

# What County Officials, Management and Staff Should (or Shouldn't) Know About Technology

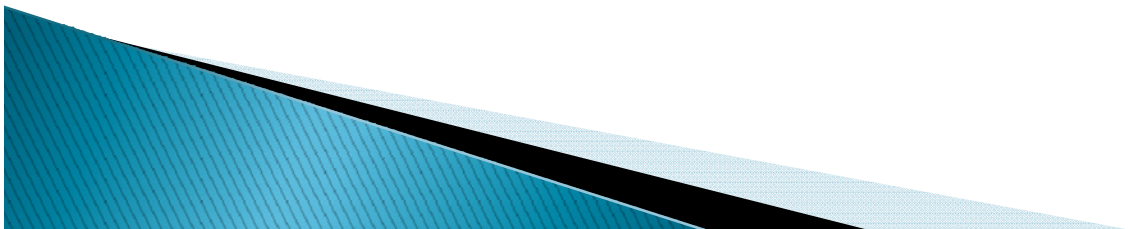
**NJIT Center for Information Age Technology**  
and **NJGMIS**

Mitchell Darer, Executive Director  
NJIT Center for Information Age Technology



# NJIT Center for Information Age Technology

- ▶ Public sector, not a vendor
- ▶ Established in 1983
- ▶ Projects: strategy, assessment, management, operational, security, records, technology
- ▶ Impartial, vendor-neutral
- ▶ Experienced professionals, not academics
- ▶ All 21 counties, 100's of muni's, plus State



# NJ GMIS

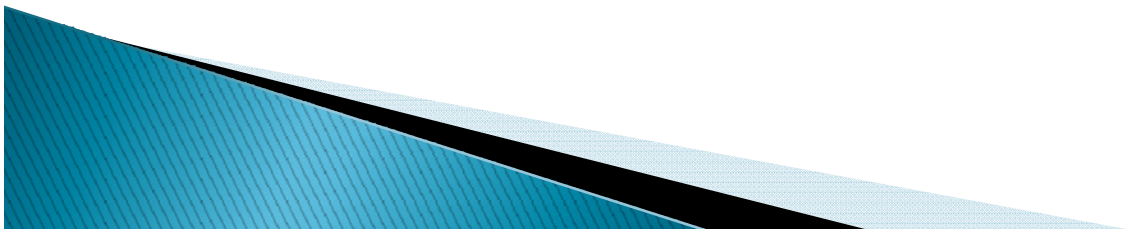
- ▶ Association of NJ Government IT “managers”
- ▶ Similar to other Associations
- ▶ Meetings, listservs, events
- ▶ Network:
  - County to County
  - County to Municipalities
  - County to State

# NJ GMIS County Members

- ▶ Burlington
- ▶ Cape May
- ▶ Cumberland
- ▶ Hunterdon
- ▶ Gloucester
- ▶ Mercer
- ▶ Middlesex
- ▶ Monmouth
- ▶ Morris
- ▶ Ocean
- ▶ Passaic
- ▶ Somerset
- ▶ Sussex
- ▶ Union

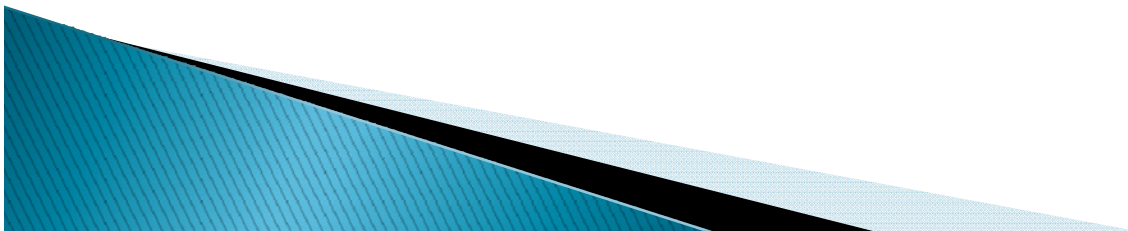
# Agenda

- ▶ Why is IT important?
- ▶ What do you need from IT?
- ▶ What does IT need from you?
- ▶ The importance of networking



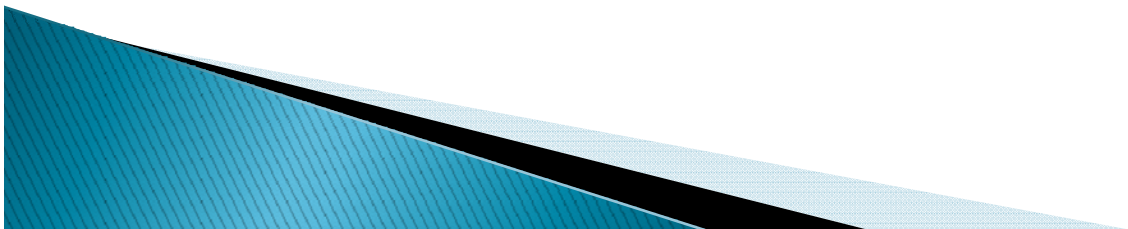
# Why is IT important?

- ▶ Not just bits and bytes
- ▶ Internal agency operations
- ▶ Interactions with constituents & stakeholders
- ▶ Security Security Security
- ▶ Make or break a legal situation
- ▶ Budget
- ▶ Crucial to disaster recovery



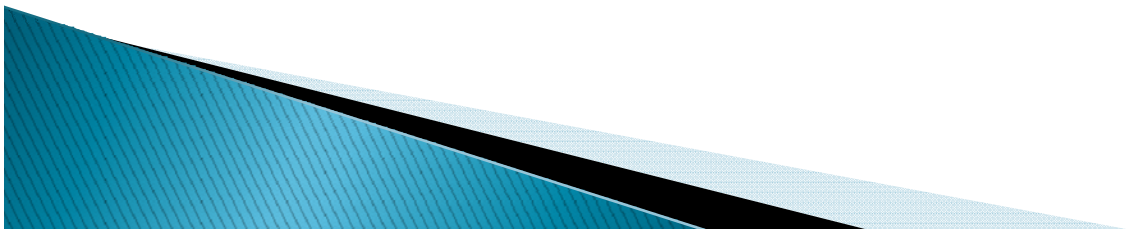
# What do you need from IT?

- ▶ Short-term AND long-term vision and issues
- ▶ Clear, easy-to-understand terminology
- ▶ Understand the impact of decisions
- ▶ Proven examples
- ▶ Honesty about mistakes, lapses and problems



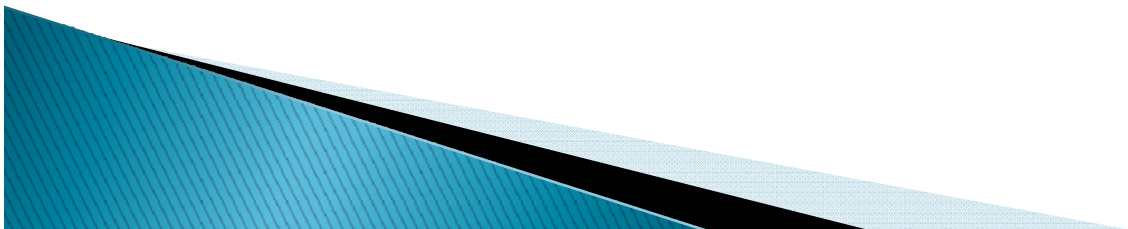
# What does IT need from you?

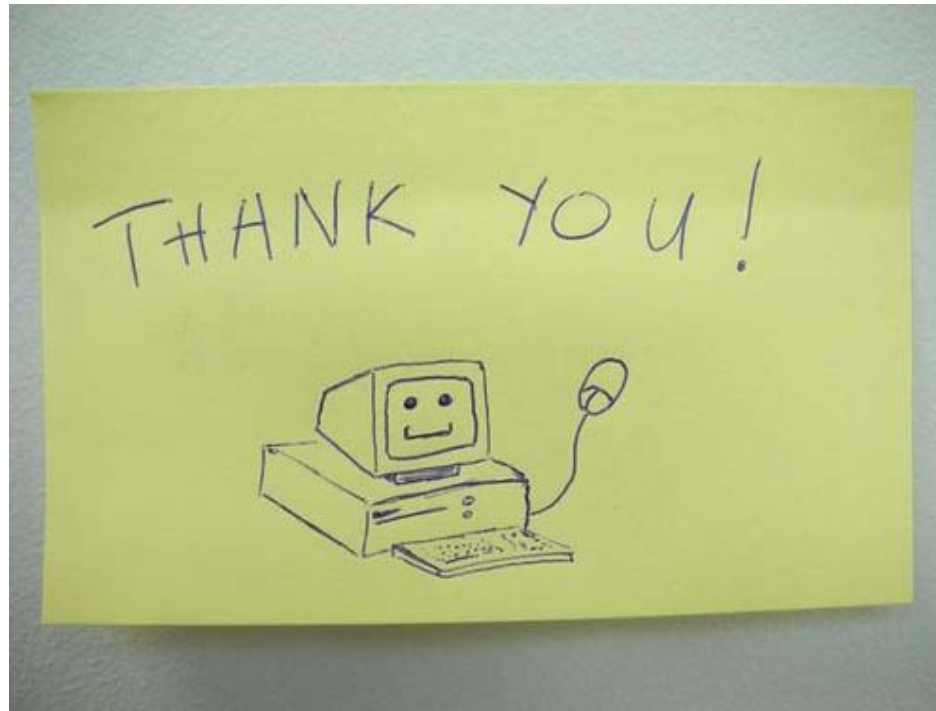
- ▶ Establish organizational authority
- ▶ Share strategic plans
- ▶ Understand the impact of decisions
- ▶ Support policies and procedures
- ▶ Provide budget commitment
- ▶ Don't play favorites
- ▶ Learn a little technology, maybe, please!!!



# The Importance of Networking

- ▶ ... elected officials and senior management
- ▶ ... department heads and staff
- ▶ ... CIOs in other counties
- ▶ ... CIOs in your county's municipalities
- ▶ ... professional resources
- ▶ ... NJIT Center for Information Age Technology
- ▶ ... NJGMIS





Mitchell Darer, Executive Director  
NJIT Center for Information Age Technology

[darer@njit.edu](mailto:darer@njit.edu)

973-477-3179

