

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
FOR THE  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY

IN RE: )  
)  
TEMPORARY MODIFICATION OF )  
REQUIREMENTS REGARDING AUTHORIZED )  
ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES AND )  
REQUIREMENTS OF DEBTOR’S COUNSEL TO )  
OBTAIN “WET-INK” SIGNATURES PRIOR TO )  
FILING VERIFIED PAPERS )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )  
)

GENERAL ORDER 2020-3

In response to the outbreak of the Coronavirus/COVID-19 virus, the national and state declarations of emergency by the President of the United States and the Governor of Kentucky, and the guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and local and state health officials, this Court will temporarily modify the requirements articulated by Fed.R.Bank.P. 9011, this Court’s Administrative Manual, and the local procedures of this Court developed pursuant to the Kentucky Bar Association’s guidelines regarding electronic and “wet-ink” signatures to provide that:

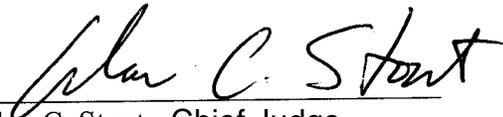
**EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, and until further Order of the Court,** the electronic filing of a Verified Paper, including the Voluntary Petition, is permitted if the debtor’s counsel either:

1. has complied with all Federal and Local Rules, this Court’s procedures, and applicable Kentucky Bar Association guidelines as referenced above, and has obtained “wet-ink” signatures in advance of the filing of said document; or
2. chooses to file electronically the Verified Paper without the original signature in counsel’s possession, provided that such electronic filing constitutes a certification by debtor’s counsel that the debtor has signed it, and that at the time of filing, the debtor’s counsel is in possession of an image format or other facsimile of the document, including the signature page, received from the debtor by electronic transmission (including email and text transmission) or by facsimile transmission. If the Verified paper is filed electronically without the original signature in counsel’s

possession, it shall be filed with the signature in image format (which may be filed as an attachment to or separate entry from said paper filed the same day). Such filing constitutes a representation and certification that debtor's counsel previously transmitted the entire Verified Paper to the debtor for review and signature; communicated with the debtor regarding the substance and purpose of the Verified Paper; received the entire Verified Paper, including the signature page, back from the debtor electronically; and received express authorization to file the Verified Paper on the debtor's behalf. Within thirty (30) days of filing the Verified Paper, debtor's counsel shall file a certification that counsel has received the debtor's signature and will maintain it pursuant to Federal and Local Rules, this Court's local procedures, and all applicable Kentucky Bar Association guidelines.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

FOR THE COURT:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Alan C. Stout". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

Alan C. Stout , Chief Judge  
United States Bankruptcy Judge

Dated: March 19, 2020