

Maricopa Lawyer
Clerk's Corner
September 2009 (October Issue)

By Michael K. Jeanes, Clerk of the Superior Court

Email Yes, Paper No

Arizona Supreme Court Administrative Order 2009-43 requires that every attorney practicing in a state superior or appellate court must designate and maintain an e-mail address with each Court and Clerk's Office in which they practice. Also, every filing and pleading filed with the Court must include the attorney's e-mail address. To review the Administrative Order, go to: <http://www.supreme.state.az.us/orders/admorder/Orders09/2009-43.pdf>.

Beginning October 1, 2009, the Clerk of the Superior Court in Maricopa County will distribute all minute entries for adult and juvenile cases to attorneys via e-mail. Minute entries will continue to be distributed via first class mail for the first 15 days following implementation only. Minute entries on sealed cases and Court Administration notices will be the only minute entries that will continue to be sent via first class mail to attorneys.

To assist you in submitting your e-mail address for electronic receipt of minute entries, there is an internet web-based registration page. Please go to http://www.clerkofcourt.maricopa.gov/attydistributionchange_form.asp to complete the registration process for this Court.

Attorneys may continue to access minute entries for adult superior court cases that they are a party to via the Electronic Court Record (ECR) Online. To register for the ECR Online and view documents, go to <http://www.ecrclerkofcourt.maricopa.gov>. Minute entries for adult superior court cases are also available online via the Clerk's minute entry website at <http://www.courtminutes.maricopa.gov>.

For questions about receiving minute entries electronically, please contact Clerk's Office Distribution Supervisor Mark Leong via email at leongm@cosc.maricopa.gov or by phone at (602) 506-3283, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

We appreciate your cooperation and assistance in making these changes that allow us to serve our customers more efficiently and economically during difficult budget times.

eAppeals Successful

The Clerk's Office successfully submitted the first electronic transmission of a record on appeal from the Superior Court in Maricopa County to Division One of Arizona's Court of Appeals on August 27. The first case transferred electronically was a Probate case with 257 documents. The next day, the records on appeal for four Family Court cases were filed electronically with the Court of Appeals. Established by Supreme Court Administrative Order 2009-80, eAppeals are part of a pilot project between the Clerk of

the Superior Court in Maricopa County and the Court of Appeals, Division One, and is one aspect of all courts in Arizona moving toward eFiling and electronic business practices.

eFilings Trending Upward

Electronic filings increased by more than 33% between December 2008 and August 2009. The Arizona Supreme Court authorized permissive eFiling in the Superior Court in Maricopa County effective December 2008. This action makes it possible for self-represented litigants and attorneys to choose to eFile in general civil cases, in criminal trial divisions and in several family court divisions. Case initiating documents and other documents specified in the eFiling Guidelines must still be filed on paper, but most filings can now be filed electronically in the case types listed above. The Court's authorization and the Clerk's ongoing promotion and training in eFiling throughout the summer have resulted in more firms and attorneys taking advantage of the ease and availability of eFiling. Permissive eFiling is in addition to the ongoing pilot in several civil divisions that identify individual cases or entire division caseloads for mandatory eFiling. For more information about eFiling or to register to eFile, visit <https://efiling.clerkofcourt.maricopa.gov> .