## NOTICE TO THE BAR

## Mandatory Expansion of eCourts to Special Civil Part and Related Statewide Judgment Liens

The Judiciary Electronic Filing and Imaging System (JEFIS) will be retired for Special Civil Part (DC) filings (those of \$15,000 or less) and related statewide judgment liens as of September 30, 2016 and is being replaced by the Court's new electronic filing system, eCourts, in accord with <u>Rule</u> 1:32-2A. The eCourts system allows attorneys to file documents online and provides remote access to any eCourts DC case jacket.

Pursuant to the Court's attached September 23, 2016 Order, <u>as of October 1, 2016</u>, all attorneys and law firms registered on the Judiciary Electronic Filing and Imaging System (JEFIS) are required to file all pleadings and documents electronically through eCourts in Special Civil Part (DC) actions and related statewide judgment liens. Any paper received other than through eCourts on or after October 1, 2016 will be returned to the filing attorney with notice that it must be filed electronically.

In anticipation of the discontinuation of JEFIS, the Judiciary is now accepting electronic submissions through eCourts in most counties, and will be operational in all counties as of September 30, 2016. All New Jersey attorneys in good standing registered in the Central Attorney Management System (CAMS) may access cases in Special Civil Part (DC) eCourts. FAQ's and instructional guides and videos on the use of eCourts are available at njcourts.com/eCourts.

Questions regarding eCourts Special Civil Part (DC) and related statewide judgment liens may be directed to Michelle M. Smith, Clerk of the Superior Court, by email at michelle.smith@judiciary.state.nj.us or by telephone at 609-421-6100.

Glenn A. Grant, J.A.D.

Acting Administrative Director of the Courts

Dated: September 23, 2016

## SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

In support of implementation of electronic filing in the Superior Court of New Jersey, it is ORDERED that pursuant to N.J. Const. Art. VI, sec. 2, par. 3, the Rules of Court are supplemented and relaxed such that upon implementation of eCourts in Foreclosure and in the Special Civil Part (DC docket), all New Jersey attorneys filing documents in Foreclosure and in the Special Civil Part (DC docket), including statewide judgment liens, shall be required to submit those documents electronically; and

It FURTHER ORDERED that where eCourts is or becomes available for an additional case type, the provisions of this order shall apply and attorneys shall be required to submit documents in that case type electronically to the Office of the Superior Court Clerk; and

It is FURTHER ORDERED that the provisions of Rule 1:5-6 ('Filing") are supplemented and relaxed so as to permit pleadings submitted in paper form that are required to be filed electronically to be returned to the filing party marked as "received but not filed," with those returned documents to be electronically filed within 10 days in order to preserve the original received date.

For the Court.

**Chief Justice** 

Dated: September 23, 2016