

It's a New Year: Two administrative orders affect e-filing, and ClerkNet is enhanced

Mandatory e-filing for mortgage foreclosure cases- Administrative Order 2008-14.1

With the Courts experiencing an unprecedented number of mortgage foreclosures, Chief Judge Lee E. Haworth signed Administrative Order Number 2008-14.1 mandating e-filing of Mortgage Foreclosures in Manatee & Sarasota Counties. The order became effective 12/1/08.

Modification of DIVISION H case assignment- Administrative Order 2008-13.2

A recent administrative order signed by Chief Judge Lee E. Haworth restricts new filings in Division H to family cases only. As a result, the Clerk changed the e-filing system by eliminating the option to select the case type *circuit civil South County* except for family cases. Some e-filers were confused by this, and decided to select the case type *county civil South County* when filing their circuit cases. This caused a problem for the Clerk's office, requiring these cases to be re-filed in the correct court. If you want to know more about e-filing, go to www.SarasotaClerk.com's homepage and look under *What's New*.

ClerkNet offers new Notification Feature

If an attorney wants to know the progress of a case without taking the time to research the status, ClerkNet's new notification module can help. ClerkNet now offers a "watch list" feature: The authorized attorney user simply logs in to ClerkNet, opens the case of interest and selects a "subscribe" button, and from that point on, will receive an email notification when subsequent documents are placed in the file. In addition, the email notification will contain list of all the cases being "watched", with a link to each new document. There are two caveats to using this new feature: One, the attorney must be an active e-filer registered for ClerkNet, and two, cases must not be confidential by law.

ClerkNet is a secure system that allows remote access to court case information and documents to those who are authorized under the law and administrative orders of the Court. The security to provide ClerkNet is managed through the e-filing system, therefore only those who e-file may take advantage of remote access.

It is expected that both Counsels for the Plaintiff and Defendant will find this feature extremely helpful. Because ClerkNet is not limited to the attorney of record, it is expected that this case watch feature will also serve attorneys who do not represent the parties, but have an interest in the progress of a case. The next enhancement scheduled to be delivered by summer 2009 will allow attorneys of record to view confidential matters.

For more information on how an attorney can register for ClerkNet and subscribe to the notification feature, go to www.SarasotaClerk.com and select "E-filing and ClerkNet information" from the Quick Links, or contact the Clerk of the Circuit Court at clerkinfo@scgov.net.