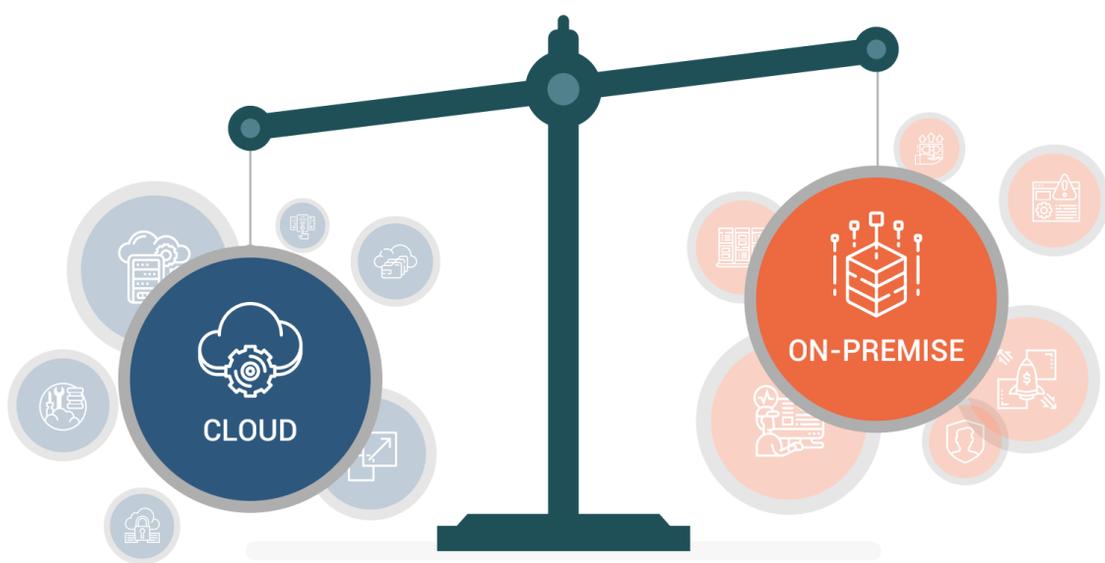# clarra

Cloud-Based vs On-Premise Case Management Software:

Which is the Better Choice for Your Firm?

CLOUD

ON-PREMISE

The COVID-19 pandemic has dramatically increased the demand for cloud-based solutions. Forced lockdowns and travel restrictions have made remote work and digital transformation integral parts of businesses all over the world, and the legal industry is no exception. In fact, according to research conducted by Gartner, enterprise IT spending on the cloud will surpass spending on traditional IT by 2025.

However, there are still many law firms that are unable to shift to the cloud and are still dependent on their on-premise applications and software to run their business. Deciding whether to implement technology solutions on-premise or on cloud can be intimidating. That's why it is important to weigh the pros and cons between the two and see which one is more beneficial for your firm.

SERVER

Hosted on the cloud provider's server and accessed online.

Installed locally on your firm's computers and servers.

COST

No upfront investment required. Lets your law firm pay for services and the capacity you require on a subscription basis. You don't have to spend on hardware or office space costs.

Higher financial responsibility for law firms. On top of extra fees like IT expenses and buying their own server, law firms must also buy the software and user licenses for each user.

ACCESSIBILITY

Data can be accessed and processed anytime, anywhere. This can be essential and convenient for lawyers who are working remotely or are often working outside the office.

Can be accessed remotely but usually necessitates third-party support. Access via remote desktop tools tends to be notably slower than accessing through cloud-based software.

SCALABILITY

Law firms can scale up or down to increase or decrease cloud capacity at any given time, integrating new technology when needed.

Scaling usually requires purchasing and deploying new servers and potentially buying new property on which to host the servers.

SECURITY

Cloud-based data storage and automatic real-time data backup on multiple services can safeguard your important information. It also guarantees that your data is stored and encrypted.

Gives law firms control over their data. With on-premises software, law firms are basically in charge of their own IT security. In the event of a data breach or damage to servers, they have to deal with these problems themselves.

SUPPORT

Offers complete offsite technical support at no added cost.

Requires dedicated IT support personnel to maintain machinery, a server room, and operating systems.

Finding the Best Technology for Your Law Firm

When choosing the right software, whether on-premise or cloud-based, law firms need to think about what can work best for them. Is it better for your firm to continue using its own on-premise IT infrastructure, or would it be smarter to switch to a cloud-based practice management solution?

If you want to explore and switch to a reliable cloud-based law practice and legal case management software that can help your law firm manage complex details, eliminate errors, save time, and collect fees faster, contact us at Clarra.