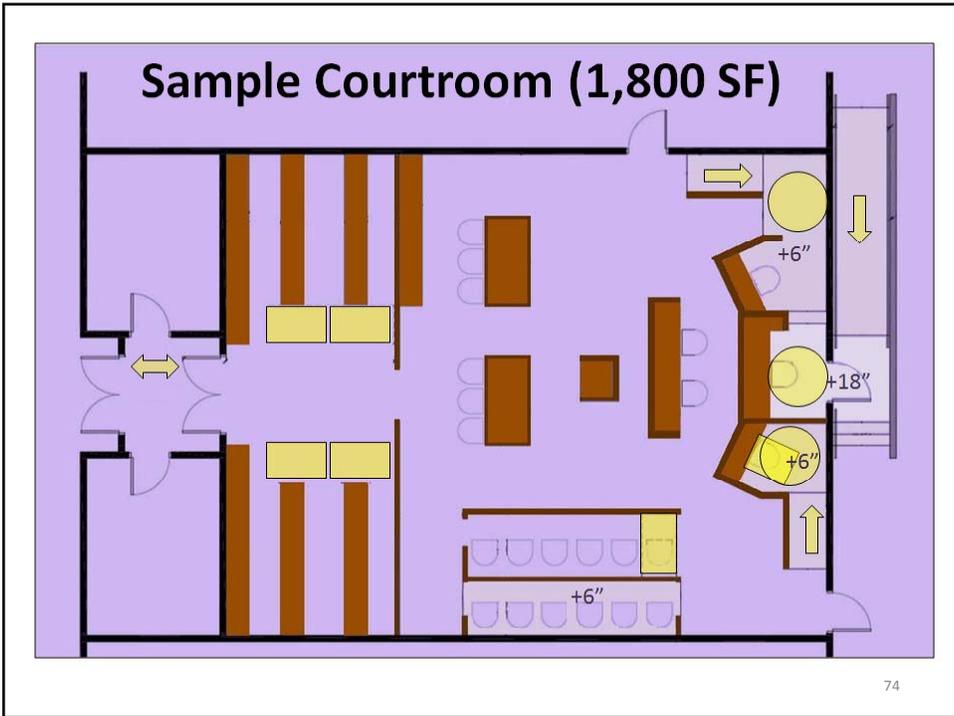
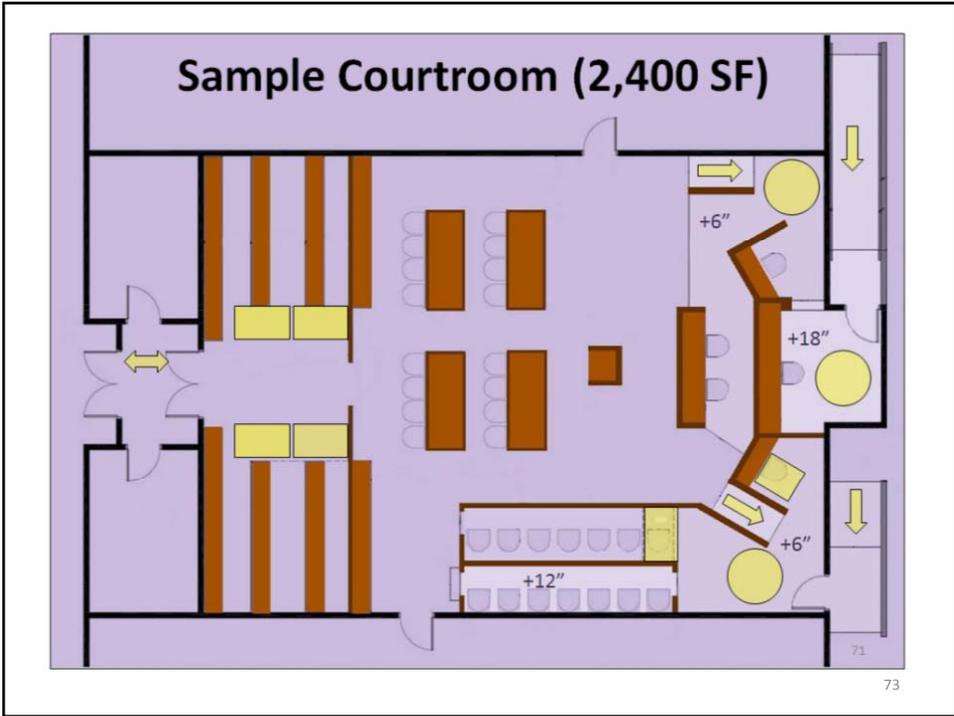
Judge's Bench

Lift location behind wall



Kent County Courthouse
Grand Rapids, Michigan (Tower Pinkster/HOK)

72



Lecterns

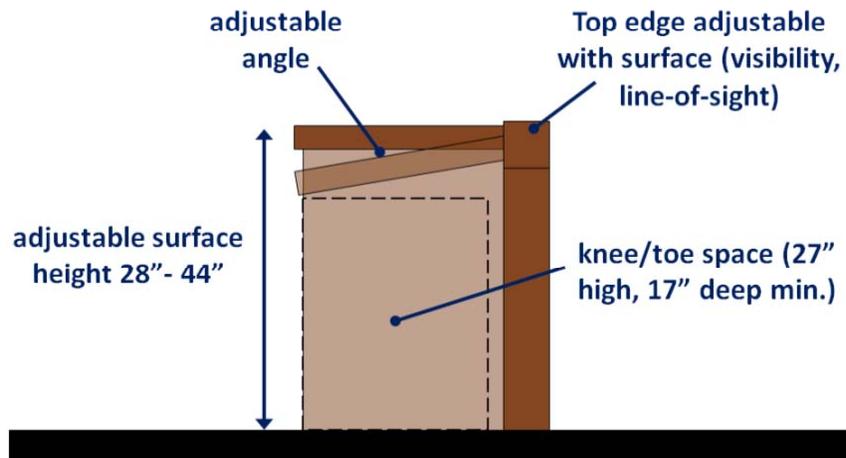
Compliance required where fixed or built-in



75

Lecterns

Best practice recommendations:



76

Assistive Listening Systems

Required in each courtroom (\$219)

- Technologies (IR, loop, FM)
- Receivers (number, hearing-aid compatibility)
- Signs



77

Assistive Listening Systems

Signs required to indicate the availability of systems



78

Holding Cells

79

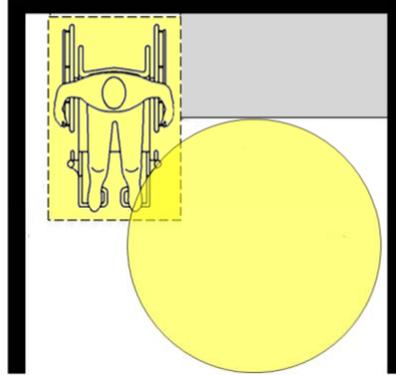
Holding Cells (§231.3)

- **Central and Court-Floor holding areas**
- **Access to at least one of each type (e.g., male/ female, adult/ juvenile)**
- **Each courtroom served by at least one accessible cell**
- **Cells may serve more than one courtroom**

80

Holding Cells (§807)

- Doors (exceptions if operated only by security personnel)
- Turning Space
- Benches (if provided)



81

Holding Cells (§807)

Accessible toilet facilities



82

Visiting Areas

- Access to counters on both the visitor and the detainee sides
- Method to facilitate voice communication
- Handset with volume control



83

Other Courthouse Spaces

- Jury Assembly Rooms
- Jury Deliberation
- Judges' Suites
- Restrooms



84

Questions?

**You may type and submit questions in the
Chat Area Text Box or press Control-M
and enter text in the Chat Area**

85

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86

**Thank you for participating
in today's webinar**



Next scheduled session:

"2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design"

March 1, 2012

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87