

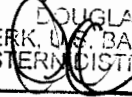
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

FILED

MAR 26 2020

IN RE:)
)
TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF)
ORIGINAL SIGNATURE)
REQUIREMENTS IN RESPONSE TO)
COVID-19)

General Order 20-7

DOUGLAS E. WEDGE
CLERK, U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA
BY:  DEPUTY

Because of the developing issues with the COVID-19 virus, the national and state declarations of emergency by the President of the United States and the Governor of Oklahoma, and the Centers for Disease Control advising that individuals should engage in social distancing to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the Court is **TEMPORARILY** suspending requirements to obtain original signatures. Specifically:

1. For all documents that require an original signature, the Court hereby suspends any requirement that a registered user secure the signer's original signature prior to filing or electronically filing such documents **on the condition that**, prior to filing, the registered user has verified with the signer that the signer has received the entire document(s) to be signed, communicated with the signer regarding the substance and purpose of the signed document(s), and
 - a. Obtained the signer's digital signature via any commercially available digital signature software that provides signature authentication, and will maintain a copy of the digitally signed document(s) in the case file; or
 - b. Obtained express written permission (including electronic mail) from the signer to affix the signer's signature to the document(s), and will maintain a hard copy thereof in the file; or

- c. Obtained in his or her possession at the time of filing an image format or other facsimile of the entire signed document(s), include the signature page(s) received electronically (including by electronic mail or facsimile) from the signer, and will maintain a hard copy thereof in the file.
2. The filing of the document(s) with an electronic signature constitutes a certification by the registered user under Bankruptcy Rule 9011, all other applicable rules, and this Order that the registered user either has obtained the signer's original signature or has complied with paragraph 1 of this Order. On written request (including electronic transmission) by any party in interest, the registered user shall promptly provide evidence to the requesting party of compliance with the terms of this Order.

This **TEMPORARY** suspension will remain in effect until further order of the Court, at which time requirements to obtain original signatures will resume.

SO ORDERED this 26th day of March, 2020.

s/Janice D. Loyd
JANICE D. LOYD
CHIEF U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE