



NEW YORK STATE

Unified Court System

OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION

JUSTIN BARRY, ESQ.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CHRISTOPHER GIBSON
DIRECTOR, OCA DIVISION OF E-FILING

To: Bar Associations, Legal Service Providers, Attorneys, and Other Interested Persons and Organizations

From: Christopher Gibson, Director, OCA Division of E-Filing



Date: December 16, 2024

Re: New York State Courts Electronic Filing Program

The NYS Office of Court Administration will be submitting its annual electronic filing report on February 1, 2025, to the Legislature, the Governor, and the Chief Judge evaluating the State's experience with the New York State Courts Electronic Filing System (NYSCEF). OCA's Division of E-Filing has in years past invited your comments on electronic filing and the NYSCEF system, and once again your invaluable comments for inclusion in this year's report is sought.

For those that might not be aware, I am excited to inform you that Governor Hochul has recently signed the long-sought e-filing expansion bill, which amends CPLR Article 21-A and other relevant statutes permitting the Chief Administrative Judge (CAJ) to institute e-filing in all of the State's trial courts. This legislation, supported by many of you including the New York State Bar Association, The Legal Aid Society, and *The Commission to Reimagine the Future of New York's Courts* and its *Working Groups*,¹ creates a more efficient and effective court system in New York State, and does not alter the requirements of the CAJ to consult in advance of any expansion with the Bar, legal service providers, County Clerks in Supreme Court matters, District Attorneys, and other groups who would be affected by such electronic filing. Further, unrepresented persons continue to be exempt from e-filing unless they affirmatively choose to participate. Moreover, attorneys in cases in which e-filing is otherwise required continue to be able to opt out of e-filing if they lack the equipment or knowledge to participate. Finally, the enacted measure does not alter current requirements of confidentiality in the treatment of actions that require it.

In order that we may have the time needed to prepare the report due February 1, 2025, I ask that as a group, an individual member of a group, or any interested person and/or attorney, submit your **comments by January 17, 2025.**

¹ Created in June 2020 and charged with making recommendations to improve the delivery and quality of justice services, facilitate access to justice, and to examine technological and other innovations and to make recommendations to better equip the UCS to keep up with society's rapid evolving challenges/changes. Further information about the Commission and its work is available at: <https://www.nycourts.gov/reimagine-the-future/mission.shtml>

Comments should be sent by e-mail or regular mail to either of the following addresses:

Christopher Gibson, Director
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Office of Court Administration
25 Beaver Street, Room 926
New York, New York 10004
efilingcomments@nycourts.gov

Looking forward to your comments.

cc: Hon. Joseph A. Zayas, Chief Administrative Judge
Hon. Norman St. George, First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge
Justin Barry, Esq., Executive Director, NYS Office of Court Administration
David Nocenti, Esq., Counsel, NYS Office of Court Administration
Mindy Jeng, Esq., Special Counsel to the Executive Director, NYS OCA
Anthony Perri, Esq., First Deputy Counsel, NYS Office of Court Administration
Phyllis Mingione, Esq., Chief Management Analyst, NYS OCA Division of E-Filing