

# ★ THE TALLY SHEET ★

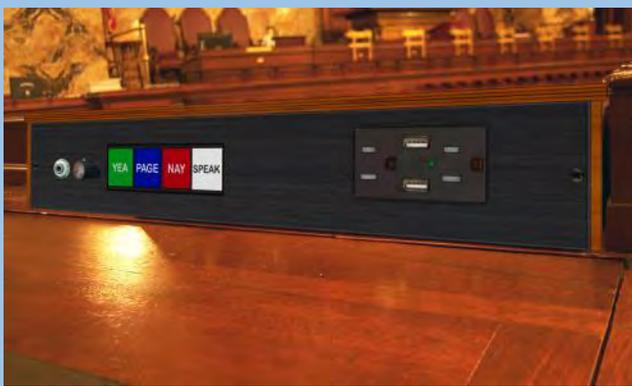
International Roll-Call®

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## FROM RENDERING TO REALITY: VISUALIZING IRC'S CUSTOM SOLUTIONS

IRC approaches every project with the awareness that, although we are implementing advanced technologies, we are doing so in the hallowed halls of legislatures. The very environments of state capitol buildings and the chambers housed within them command a certain reverence and respect. Technology progresses and moves at a rapid pace, whereas many legislative chambers are firmly rooted in their traditions and historical chamber aesthetic. This has always made the integration and updating of legislative technology a fascinating challenge that IRC is fortunate to take on, working alongside staff and leadership to craft the most functional systems available while also preserving both the environment and the process of each and every legislative body.

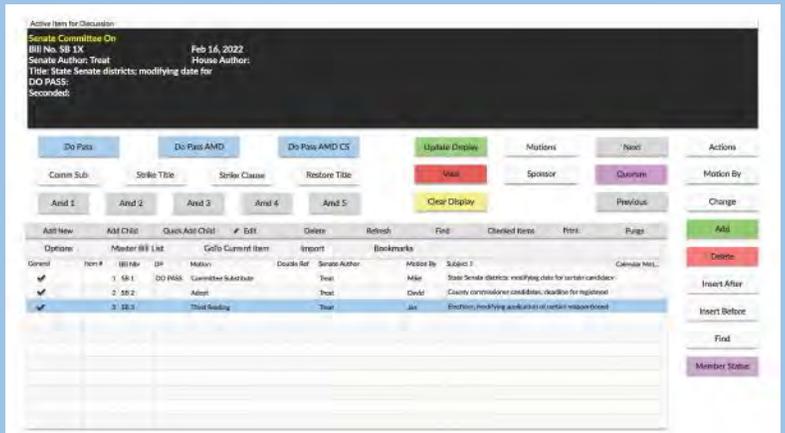


The left image is a photo rendering of the new Pennsylvania House member console on the member desk.



The right image is the actual prototype on-site in what will be the final position of the console on the member desk.

In the last decade or so, as image manipulation applications have evolved and become more ubiquitous, IRC has employed such tools in not only proposals but the design and engineering process. Using photographs of a chamber or a 3-D model image, we can create realistic renderings of our custom solutions to help legislative staff better visualize and contextualize the technology as it will appear in their chamber. These renderings are most often employed regarding wall displays, member consoles, page displays, and such, but we have also been known to mock up “wireframes” of software screens to help focus in on a user’s wants, needs, and preferences.



Pictured above is a “wireframe” rendering of a Voting Operator screen that was created for a recent proposal.

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## *A Letter from the President*

Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you doing well and that you have had or continue to have a successful 2022 Legislative Session. Many of you have adjourned or see the light at the end of the tunnel for a soon-to-be adjournment. It was great seeing many of our friends at the ASLCS Spring Meeting in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida (please enjoy the pictures included in this edition of the Tally Sheet).

As I often say, Spring is such a wonderful time of the year with everything coming back to life and daylight savings time providing more daylight hours! Summer means vacations and more time with family. I hope you and your family are well and have enjoyed the Spring and are looking forward to a fun-filled Summer.

We here at IRC have had an extremely busy Winter with the usual Session startups, requests for system changes, and new business. As you will see from our Project Updates report, there is much work to be done in various legislative chambers across the United States. We will be quite busy over the next few months with projects in Oregon, Pennsylvania, Alabama, Mississippi, Minnesota, Missouri, and others yet to be scheduled. This work includes: Voting Display Board Upgrades and New Installations, 3rd Reading Legislative Management System Development and Implementation, Legislative Process Studies, Display Control and Character Generator Overlay upgrades to existing video systems, and Member Voting Station Console Enhancements.

In addition, IRC continues to grow as we have added two more staff with legislative process experience, Scott Maddrea, former Deputy Clerk of Committee Operations with the Virginia House of Delegates, and Mary Gibson, former 2nd Clerical Assistant for the Massachusetts House of Representatives. These staff are vital to operations that lend themselves to documenting and understanding legislative procedures for project development.

IRC continues to utilize many methods of communication to keep our current and potential clients informed. In addition to the quarterly newsletter, The Tally Sheet, look for information postings available on the IRC website [roll-call.com](http://roll-call.com), and our social media accounts on Facebook (International Roll-Call Corporation), Twitter (@IRCVoting), and LinkedIn (International Roll-Call Corporation).

As always, on behalf of everyone at IRC, I want to thank you for choosing us as your partner to provide and offer support for your legislative voting, audio-visual, display board, and management systems as you work to support and further the people's business in our country's state and local legislative environments.

If you have any questions, concerns, or requests, please feel free to call or email me anytime. I look forward to serving you and having a great Spring season

With sincere appreciation,



*(Rendering to Reality continued from page 1)*

The conceptual design process moves forward hand in hand with precision engineering, especially once a project is approved and underway. While at times heavy with subtle changes and decisions to be made, this process is where the renderings really shine and where it becomes tangible that we are creating something new and exciting for every legislative customer.



Renderings can be used to depict any technology that has a place of prominence in the chamber, such as this one above, showing the Iowa Senate with proposed LED displays on the back wall.



Another example can be seen above, which is a photographic rendering of a large format touch screen and certain hard buttons for the Pennsylvania House Speaker's position, replacing an array of obsolete member indicators that were decades old and difficult to maintain.



The topmost image is an initial 3-D rendering for the Oklahoma Senate member console. The image below it is the actual prototype on-site for fitness testing on the member desk.

So, whether it is new displays for the legislative chamber, member voting consoles, page displays, gallery displays, or software wireframes, IRC's creative team of graphic artists and engineers are ready to put pen to paper (so to speak) and help our customers visualize what kind of aesthetic impact these technology improvements and updates will have in their environment. Because preserving the beauty of our republic's sacred spaces is as important as improving the systems that support the legislative staff. 🌐

## IRC Welcomes New Staff: Scott Maddrea and Mary Gibson

IRC's success is derived from the company's understanding and appreciation of the intricacies and desired efficiencies of the legislative process. IRC understands the legislative process from drafting to enactment and all the associated complex rules and procedures encountered in a political legislative environment. IRC knows the value of legislative staff experience and has actively employed such staff.

IRC is privileged to employ individuals with direct legislative process knowledge and experience. These legislative assets are applied to each project and facilitate the development of correct technological solutions that account for any chamber's unique legislative procedure. IRC's collective foundation of legislative knowledge coupled with its technology proficiencies provide the essential elements for a successful team approach that is relied upon for the success of all our legislative solutions.

IRC continues to add talented legislative staff professionals to the team roster. We are proud to announce that joining the IRC team are Scott Maddrea and Mary Gibson, each bringing with them their professional legislative pedigree and knowledge of process and procedures.



**Scott Maddrea** joined IRC in February as a Legislative Process Consultant. As an IRC Legislative Process Consultant, Scott works with the IRC 3rd Reading Legislative Management System team and clients to document a legislature's various legislative process procedures and system requirements for automation.

Scott brings his 30+ years of legislative service to IRC after retiring from the Virginia House of Delegates Clerk's Office in 2018 as Deputy Clerk for Committee Operations. Scott is a nationally recognized expert in parliamentary procedure, committee processes, and the history of the Virginia General Assembly, and is a frequent guest lecturer on the legislative process. Scott has served as an adjunct faculty member, teaching State and Local Government at Christopher Newport University and Virginia and Virginia and U.S. History at J. Sergeant Reynolds Community College.

Scott received a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Richmond, M.A. in American Military History from American Military University and is a graduate of the Virginia Executive Institute and the Legislative Staff Management Institute.

In addition, Scott is a 25-year veteran of the U.S. Army Reserve retiring in 2012 with the rank of Lt. Colonel; and is an active member of the American Legion Department of Virginia currently serving as Department Membership Chairman and Secretary of the Boys State Board of Directors.

Scott resides in Mechanicsville with his two miniature long-haired dachshunds Leah and Jackson. He is an avid sports fan, runner, enjoys playing golf, and traveling to professional sports venues across the country.

*(Continues on page 6)*

## WHAT'S COOKING AT IRC?

### Pop's Chicken Vegetable Soup

(Submitted by Jeff Finch)

You may think soup is just for winter, but a batch of Pop's Chicken Vegetable Soup makes a great lunch or dinner offering and is very low in calories. The following recipe comes from Jeff Finch's father known affectionately by the grandkids as Pop.



#### Ingredients

- 4 16 oz cans drained mixed vegetables
- 1 16 oz can drained Lima Beans
- 1 16 oz can drained Northern Beans
- 1 16 oz can drained Sweet Corn
- 2 16 oz cans Diced Tomatoes
- 1 small can of Tomato Soup
- 1 16 oz frozen bag of sliced Okra
- 1 whole diced Vidalia Onion
- 2 32 oz boxes of Vegetable Broth
- 1 whole roasted Chicken (pulled or cut up)
- 8 cups chopped Baby Kale and Baby Spinach\*  
(\*Pops didn't use it but some folks like it!)
- 1 tbsp Sugar
- 1 tbsp Salt
- 1 tbsp Pepper
- 1 tbsp Basil
- 1 tbsp Thyme
- Tabasco to taste
- Red Pepper Flakes to taste



- ◆ Add all ingredients in an appropriate sized stock pot, except for Baby Kale and Spinach.
- ◆ Cook on low heat for 2 to 2.5 hours.
- ◆ \*If using the Baby Kale and Spinach, add in the last 10 minutes.
- ◆ Serve and enjoy!

*(New Staff continued from page 4)*

**Mary Gibson** is the most recent addition and started at IRC in May as Office Administrator and Legislative Process Consultant. She arrives from Massachusetts with seven (7) years of legislative experience working in the Office of the Clerk of the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

During her legislative tenure, she has worked as a legislative intern, legislative assistant to a state representative conducting legislative and policy related research focusing on health care financing and public health, and served as Second Clerical Assistant in the House Clerk's Office responsible for parliamentary, procedural and administrative support to the members of the Massachusetts General Court.

Most recently, Mary worked as Managing Director for the National Center for Public Performance at Suffolk University, Boston. There she specialized in performance management/measurement, specifically in government and public sector organizations.



She is also a graduate student at Suffolk University, where she is a 2022 candidate for her Master's in Public Administration. Mary is getting acclimated to Richmond and in her spare time, she is finding ways to continue her enjoyment of horseback riding, fishing, outdoor activities and traveling.

Scott and Mary join IRC President Bill Schaeffer and Director of Client Operations and Legislative Process Consultant Jeff Finch as IRC team members with direct legislative process experience. The four together represent almost 85 years of collective legislative knowledge. 🌐



# 3rd READING



IRC's next generation legislative management system, 3rd Reading™, is a comprehensive, modern module-based legislative management system for the legislative process.

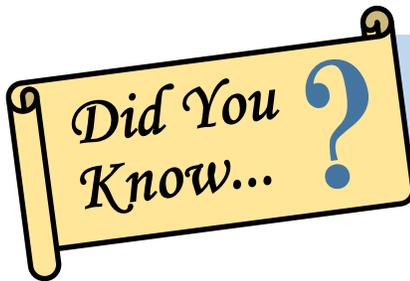
Currently in development for the Alabama and Mississippi Legislatures, 3rd Reading™ demonstrates IRC's understanding of the legislative process and that the valued role of a chamber's Subject Matter Experts is key to an effective technology solution.



3rd Reading™ consists of multiple modules that each cater to a unique aspect of the legislative process:

- Configuration
- Drafting & Document Support for Bills
- Resolutions and Budgets
- Indexing
- Committee Support
- Calendar
- Journal
- Messaging
- Engrossing
- Enrolling

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## The History of Adjournment

by Scott Maddrea, Legislative Process Consultant

Well, since most states have adjourned their Session or are heading towards adjournment sine die, IRC thought it appropriate to dive into a little adjournment history.

First a few definitions:

- “Adjournment” means the temporary cessation of business, which is to be resumed on the next legislative day or at a time certain;
- “Sine die” is Latin for “without a day” so “adjournment sine die” describes an adjournment when the date to reconvene is not specified and usually refers to the end of a session or adjournment of the legislature for an unspecified period and terminates all unfinished business before the house;
- “Prorogation” signifies a final cessation of the business of the session, but does not preclude another session if the time of the prorogation is coincident with the end of the term; and
- “Dissolution” involved the death of the assembly.



When representative legislative bodies were first formed in America, the idea they could control their own destiny was far from established. In 1642 when the Virginia House of Burgesses adjourned until the second day of June it marked the first continuance of a session by adjournment.

Slowly, other colonial legislatures followed and gradually asserted their right to dictate, or at least assent to their own adjournment. The Charter of the Massachusetts Bay Colony (1691) gave the sole power of adjournment, prorogation, and dissolution of the legislature to the Governor. Strictly construed, it required an act of the Governor to adjourn at the end of each day.

A controversy arose in 1721. Thursday, July 13th had been chosen for a public fast. In order that the members could celebrate the holiday at home with their families, the House sent a message to the Governor asking that the legislature might be adjourned but the Governor refused. Notwithstanding his refusal, they voted to adjourn themselves to Tuesday of the following week asserting that adjournments over holidays were as much custom and practice as the ordinary adjournments from day to day. As a result of the controversy the laws of the colony were amended to provide the legislators might adjourn themselves for two days or less, but no longer without the consent of the Governor.

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**Fun Fact:** Among the varied and often amusing traditions at adjournment, in Florida, the Sergeants at Arms meet in the rotunda where each drops a handkerchief to mark the end of session.



# In the Spotlight



## David A. Ward, Jr.

### Client Relations and Operation Support

David A. Ward, Jr., a man of many talents, interests, possesses a quick-wit and an infectious laugh. The son of former IRC President David Ward, he is astute in the politics of life, versed in prose, a lover of Edgar Allan Poe, good music, and possesses culinary talents. If you have never had the pleasure of meeting and sitting down for a chat with David, you are missing out on a stimulating, entertaining, and educational experience. Take five and get to know David a little bit better here in the IRC Staff Spotlight.

Although he now works in Client Relations and Operation Support, David Ward, Jr. began his career with IRC in 1996 as a Field Installer and, like most all of our staff, has worn many hats since then, including Inventory and Operations Management. David is often the man behind the written word of the many proposal documents and quotes and lends his expertise to the hardware requirements that project installs requires. His digital abilities lend themselves to the fine tuning of document renderings and the creation of many of IRC's publications and website information.

Before getting his feet wet in the daily operations of IRC, he, like his father worked in construction, at a horse farm, a brief stint in corporate banking, as well as child care—all as he wound his way around to finding his niche with and becoming a part of the IRC family.

David is a student of history and lover of the arts and entertainment. His spare time often revolves around books in one form or another. As a small-press author, publisher, and Bram Stoker Award ([thebramstokerawards.com](http://thebramstokerawards.com)) nominated editor, he has worked with both new authors of thrillers and chillers looking to establish themselves as well as celebrated authors of the speculative genres like Clive Barker, Neil Gaiman, Josh Malerman, and Joyce Carol Oates.

In 2006, after a decade of friendship, David married his wife, Sharon, and together they have an amazing daughter, Abigail, who is without a doubt the apple of her father's eye. She, too has inherited a love of stories and art and music of all kinds.

An avowed foodie, David also enjoys the culinary arts, but his true love is barbecue and grilling. He is always looking to improve his skills and share new dishes with friends, family, and IRC colleagues as they gather to enjoy good food and good times together.

So, when is that next IRC barbecue anyway? 😊

*(History of Adjournment continued from page 7)*

In other colonies, the power of the legislature to adjourn was predicated on the consent of the executive.

- The Fundamental Constitutions of East New Jersey (1683) gave the legislature the power “sit upon their own adjournments” “unless the Governor and Common Council think fit to continue them longer.”
- By Penn's Charter of Liberties to Pennsylvania (1682) gave the Provincial Council the authority to “sit upon its own adjournments” but the Assembly was compelled to remain in session until the Governor and Council informed it they had nothing further to propose. It was not until 1696 that the Assembly was given the right to “sit upon their own adjournments.” In 1729 when Speaker Andrew Hamilton, Speaker of the Assembly, took leave of the House, he said: “We sit upon our own adjournments, when we please, and as long as we think necessary; and we are not to be sent a packing in the middle of a debate, and disabled from representing our just grievances to our gracious sovereign, if there should be occasion; which has often been the fate of Assemblies in other places.”

In the years immediately preceding the American Revolution, royal Governors found new cause to dissolve colonial assemblies, leading Thomas Jefferson to include in the Declaration of Independence as justification for the war that the Crown “has dissolved representative houses repeatedly.”

In light of this history, it should come as no surprise that the new states addressed the subject of adjournment in their respective constitutions. A few examples follow:

- The New Hampshire Constitution provided that neither branch could adjourn for a longer time than from Saturday to Monday without the consent of the other.
- Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Vermont, and Virginia specifically denied the executive the power to adjourn, prorogue, or dissolve the legislative body, and gave either branch the power to adjourn itself independently.
- Delaware allowed its two houses to adjourn independently but stipulated that the two should always sit at the same time and place.
- New Jersey put the control in the hands of the lower house, giving the House the power to “sit upon their own adjournments” while requiring the Senate to be convened at all times when the House was sitting.
- North Carolina let each branch “sit upon their own adjournments,” but added, “from day to day”; for longer adjournments they were to proceed “jointly, by ballot.”



Today, constitutional provisions requiring the consent of both houses to adjournment are the norm in almost every state as well as the United States Constitution. Maryland was the first to anticipate the branches might not always agree and so provided that if they adjourned to different times, the Governor should select one of the dates, or a day between.

The Constitution of the United States follows the precedent established by the states, providing “Neither house, during the session of Congress, shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two houses shall be sitting.”

In case of disagreement between the Houses with respect to the time of adjournment, the President may adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper; but no President has ever used it. 🌐

# ASLCS SPRING MEETING IN FORT LAUDERDALE

The ASLCS meetings are always a wonderful chance to reconnect with friends and colleagues and the Spring Meeting in Fort Lauderdale, FL was no exception. It was so good to see everyone! We hope you enjoy some of the photos we brought back home with us and share with you now in this edition of the Tally Sheet.



# ASLCS SPRING MEETING IN FORT LAUDERDALE





## ***QUICK REFERENCE CONTACT INFO***



### **NON-EMERGENCY SERVICE**

Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time – 804-730-9600  
and request one of the staff listed

### **EMERGENCY SERVICE**

Any time of day or night – 804-730-9600 or contact any of the staff  
directly in the order listed

Key IRC personnel can be reached at the following office and mobile telephone numbers or email. These staff are accessible to you at these contact numbers and email during both regular hours and after hours (24/7). For either a voicemail message or email, please provide as much detail as possible relevant to the situation requiring the contact and please provide your contact information or alternative staff contact information so that the issue can be addressed in a prompt and timely manner.

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