## STANDING ORDER

U.S. DISTRICT COURT SAVANNAH DIV.

2007 OCT 15 PH 4: 39

SO. DIST. OF GA

IN RE:

ELECTRONIC CASE FILING STANDING ORDER AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

MC 407-045

## **ORDER**

Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 5 and 83 and Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 57 authorize the Court to establish practices and procedures for filing, signing, and verifying documents by electronic means.

## IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- 1. Effective November 1, 2007, documents may be filed, signed, and verified by electronic and other means to the extent and in the manner required and authorized by this Standing Order and the administrative procedures attached hereto as Exhibit A, Administrative Procedures for Filing, Signing, and Verifying Pleadings and Papers by Electronic Means in Civil and Criminal Cases in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Georgia (Administrative Procedures).
- 2. Effective February 1, 2008, absent good cause shown and the permission of the Court, attorneys in good standing admitted to practice before the Bar of this Court, to include attorneys admitted *pro hac vice*, will file, sign, and verify documents only by electronic means to the extent and in the manner authorized by this Standing Order, and the administrative procedures attached hereto as Exhibit A., Administrative Procedures for Filing, Signing, and Verifying Pleadings and Papers by Electronic Means in Civil and Criminal Cases in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Georgia (Administrative Procedures).
- 3. The official record of the Court shall be the electronic file maintained by the Court and such paper files as are permitted by the Administrative Procedures.

- 4. The Clerk of Court will implement and publish the Administrative Procedures, and will register attorneys and issue individual logins and passwords consistent with those procedures to permit electronic filing and notice of pleadings and other documents.
- 5. Pro se litigants who are not attorneys in good standing admitted to the Bar of this Court must file all documents with the Court in paper form.
- 6. The electronic filing of a petition, pleading, motion, or other paper by an attorney who is a registered participant in the Court's Electronic Case Filing System shall constitute the signature of that attorney under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. The attorney whose login and password are used to accomplish an electronic filing certifies that the attorney and the attorney's law firm have authorized the filing.
- 7. No attorney shall knowingly permit or cause to permit his/her login or password to be used by anyone other than an authorized employee of his/her law firm.
- 8. The electronic filing of a pleading or other paper in accordance with the Court's Administrative Procedures shall constitute entry of that pleading or other paper on the docket kept by the Clerk under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.
- 9. The fact that a party files a document electronically does not alter the filing deadline for that document.
- 10. The Clerk's Office shall enter all orders, decrees, judgments, and proceedings of the Court in accordance with the Administrative Procedures, which shall constitute entry of the orders, decrees, judgments, and proceedings on the docket kept by the Clerk under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. Any order filed electronically without the original signature of a judge shall have the same force and effect as if the judge had affixed his or her signature to a paper copy of the order and it had been entered in a conventional manner.
- 11. Whenever a pleading or other paper is filed electronically in accordance with the Administrative Procedures, the electronic filing system will electronically mail and serve the parties with a "Notice of Electronic Filing" at the time of

docketing. Parties that are unable to receive an electronic notice must be served by the filing party using United States Mail or other means.

- 12. Receipt of a Electronic Case Filing login and password constitute a request for electronic service and electronic notice pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
- 13. A pleading or document that a person signs and thereby verifies, certifies, declares, affirms, or swears under oath or penalty of perjury concerning the truth of the matters set forth in that pleading or document is a "Verified Pleading." An attorney filing a Verified Pleading shall thereafter maintain in his or her office the original Verified Pleading in its entirety for a period ending five (5) years after expiration of the time for filing a timely appeal. The filing of a Verified Pleading constitutes a representation by the attorney who files it that the attorney has in his or her possession at the time of filing the fully executed original Verified Pleading.
- 14. This Order is effective November 1, 2007, and shall be published together with Exhibit A, Administrative Procedures for Electronic Filing for Southern District of Georgia.

Dated this 15th Day of Octaber, 2007

BY THE COURT:

William T. Moore, Jr.

Chief Judge

United States District Court Judge