

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS

Misc. No. 07-21

IN RE: E-Rules

O R D E R

The Court has determined that E-Rule 1(a)(2) – Definitions and E-Rule 10 – Electronic Signatures of its Case Management/Electronic Case Filing System (CM/ECF) E-Rules should be amended to clarify that the Court does not object to the use of electronic signatures from a commercial provider that complies with the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act (ESIGN) (15 U.S.C. § 7001). The Court has benefitted from the views of its Rules Advisory Committee regarding this matter.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the attached revised E-Rule 1(a)(2) – Definitions and E-Rule 10 – Electronic Signatures are hereby published and effective this date.

DATED: February 25, 2021

FOR THE COURT:

/s/Gregory O. Block  
GREGORY O. BLOCK  
Clerk of the Court

Attachments:

Revised E-Rule 1(a)(2)

Revised E-Rule 10

## E- Rule 1(a)(2) Definitions

The term "electronic signature" refers to an electronic symbol attached to or associated with an electronic document and executed or adopted with the intent to sign the document. An electronic signature shall be positioned on a document in the place where a signature would normally appear. To indicate the authority of the signatory, an electronic signature will typically consist of an "/s/" followed by the typed name and title of the signatory. The following is an example of how a document with an electronic signature will appear:

Submitted,

/s/ John S. Doe

John S. Doe, Attorney

In general, the "/s/" format for electronic signatures is used for CM/ECF Users' submissions; e-mail filings from self-represented parties, including informal briefs; an Appellant/Petitioner's electronic signature on Court forms; and any other relevant submission.

The Court will also accept an electronic signature from a commercial provider that complies with the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act (ESIGN) (15 U.S.C. § 7001), including on documents where multiple signatures may be present (e.g., a fee agreement).

## E-Rule 10: Electronic Signatures

(a) Electronic signatures are permitted as described in E-Rule 1(a)(2).

(b) CM/ECF Users are responsible for protecting the security and integrity of a CM/ECF User's log-in and password. No person may knowingly permit or cause to permit a CM/ECF User's log-in and password to be used by anyone other than an authorized agent of the CM/ECF User. *See* E-Rule 3(e).

(c) Electronic signatures are considered valid signatures. *See* E-Rule 1(a)(2). If any individual objects to the representation of his or her signature on an electronic document, he or she must, within 10 calendar days of its filing, file a notice setting forth the basis of the objection.