

**STANDING ORDER OF THE 11th DISTRICT
COURT REGARDING ELECTRONIC FILING**

Upon the Court's own motion in accordance with the Local Rules of the Harris County Civil District Courts Concerning the Electronic Filing of Court Documents,

1. DESIGNATION OF E-FILE CASE

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that as of Wednesday, May 1, 2013, all lawsuits assigned to the 11th District Court of Harris County, Texas, shall be and are hereby designated electronic filing (E-File) cases.¹ It is the intent of the Court that this order conform with the Harris County Local Rules of the District Courts Concerning the Electronic Filing of Court Documents while still mandating the electronic filing of documents in all cases.

2. NO PAPER FILINGS RECEIVED

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the District Clerk shall not receive any petitions, applications, pleadings or other documents whatsoever in E-File cases in paper form, except for filings by pro se parties or parties expressly granted a waiver by signed written order of the Court. If the District Clerk receives a paper filing in an E-File case, the Clerk is ORDERED to return the paper filing to the purported filer with a notification that the case is to be e-filed and that no paper filings can be received, file-stamped or scanned.

3. EXCEPTIONS

THE EXCEPTIONS to the types of documents that must be electronically filed are contained in Section 3.3 of the Harris County Local Rules of the District Courts Concerning the Electronic Filing of Documents, and include only: (a) citations or writs bearing the seal of the court; (b) bonds; (c) subpoenas; (d) proof of service of subpoenas; (e) documents to be presented to a court in camera, solely for the purpose of obtaining a ruling on the discoverability of such documents; (f) documents sealed pursuant to an express order under Rule 76a, Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, (however the motion to seal the document(s) must be electronically filed); and (g) documents to which access is otherwise restricted by law or court order, including a document filed in a proceeding under Chapter 33 of the Family Code. It is ORDERED that these documents shall continue to be filed as paper filings.

4. NOTICE OF ORDER

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the District Clerk notify all parties in E-File cases, whether original plaintiffs, defendants, counter-plaintiffs, counter-defendants, cross-plaintiffs, cross-

¹ At the current time, the only methods to e-file are through TexasOnline and by using the Harris County District Clerk's FREEfax Filing. This will change January 1, 2014 pursuant to the Order Requiring Electronic Filing In Certain Courts issued by the Texas Supreme Court in December, 2012 [Misc. Docket No. 12-9208]. The Court is not mandating service under Rule 21a, Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, by the e-filing process. Although service via the e-file process is highly recommended, service can be accomplished in accordance with Rule 21a. The Texas Supreme Court will adopt rules regarding e-service prior to January 1, 2014.

defendants, intervenors or otherwise, of this Order and of the requirements of the Harris County Local Rules of the District Courts Concerning the Electronic Filing of Court Documents. Such notification may be included with citation issued to any party or, if no citation is to be issued, then sent by any method specified in Rule 21a, Texas Rules of Civil Procedure.

5. SHOW CAUSE OBJECTION

If any party objects to the e-filing requirements, that party shall file a written objection within 30 days of the date of inception of the action, or, if applicable, within 30 days of the date of their first appearance in the action, and set the matter for hearing before the 11th District Court to show cause why the electronic filing requirement is unduly burdensome or objectionable.

6. PLAINTIFF RESPONSIBLE FOR NOTIFYING ALL PARTIES

The Plaintiff in the lawsuit shall ensure that all parties, whenever added to the lawsuit, are aware of the existence of this Order, and shall be capable of demonstrating by competent evidence of such written notice to the Court. Notice may be in writing, by delivering a copy of the Order to the parties, or by e-mail, directing the parties to this Court's website containing the Order.

Signed April 11, 2013.



Michael D. Miller
Presiding Judge

FILED
Chris Daniel
District Clerk
APR 11 2013

Time: _____
Harris County, Texas
By _____
Deputy