## NOTICE TO THE BAR

## (1) MANDATORY ELECTRONIC FILING IN THE STATE TAX CASES

## (2) ELECTRONIC DISTRIBUTION OF TAX COURT NOTICES

Pursuant to the Supreme Court's November 29, 2016 Order (published with this notice):

- 1. As of December 12, 2016, for all new State tax cases in the Tax Court, after the filing and docketing of a complaint or a case-initiating motion, the Tax Court Management Office will scan and upload that document to the eCourts electronic filing system (eCourts Tax). Thereafter, attorneys will be required to file all subsequent documents in those new State tax cases, including adjournment requests, electronically via eCourts. This requirement will not at this time apply to self-represented litigants.
- 2. As of December 12, 2016, attorneys also will be required to electronically file all documents, including adjournment requests, in all existing State tax cases using eCourts. This requirement will not at this time apply to self-represented litigants.
- 3. Attorneys who after December 12, 2016 file paper documents in State tax cases that should have been eFiled will have their paper documents returned stamped "Received but Not Filed Must be eFiled via eCourts." The notice will include that the attorney must file the documents electronically through eCourts within 15 days to preserve the received date as the filed date.
- 4. Beginning December 12, 2016, the Tax Court will distribute all docketing notices, trial notices, orders, opinions, judgments and other documents in State tax matters through uploading to eCourts, with electronic notice to the attorneys. The court will mail hard copies of these documents only to self-represented parties. Attorneys not registered for eCourts will not receive notice of any upload to a case file. Hard copies of notices, trial notices, orders, opinions, judgments and other documents will not be mailed by the court to unregistered attorneys.

In order to file documents electronically and view electronic case jackets in the Tax Court through eCourts, attorneys must complete the Attorney Access Verification Form, available at <a href="http://www.judiciary.state.nj.us/taxcourt/index.html">http://www.judiciary.state.nj.us/taxcourt/index.html</a>. FAQ's and guides on the use of eCourts Tax are also available.

Cheryl A. Ryan

Tax Court Clerk/Administrator

Dated: November 29, 2016

## SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS the Court previously issued Orders establishing mandatory electronic filing in the Tax Court for all attorneys representing parties in local property tax matters,

And WHEREAS the mandatory filing requirement for all attorneys representing parties in local property tax matters has been successfully implemented;

And WHEREAS the necessary programming for the extension of the eCourts electronic filing system to State tax cases has been implemented;

IT IS ORDERED pursuant to N.J. Const. (1947), Art. VI, §2, par. 3, that effective December 12, 2016, mandatory electronic filing in the Tax Court is authorized for all attorneys representing parties in State tax cases as follows:

- (1) As of December 12, 2016, all new State tax cases in the Tax Court will be initiated through the filing of a complaint or case-initiating motion in paper form. The Tax Court Management Office will docket the complaint or case-initiating motion, scan that document, and upload it to the eCourts electronic filing system. Attorneys thereafter will be required to file all subsequent documents in these newly docketed State tax cases, including adjournment requests, electronically via eCourts.
- (2) As of December 12, 2016, attorneys also will be required to electronically file all documents, including adjournment requests, in all existing State tax cases in the Tax Court.
- (3) Attorneys who after December 12, 2016 file paper documents in State tax cases that should have been efiled will have their paper documents returned stamped as "Received But Not Filed Must be eFiled via eCourts." The notice to counsel will

include that the attorney must file the documents electronically through eCourts within 15 days to preserve the received date as the filed date.

- (4) The Tax Court will distribute all docketing notices, trial notices, orders, opinions, judgments and other documents in State tax cases through uploading to eCourts and electronic notice to counsel. The court will continue to mail hard copies of these documents to self-represented parties.
- (5) Exemptions from these requirements may be granted by leave of court if extraordinary circumstances prevent the attorney from using eCourts to file a document or to receive documents from the court.
- (6) The supplemented and relaxed Rules of Court as provided for in the Court's January 21, 2015 and August 10, 2015 Orders with respect to electronic filing remain in effect.

For the Court,

**Chief Justice** 

Dated: November 29, 2016