

**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI**

IN RE:
TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF
WET SIGNATURE REQUIREMENT
AND ANY IN-PERSON MEETING
REQUIREMENT

General Order No. 3

Effectively immediately, in light of developing issues with the COVID-19 virus and the national, state, and local declarations of emergency, and local stay-at-home orders, this Court temporarily MODIFIES the requirements under Local Rule 1007-1(D), 1009-1, and 3095-1, and an attorney's compliance as follows:

Petitions, lists, schedules, statements, plans, amendments, pleadings, affidavits, and other documents which must contain original wet ink signatures or which require verification under Fed. R. Bankr. P. 1008, or an unsworn declaration as provided in 28 U.S.C. § 1746, may contain, in lieu of the original wet ink signature, the signature forms described below:

1. A copy, or digitally scanned or faxed image, of the original document containing a wet ink signature; or
2. An image with a signature captured electronically at the time of document creation, or signatures created and verified by use of special software programs for electronic signatures, such as DocuSign or Sign Easy.

An attorney's electronic filing of such a document with the signature form described above will constitute a certification by the debtor's attorney that (1) the attorney transmitted the entire document to the debtor(s) for review and signature, communicated with the debtor regarding the substance and purpose of the document, and received express authorization from the debtor(s) to file the document; and (2) the debtor(s) signed the document and that, at the time of electronic filing, the debtor's attorney is in possession of an image format, facsimile, or software-assisted signature of the document from the debtor(s).

Any in-person meeting requirement under the Rights and Responsibilities Agreement is hereby suspended on the condition that debtor's counsel reasonably believes that he or she is complying with all applicable ethical, due diligence, and other requirements in connection with the engagement.

This General Order applies only in bankruptcy cases filed in this District, and only for documents electronically filed by attorneys on or after the effective date of this General Order and until further order of this Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: March 23, 2020

/s/ Brian T. Fenimore
Chief Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Dennis R. Dow
Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Cynthia A. Norton
Bankruptcy Judge