


## **NOTICE TO THE BAR**

### **Expansion of Imaging Component of the Judiciary Electronic Filing and Imaging System (JEFIS) to the Special Civil Part in Nine Remaining Counties**

Accompanying publication of this Notice to the Bar is the Supreme Court's July 7, 2005 Order that authorizes expansion of the imaging component of the Judiciary Electronic Filing and Imaging System (JEFIS) in the Special Civil Part in the final nine counties to receive this technology, thus completing its implementation statewide. These nine counties are Atlantic, Cape May, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Passaic, Sussex, and Warren.

The JEFIS Pilot Project began in the Monmouth Special Civil Part in March 1999 and consisted of two components – (1) electronic filing and (2) imaging — for Special Civil Part tort and contract actions. By Order dated March 27, 2000 (a copy of that order is included here as well), the Supreme Court relaxed and supplemented several Rules of Court to permit the statewide expansion of the electronic filing component of JEFIS, with both components authorized only for Monmouth County. In 2003, the Supreme Court authorized expansion of the imaging component to Mercer and Ocean Counties. In 2004 the Court authorized further expansion of the imaging component to Bergen, Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, Morris, Salem, Somerset, and Union Counties. Implementation of the expansion authorized in 2004 is expected to be completed by the end of calendar 2005.

As approved by the Court, the final phase of expansion of the JEFIS imaging component will occur during calendar 2006. The expansion of the imaging component to these final nine counties (Atlantic, Cape May, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Passaic, Sussex, and Warren) will not require attorneys to change their practices in any way. Those attorneys who already participate in JEFIS as electronic filers will continue to do so. Those attorneys who would like to become electronic filers can obtain information packages through the Judiciary's Internet website ([www.judiciary.state.nj.us](http://www.judiciary.state.nj.us)) or by contacting Patricia D'Errico at the following address/telephone number: Office of the Superior Court Clerk, P.O. Box 971, Trenton, NJ 08625-0971, (609) 292-8987. Please note that the Court also has amended its March 27, 2000 Order so as to permit the electronic filing of pleadings and papers even in cases that were commenced with a paper complaint, a practice heretofore prohibited by that earlier Order. Attorneys who wish to continue filing on paper may do so.

Philip S. Carchman, J.A.D.  
Administrative Director of the Courts  
Dated: July 7, 2005

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## **SUPREME COURT ORDER**

WHEREAS the Judiciary has successfully implemented the electronic filing component of the Judiciary Electronic Filing and Imaging System (JEFIS) project in the Special Civil Part of the Superior Court, Law Division, in all twenty-one counties pursuant to orders of this Court dated December 10, 1996; February 1, 1999; March 27, 2000; and

WHEREAS the Judiciary also has implemented or is in the process of implementing the imaging component of JEFIS in the Special Civil Part in twelve counties (Bergen, Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, Mercer, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Salem, Somerset, and Union) pursuant to the above-referenced Orders and the Court's Orders of October 7, 2003, and April 27, 2004;

Pursuant to N.J. Const. (1947), Art. VI, sec. 2, par. 3, IT IS ORDERED, effective immediately and until further Order of the Court, that the Rules of Court be relaxed and supplemented as specified in the Court's Order dated March 27, 2000, to permit the Judiciary to further expand the imaging component of JEFIS to Atlantic, Cape May, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Passaic, Sussex and Warren Counties for actions filed pursuant to Rule 6:1-2(a)(1), so that documents in those Special Civil Part cases, whether filed electronically or on paper, can be processed and stored in electronic form as part of the JEFIS project.

This Order supplements, where appropriate, the Court's Orders of December 10, 1996 and February 1, 1999 with regard to the JEFIS project in Monmouth County, the Court's Order of March 27, 2000 permitting the statewide expansion of the electronic filing component of JEFIS, the Court's Order of October 7, 2003 permitting expansion of the imaging component of JEFIS to Mercer and Ocean Counties, and the Court's Order of April 27, 2004 permitting expansion of the imaging component of JEFIS to nine additional counties.

This order also amends the Court's Order of March 27, 2000 by deleting the final sentence of paragraph 4 of that Order, which had prohibited the electronic filing of subsequent pleadings and papers in cases that were commenced by the filing of a paper complaint; this amendment permits the electronic filing of such documents regardless of whether the complaint was filed electronically or on paper.

For the Court  
Deborah T. Poritz  
Chief Justice  
Dated: July 7, 2005