



E-FILED
CNMI SUPREME COURT
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NoraV Borja

IN THE
SUPREME COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE
COMMONWEALTH RULES FOR
ELECTRONIC FILING & SERVICES

SUPREME COURT NO. 2020-ADM-0006-RUL

ORDER

¶ 1 In 2006, the Commonwealth Rules for Electronic Filing and Service (“E-Filing Rules”) became effective. *See* General Order 2006-300 (Jan. 12, 2006). This Court mandated that parties electronically file and serve documents in certain Superior Court civil actions but exempted criminal actions and small claims cases. *See* Supreme Court No. 2008-ADM-0003-RUL (April 2, 2008); General Order 2006-301 (March 27, 2006).¹

¶ 2 The Judiciary and its filing and service provider, File and ServeXpress, recently worked together to expand electronic filing and service to include all case types. Technical and processing requirements have now been achieved, allowing for expanded electronic filing and service.

¶ 3 During the initial two months of this expanded coverage of mandatory e-filing and service, pro se litigants may encounter problems in filing and serving documents as they adapt to the service. To ease the transition, the Superior Court Clerk of Court’s Office will allow some flexibility and assistance with the new requirements.

¶ 4 **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that effective on the date of this Order, documents in all Superior Court case types, including criminal and small claims actions, shall be electronically filed and served in compliance with the E-filing Rules. This Order supersedes General Order 2006-301, which limited the case types to be e-filed and served. Further guidance on e-filing and service may be issued.

¹ This Court also mandated that all filings in the Supreme Court are to be electronically filed and served. *See* General Order 2006-302 (May 30, 2006).

ENTERED this 6th day of April, 2020.

/s/

ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
Chief Justice

/s/

JOHN A. MANGLONA
Associate Justice

/s/

PERRY B. INOS
Associate Justice