



STATE OF NEW YORK
UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
SUPREME COURT, CIVIL BRANCH
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JONATHAN LIPPMAN
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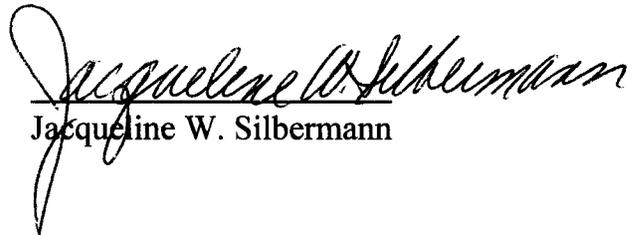
JACQUELINE W. SILBERMANN
Administrative Judge
First Judicial District
Supreme Court, Civil Branch

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

Pursuant to the authority vested in me as Administrative Judge, I hereby direct that all actions and special proceedings that may be initiated in this court arising out of or relating to the steam pipe explosion that occurred on July 18, 2007 at 41st Street and Lexington Avenue in Manhattan, whether the matters involve tort claims or not and whether the City of New York is named as a party or not, shall be assigned to Honorable Paul G. Feinman (Part 52). A copy of this Administrative Order shall be annexed to each Request for Judicial Intervention as may hereafter be filed in any case of the kind set forth above.

It is obvious that any such actions for damages as may be brought would be appropriate for electronic filing, which will benefit counsel and the clients, as well as the court and the County Clerk. Part 52 is an electronic filing Part. If such an action is commenced through the filing of papers in hard copy format, counsel for the plaintiff(s) shall promptly serve upon counsel for defendants a copy of this Administrative Order and the attached summary of the electronic filing program. Counsel who do not have electronic filing IDs and Passwords or who are unfamiliar with the program may arrange for training (for which two CLE credits are awarded at no charge), obtain assistance in completing the necessary paperwork, and have their questions answered by contacting the Electronic Filing Resource Center (Room 119), which can be reached by phone (646-386-3033) or e-mail (efile@courts.state.ny.us).

Dated: July 25, 2007


Jacqueline W. Silbermann

SUPREME COURT, CIVIL BRANCH NEW YORK COUNTY

ELECTRONIC FILING

The Supreme Court, Civil Branch, New York County actively employs the electronic filing program of the New York State court system. This program is available in the Supreme Court in 17 counties across the State, where it has been authorized in tort, commercial, and tax certiorari cases and, in one county, in all case types, as well as in the Court of Claims and five Surrogate's Courts statewide. Approximately 65,000 cases have been e-filed thus far and there are 5,300 registered users of the system.

In this program, papers are submitted to the court and filed via computer. They are also served (once jurisdiction is acquired) in the same way. Decisions and orders of the court are posted on the system by the court and counsel receive instantaneous notice of same and immediate access thereto.

Electronic filing offers many benefits for clients and attorneys. Attorneys can commence actions or serve papers at any hour of the day or night, any day of the week. Once the case is commenced, service can be effectuated with great ease through the e-filing system. There is no need to serve any paper by messenger, mail, or delivery service. Whenever a document is placed on the site, including by the court, all consenting parties receive instantaneous notice by e-mail. For example, when the court decides a motion, the attorneys are immediately notified and can obtain a copy of the decision from the electronic file. All attorneys on a case can have immediate access to the case file, including simultaneously, from any computer anywhere at any time of any day. An electronic docket makes working with the file easy and convenient and provides a useful history of proceedings in the case. Court fees can be paid by credit card using the system. Electronic filing renders unnecessary a great many trips to the courthouse.

Furthermore, the system is easy to learn and simple to use. Since it resembles the software in place in the Federal courts, many practitioners will have substantial familiarity with the program before they even begin to use it. In order to use the system, an attorney need only have common hardware and software.

Should a party seek to seal a file or papers pursuant to Part 216 of the Uniform Rules, the system has the capability of implementing the action directed by the court. The software also permits a filer to designate a document as "secure" when it contains certain information; the result of the designation is that only the parties to the case may view the secure document on-line, although the file remains open to the public at the courthouse (unless sealed pursuant to Part 216).

The Electronic Filing Resource Center of our court (Room 119 at the Courthouse, 60 Centre Street) provides training in and information about our electronic filing system. We offer a regular two-hour training course which provides two CLE credits at no charge. A Practice System is a part of the program and this permits users to gain experience with the workings of the software before using it in a real case. The Resource Center is available to assist attorneys as they make filings and whenever they have questions. In order to use the Practice System and the Live System, an attorney must obtain User IDs (one for each system), which, among other things, generate an electronic signature for purposes of Part 130 of the Rules of the Chief Administrator. The ID for the Live System can be used in a multiplicity of cases.

For more information about electronic filing, to schedule training, or to request an ID, please contact the Resource Center at 646-386-3033 or by e-mail at efile@courts.state.ny.us.

Dated: June 1, 2007

**HON. JACQUELINE W. SILBERMANN
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE**