COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Supreme Judicial Court

At the Supreme Judicial Court holden at Boston within and for said Commonwealth on the seventh day of June, in the year of two thousand and twenty-three:

present,

KIMBERLY S. BUDD	
) Chief Justice
)
FRANK M. GAZIANO	<i>)</i> }
	,)
DAVID A. LOWY) Justices
)
ELSPETH B. CYPHER	<i>)</i>)
)
)
SCOTT L. KAFKER)
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DALILA ARGAEZ WENDLANDT	<i>,</i>)
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SERGE GEORGES, JR.)

ORDERED: That the Massachusetts Rules of Civil Procedure adopted by order dated July 13, 1973, as amended, to take effect on July 1, 1974, are hereby amended as follows:

Rule 77(f)

By inserting the following new first paragraph in Rule 77(f):

In all cases, whenever a judge or clerk is required to sign an order, judgment, or notification, the judge or clerk may

electronically sign. The electronic signature of a judge or clerk can take the form of either a scan of the individual's handwritten signature, an electronically inserted image intended to substitute for a signature, or a "/s/ name of signatory" block. Such electronic signature shall have the same force and effect as if the judge or clerk had affixed his or her original signature to a paper copy of the document so signed.

The amendment accomplished by this order shall take effect on September 1, 2023.

ORDERED:

KIMBERLY S. BUDD	
) Chief Justice
FRANK M. GAZIANO))
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DAVID A. LOWY) Justices)
ELSPETH B. CYPHER)))
SCOTT L. KAFKER))
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SERGE GEORGES, JR.))