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Clerk of the Superior Court

Civil Filings to be Rejected

Effective **May 1, 2009**, the new statewide civil cover sheet must accompany new civil case filings. New civil cases filed without the new cover sheet will be rejected. The Maricopa County version of the new civil cover sheet is available at <http://www.clerkofcourt.maricopa.gov/faxondemand/204.pdf>.

eFilings Tips and FAQs

As electronic filing continues, the processes surrounding eFiling are improving based on user input. Free training is available at the Clerk's Office or training is available at CLEs through the State and County Bar Associations. The following tips will help when eFiling:

Fast, but not immediate: eFiling is available 24 hours-a-day, seven days per week, but a review clerk will not always be available to immediately review eFilings. Allow at least one business day before calling to check on an eFiling. Do not wait until a filing deadline, as your filing could be rejected after review.

The judges are watching: When an eFiling is **accepted**, a courtesy copy is automatically forwarded to the assigned judicial officer. You are not required to provide a copy to the division, but you do need to serve the other parties.

Fees: There aren't many fees when eFiling, but when there is one, call 602-506-2565 to pay with a Visa or MasterCard, or send a runner to the Clerk's Office with payment. The Clerk's Office will not process the filing until payment is received.

Document titles: Enter the complete title of the document being filed in the document title field. Do not use abbreviations. To save time, you can copy a document's title from the original and paste it into the document title field.

Review Clerk comments: The review clerks may add comments to both accepted and rejected filings. Check all the emails from the Clerk's Office for additional information that may be useful or instructive.

Water Case Turns 30

The Gila River General Stream Adjudication (more commonly known as The Water Case) reaches a 30th anniversary milestone on April 24, 2009. Starting as petitions filed with the State Land Department to determine conflicting water rights for the Salt, Verde, Gila and San Pedro Rivers, the cases were transferred to the Superior Court in the counties where the original petitions were filed. The Arizona Supreme Court consolidated the adjudications, which were transferred to the Superior Court in Maricopa County and assigned case number W-1, W-2, W-3 and W-4 (Consolidated), *In re the General Adjudication of All Rights to Use Water in the Gila River System and Source*. The objective is the judicial determination or establishment of the extent and priority of the water rights of all persons to use a river system. More than 26,000 water users, in 14 of Arizona's 15 counties, have filed nearly 82,000 water right claims. Claimants are the State of Arizona, the United States, Indian tribes, cities, towns, mines, farmers, cattle growers, water providers, and domestic well users.