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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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Remember email address on pleadings

Tearly two years ago, the Supreme Court issued Administrative Order 2009-043 as one way to reduce court costs and clarify court policy on the electronic distribution of documents. Effective July 1, 2009, the administrative order required every attorney to designate and maintain an e-mail address on each filing and pleading filed with a county superior or state appellate court. The administrative order further requires that attorneys filing in the state appellate courts receive documents from those courts electronically. Two years after the Court's directive, some pleadings are missing the required email address or the attorneys have changed their email address without updating the information on their filings. This causes several problems, including attorneys not receiving documents from the courts and the attorneys' violation of court rule and any related violation of the rules of ethics. To ensure you and your clients remain in contact with the courts and to avoid a potentially embarrassing and time-consuming interaction with the courts about document format, remember to include the attorney's current email address on all filings and pleadings.

Access to Family Court Records

fter a public comment period, the Superior Court has issued Administrative Order 2011-030 vacating a prior Order that restricted access to family court records. The new Order restores public access to family court records at the time they are docketed by the Clerk. For the last nine months, initial family court filings were closed to the public for 45 days to allow the petitioner to serve the respondent. This timeframe was intended, in part, to allow parties to make arrangements for a safe transition of the family unit during what can be a volatile time. Although acknowledging the court's good intentions; parties, attorneys, law enforcement and domestic violence prevention advocates informed the court that the limited access policy had negative effects that outweighed the intended protections. Access to family court public records returned to its former status effective April 1, 2011.

AZTurboCourt Reminder

Dursuant to Supreme Court Administrative Order 2010-117, the expansion of AZTurboCourt for mandatory eFiling in L civil cases in the Superior Court in Maricopa County continues. Effective April 1, 2011, eFiling through AZTurboCourt is mandatory for attorneys employed by a law firm, partnership or similar business entity whose firm name begins with the letters L-R. These attorneys join those already required to eFile through AZTurboCourt: firms whose name begins with the letters A – K and attorneys employed by the government, courts, non-profit organizations and corporate counsel. AZTurboCourt is administered by the Arizona Supreme Court, Administrative Office of the Courts. More information about AZTurboCourt is available at http://www.azcourts.gov.