

(12) **United States Patent**
Boyer et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 6,202,923 B1**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Mar. 20, 2001**

(54) **AUTOMATED PHARMACY**

(75) Inventors: **Joseph H. Boyer; James P. Boyer,**
both of Johnson City; **William S. Bennett,** Binghamton, all of NY (US)

(73) Assignee: **Innovation Associates, Inc.,** Johnson City, NY (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **09/379,891**

(22) Filed: **Aug. 23, 1999**

(51) **Int. Cl.⁷** **G06F 17/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **235/375; 235/383**

(58) **Field of Search** 235/375, 383, 235/385; 364/479.01-479.02, 479.06-479.07, 479.11-479.14, 478.07-478.08, 478.01; 221/75, 7, 2, 13, 200, 258; 53/53-55

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

5,502,944 4/1996 Kraft et al. .

5,597,995 1/1997 Williams et al. .
5,660,305 8/1997 Lasher et al. .
5,700,998 12/1997 Palti .
5,713,485 2/1998 Liff et al. .
5,907,493 * 5/1999 Boyer et al. .

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

WO 98/09598 * 3/1998 (WO) .

* cited by examiner

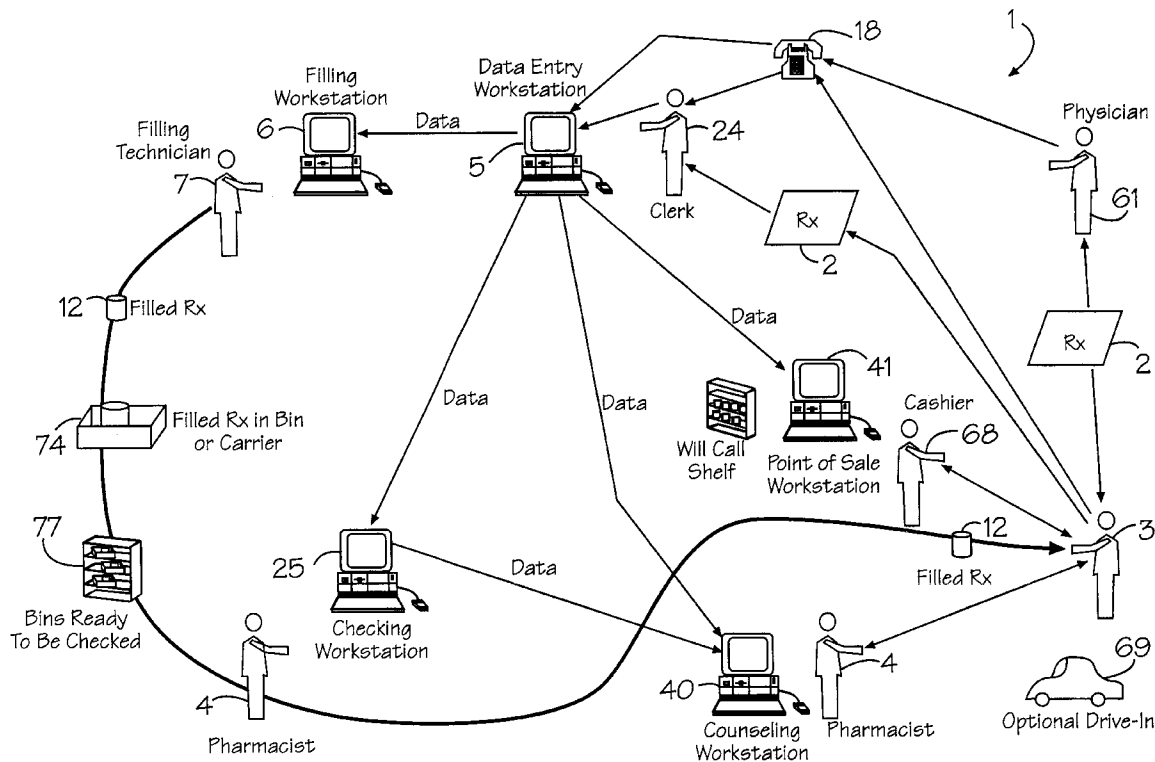
Primary Examiner—Thien M. Le

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Salzman & Levy

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method and an automated pharmacy system to alleviate the risk posed by a queue of printed labels for prescription vials that occurs at the printer. The method and system eliminate the need for physically transferring paperwork from one site (the imaging station) to another site (the filling station). Elimination of the physical transferring step smooths the flow of the dispensing operation, and hence, improves the throughput of the automated pharmacy, and further, helps to prevent the association of the wrong paperwork with a given prescription.

57 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets



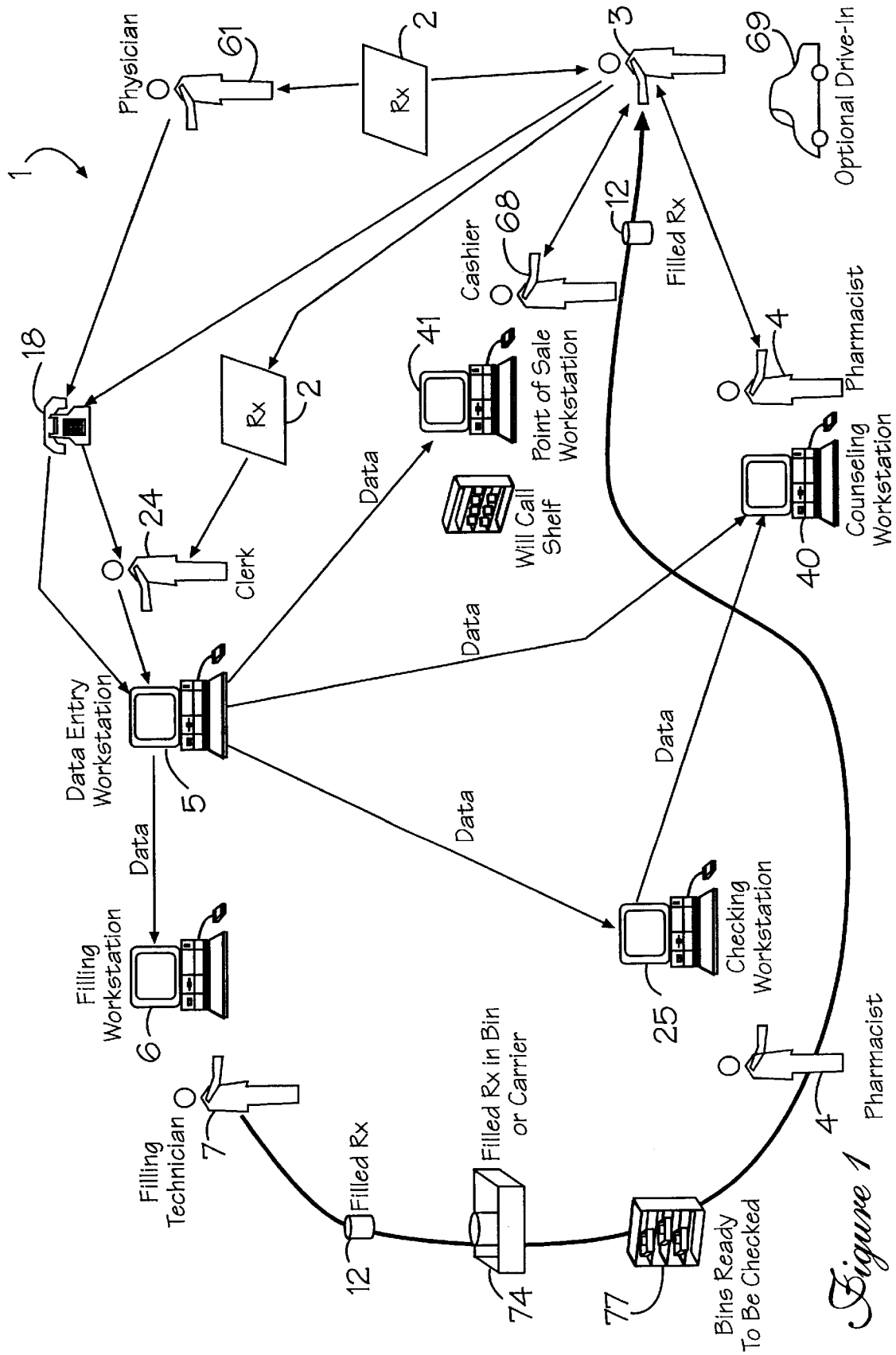


Figure 1

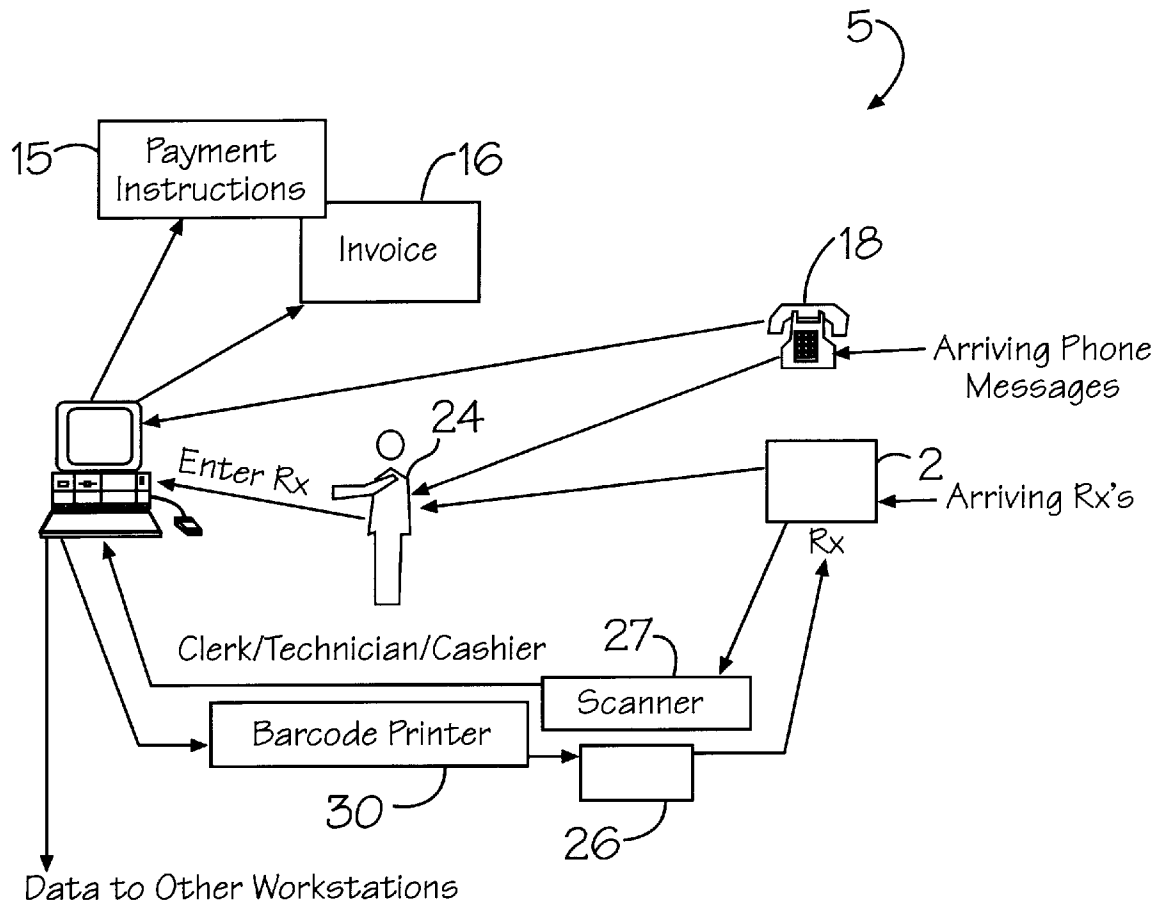


Figure 2

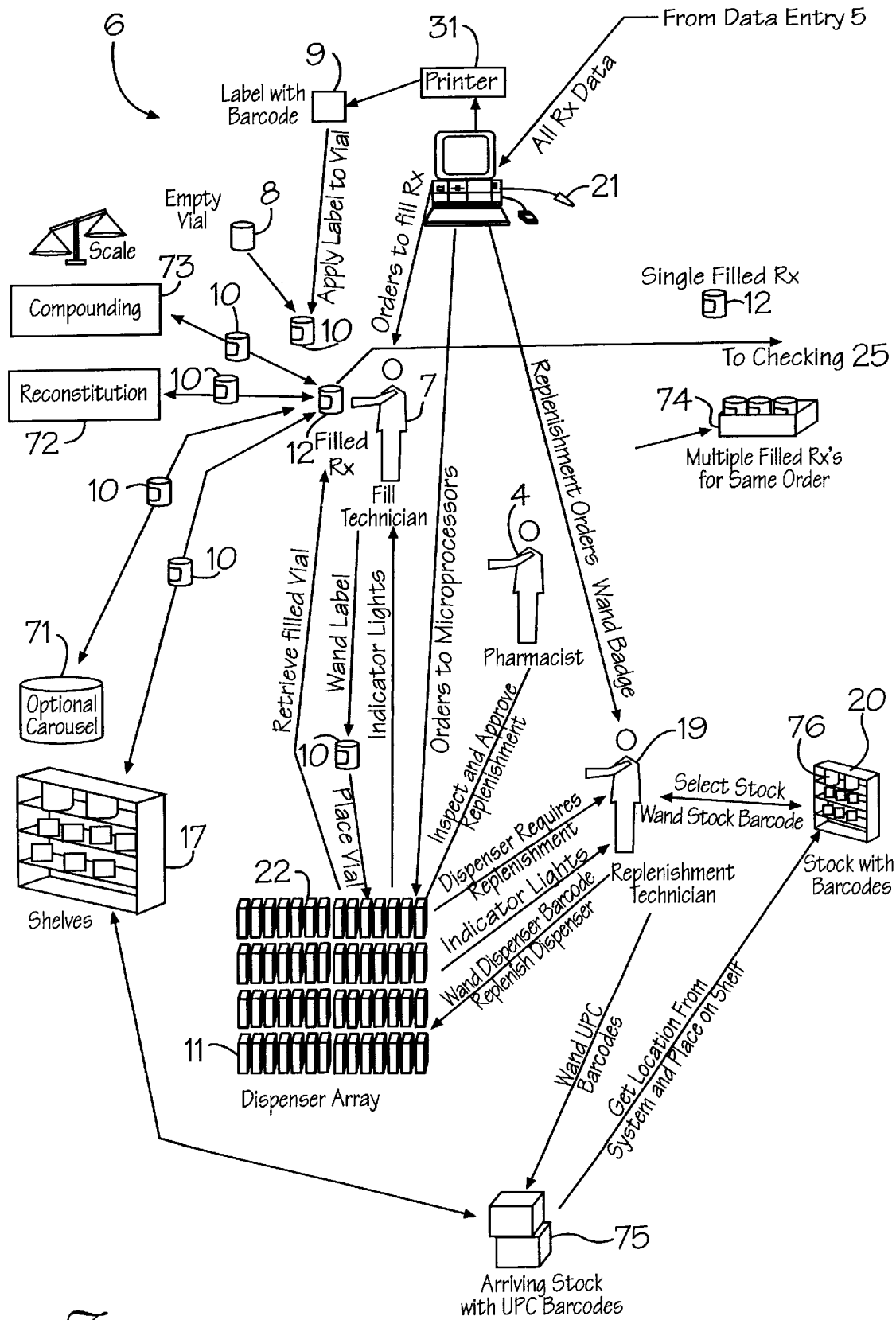


Figure 3

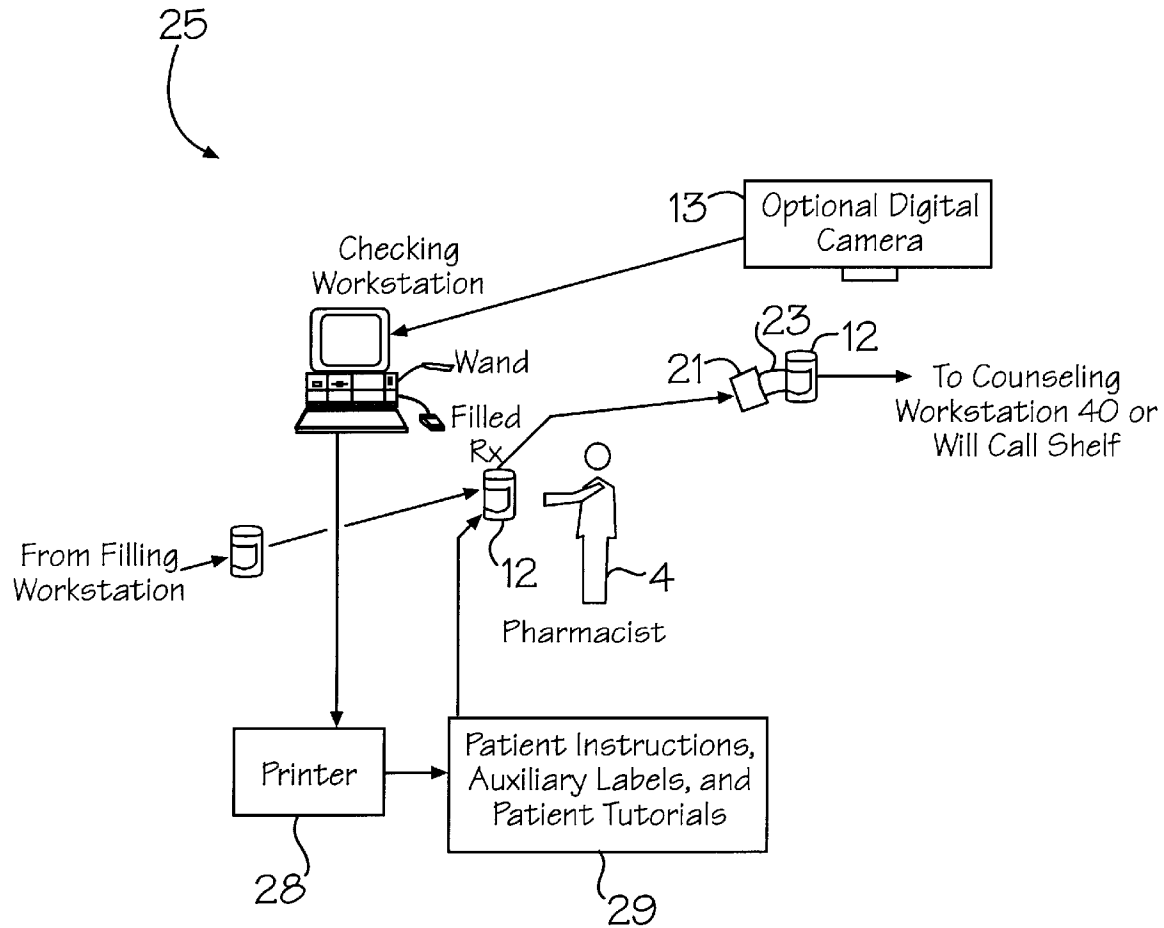


Figure 4

Explore Litigation Insights

Docket Alarm provides insights to develop a more informed litigation strategy and the peace of mind of knowing you're on top of things.

Real-Time Litigation Alerts



Keep your litigation team up-to-date with **real-time alerts** and advanced team management tools built for the enterprise, all while greatly reducing PACER spend.

Our comprehensive service means we can handle Federal, State, and Administrative courts across the country.

Advanced Docket Research



With over 230 million records, Docket Alarm's cloud-native docket research platform finds what other services can't. Coverage includes Federal, State, plus PTAB, TTAB, ITC and NLRB decisions, all in one place.

Identify arguments that have been successful in the past with full text, pinpoint searching. Link to case law cited within any court document via Fastcase.

Analytics At Your Fingertips



Learn what happened the last time a particular judge, opposing counsel or company faced cases similar to yours.

Advanced out-of-the-box PTAB and TTAB analytics are always at your fingertips.

API

Docket Alarm offers a powerful API (application programming interface) to developers that want to integrate case filings into their apps.

LAW FIRMS

Build custom dashboards for your attorneys and clients with live data direct from the court.

Automate many repetitive legal tasks like conflict checks, document management, and marketing.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Litigation and bankruptcy checks for companies and debtors.

E-DISCOVERY AND LEGAL VENDORS

Sync your system to PACER to automate legal marketing.