

NOTICE TO THE BAR

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS the New Jersey Judiciary has been working closely with the Executive Branch to implement a new automated child support enforcement system, known as NJKiDS (New Jersey Kids Deserve Support), to replace the current system, known as ACSES (Automated Child Support Enforcement System); and

WHEREAS NJKiDS will electronically generate child support orders, which the court will use to establish, modify or enforce child support; and NJKiDS will permit the electronic filing of child support complaints and post-judgment applications, which will require the moving party to enter a digital signature in order to complete the filing transaction;

THEREFORE IT IS ORDERED, pursuant to N.J. Const. (1947), Art. VI, §2, ¶ 3, that, effective immediately and until further order, the following Rules of Court are relaxed and supplemented as they relate to child support matters as indicated:

1. Rule 1:4-4 is relaxed so as to permit an electronic or digital signature to have the same effect as a facsimile signature authorized by this rule;
2. Rule 1:4-5 is relaxed so as to permit an electronic or digital signature to have the same effect as an original signature required by this rule;
3. Rule 1:4-9 is relaxed so as to permit the filing of all pleadings and other papers in an electronic format prescribed by the Administrative Office of the Courts that will produce, as needed, printed paper copies that meet the requirements of the rule;
4. Rule 1:5-2 is relaxed so as to permit electronic service of copies of all papers referred to in Rule 1:5-1 through the Judiciary's computer system, if service is available in this manner;
5. Rule 1:5-3 is relaxed so as to permit an electronic or digital signature to have the same effect as an original signature required by this rule;
6. Rule 4:42-1(e) is relaxed and supplemented so as to authorize the use of electronic or digital signatures for judges of the Superior Court to sign child support orders;
7. Rule 5:5-4 is relaxed so as to permit an electronic or digital signature to have the same effect as an original signature on an order entered after a motion;
8. Rule 5:6 is relaxed so as to permit an electronic or digital signature to have the same effect as an original signature for summary actions for support;
9. Rule 5:6B is relaxed so as to permit an electronic or digital signature to have the same effect as an original signature for an order granting a child support cost-of-living adjustment; and
10. Rule 5:25-3 is relaxed so as to permit an electronic or digital signature to have the same effect as an original signature for an order entered resulting from the recommendations of a Child Support Hearing Officer.

For the Court,
Chief Justice

Dated: December 2, 2008

