

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

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

present,

<u>HON. RALPH D. GANTS</u>	)	Chief Justice
	)	
<u>HON. MARGOT BOTSFORD</u>	)	
	)	
	)	
<u>HON. BARBARA A. LENK</u>	)	Justices
	)	
	)	
<u>HON. GERALDINE S. HINES</u>	)	
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<u>HON. FRANK M. GAZIANO</u>	)	
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	)	
<u>HON. DAVID A. LOWY</u>	)	
	)	
	)	
<u>HON. KIMBERLY S. BUDD</u>	)	

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 5                   By inserting a new Rule 5(h) as follows:  
(h) Protection of Personal Identifying Information. Publicly accessible documents filed with the court shall conform to Supreme Judicial Court Rule 1:24, Protection of Personal Identifying Information in Publicly Accessible Court Documents.

The amendment accomplished by this order shall take effect on February 1, 2017.

ORDERED:

<u>RALPH D. GANTS</u>	)	Chief Justice
	)	
<u>MARGOT BOTSFORD</u>	)	
	)	
	)	
<u>BARBARA A. LENK</u>	)	Justices
	)	
	)	
<u>GERALDINE S. HINES</u>	)	
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<u>FRANK M. GAZIANO</u>	)	
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<u>DAVID A. LOWY</u>	)	
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<u>KIMBERLY S. BUDD</u>	)	

## **MASSACHUSETTS RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE**

### **Rule 5. Service and Filing of Pleadings and Other Papers**

#### **Reporter's Notes--2017**

The 2017 amendment, adding Rule 5(h), serves to alert attorneys, parties, and interested members of the public to the requirements of Supreme Judicial Court Rule 1:24, Protection of Personal Identifying Information in Publicly Accessible Court Documents (effective November 1, 2016). Under Supreme Judicial Court Rule 1:24, unless there is an exception, personal identifying information, such as social security numbers, parent's birth surnames, driver's license numbers, and financial account numbers, may not be included in documents filed in court unless redacted as set forth in the rule.