## FILE

25 Sep 2024 3:05 pm

JAMES P. CONWAY
RENO JUSTICE COURT
BY C.Kinkead
DEPUTY CLERK

CONVERSION RULES

IN THE JUSTICE COURT OF RENO TOWNSHIP
COUNTY OF WASHOE, STATE OF NEVADA

IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER OF
THE NEVADA ELECTRONIC FILING AND

## **ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2024-01**

Pursuant to NRS 4.157(c) and JCRRT 21, the Chief Justice of the Peace of Reno Township hereby enters this Administrative Order regarding the Nevada Electronic Filing and Conversion Rules.

On June 26, 2024 the Nevada Supreme Court entered an order in ADKT 0615. The order repealed and replaced the previous version of the Nevada Electronic Filing and Conversion Rules (NEFCR). The updated version of the rules requires certain parties to register with the Court's electronic filing system (EFS) and to electronically file all case-related documents through the EFS. See NEFCR 4-5. The rules do not specifically require self-represented litigants to electronically file all case related documents, but they do require almost all other litigants, attorneys, court staff, and other interested parties to file all case-related documents through a court's EFS. Since self-represented litigants are not required to file documents through the EFS, but other parties are required to do so, the parties who are required to file documents through the EFS may not have a manner to electronically serve self-represented litigants.

Additionally, NEFCR 5(b) creates restrictions on which parties are allowed to submit documents to a court via an EFS, stating in pertinent part that "self-represented litigants who are registered users are prohibited from submitting documents on behalf of another litigant."

RJC's administration has reviewed the current practices within this Court to assess their compliance with the revised NEFCR. A review of those practices indicates that they do not comply with the updated rules. Specifically, the Court's EFS allows litigants to create two different types of accounts: a firm account or a self-represented litigant account. Firm accounts are intended only for attorneys and law firms who are permitted to file documents on the behalf of clients. Self-represented litigant accounts, on the other hand, are available for non-attorney litigants who are solely filing on their own behalf or, in very limited circumstances, on the behalf of other parties such as non-attorneys who are allowed to represent business entities in small claims cases or property owners' agents who are permitted to file landlord affidavits in summary eviction cases. *See* NRS 73.012 and NRS 40.253(5)(a). In reviewing the Court's practices, the Court has discovered that numerous non-attorney parties have opened firm accounts and have been filing documents on the behalf of other parties.

Accordingly, and good cause appearing, the Court hereby orders as follows.

- 1) Any self-represented litigant who is not required to electronically file all case related documents pursuant to NEFCR 4(a) and this Order is, nonetheless, required to register for the Court's EFS for the purposes of establishing an e-mail address to accept service of documents. Moreover, any self-represented litigant who files documents into more than five civil cases within a calendar year shall file all case-related documents through the Court's EFS.
- 2) Only attorneys and their authorized users are permitted to submit documents through a "firm" account. Court administration may reject for filing any documents submitted by non-attorneys through a "firm" account.

- 3) Parties with a self-represented litigant account are prohibited from filing any documents on the behalf of any other litigant, except in specific cases where they are authorized to do so by statute, court rule, or court policy. Such exceptions include non-attorneys who are allowed to represent business entities in small claims cases pursuant to NRS 73.012 and property owners' agents who are permitted to file landlord affidavits in summary eviction cases pursuant to NRS 40.253(5)(a). However, in such circumstances the documents filed into the case must be filed through the account of the individual who is named as the entity's authorized agent in the applicable pleadings.
- 4) This Order does not apply to case documents and case types in which electronic filing is not available.
- 5) Court administration may create additional written policies and procedures regarding e-filing that are consistent with the NEFCR, this Order, and all other applicable rules and laws.
- 6) Any party may file a motion to be exempted from these requirements for good cause.
- 7) This Order shall take effect on October 7, 2024.

DATED this day of September 2024.

3:01 pm, Sep 25 2024

RYANK SULLIVAN

CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

RENO JUSTICE COURT

**DEPARTMENT 3**