

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF ALABAMA  
July 29, 2005

ORDER

The circuit and district courts of the Alabama Judicial System have expressed a desire to this Court for procedures by which civil matters could be filed with those courts electronically, and the circuit and district courts have coordinated with the Administrative Office of Courts to facilitate electronic filing in those courts. The Administrative Director of Courts is authorized to begin a pilot project for electronic filings of civil matters in the circuit and district courts, also referred to as e-filings, on July 1, 2005. The pilot project shall terminate on June 30, 2006, but the Administrative Director of Courts may, in his discretion, extend the pilot project for 12 additional months.

The Administrative Director of Courts shall promulgate a procedural guide for the e-filing project, which details the scope of the pilot project, including the selection of the courts and jurisdictions that are to be part of the pilot project. The procedural guide for the operation of the pilot project shall be known as the Administrative Procedure for Filing, Signing, and Verifying Documents by Electronic Means in the Alabama Judicial System and shall be in substantially

the form of the draft presented to this Court with the request to authorize the pilot project. The Administrative Director of Courts is further authorized to enter any administrative directives he deems necessary in order to implement and facilitate this pilot project.

For purposes of signing, filing, certificates of service, and other provisions, the Alabama Rules of Civil Procedure may be supplemented as deemed necessary for the purposes of this pilot project by the Administrative Procedure for Filing, Signing, and Verifying Documents by Electronic Means in the Alabama Judicial System. A copy of the Administrative Procedure for Filing, Signing, and Verifying Documents by Electronic Means in the Alabama Judicial System shall be made available to every practicing attorney in the Alabama Judicial System. Any conflicts between the Alabama Rules of Civil Procedure and the policies and procedures that are not obviated by the previous supplementation of those Rules in this order shall be immediately brought to the Court's attention. The circuit clerks of the counties participating in the pilot project are authorized to implement such procedures and to make such distribution of the Administrative Procedure for Filing, Signing, and Verifying Documents by

Electronic Means in the Alabama Judicial System as deemed necessary in order to implement electronic filings.

Nabers, C.J., and See, Lyons, Harwood, Woodall, Stuart, Smith, Bolin, and Parker, JJ., concur.

I Robert G. Esdale, Sr., as Clerk of the Supreme Court of Alabama, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the instrument(s) herewith set out as same appear(s) of record in said Court.

Witness my hand this 29<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2005.

*Robert G. Esdale, Sr.*  
Clerk, Supreme Court of Alabama