

# THE

# BRIEF

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An electronic update for the legal community providing a brief look at news in the Clerk of the Superior Court's Office



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Michael K. Jeanes,  
Clerk of the Superior Court

## eSignatures Case

Focusing on the intent of the signer and pointing to the policies supporting electronic court programs, the Arizona Supreme Court recently held that a judge's electronic signature satisfies the requirements of court rule that judgments be signed. The case is *Haywood Securities v. Workum* (real parties in interest), CV-06-0280-SA, and is available on the Supreme Court's website.

The standard for eFiled signatures in Maricopa County Superior Court is a "block s" followed by the printed name of the signer (such as /s/ *Jane Doe Attorney*). When eFiling in Superior Court, attorneys registered on the eFile system may insert the "block s" eSignature and eFile or print the intended filing, sign with traditional ink, and scan the document for eFiling. Most eFilings that are rejected by the Clerk of the Court's Office are due to a lack of a signature on the pleading.

## Image Repository Growing

If you're looking for a document in a recent case, chances are you'll find its image in the Clerk's image repository. Paper filings in adult case types have been scanned and imaged in the Clerk's Office since 2002. Last year, the Office scanned 2,883,845 documents containing 9,095,136 pages. In total, the Clerk's electronic repository contains over 40,000,000 images. While these images are generally only available to the public by visiting one of the Clerk's public access terminals located at Clerk's Offices throughout the valley, attorneys will soon have remote access to the public documents filed in cases with which they are associated as attorney of record. This development will allow attorneys to see all public documents filed in their cases.

## Third Term for Clerk

Michael Jeanes was sworn-in as Clerk of the Superior Court on January 2 to serve a third four-year term as the official record keeper and financial officer for the Superior Court in Maricopa County. Since Mr. Jeanes' appointment to the position in 1998 by Governor Jane D. Hull, the Maricopa County Superior Court has consistently been recognized as one of the 10 largest court systems in the nation in the fourth most populous county in the nation. Keeping ahead of demand in this environment has been the hallmark of the Clerk's initiatives in Maricopa County. The Clerk's Office looks forward to Michael's continued implementation of the Clerk's vision to anticipate, meet, and exceed the expectations of our customers.