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THOMAS D. HALL
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SUPREME COURT

Judge Lisa Taylor Munyon, Chair
Florida Courts Technology Commission
c/o Office of the State Courts Administrator
500 S. Duval Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1900

March 12, 2013

The Honorable Ricky L. Polston
Chief Justice, Florida Supreme Court
Supreme Court Building
500 South Duval Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1900

Re: Florida Courts Technology Commission – E-filings via the E-Portal

Dear Chief Justice Polston:

At the last meeting of the Florida Courts Technology Commission (FCTC), the FCTC approved a motion to recommend to the Court that the following be clarified:

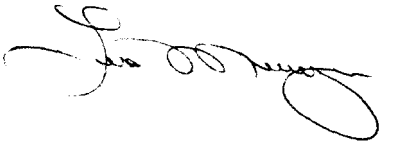
1. Initial criminal filings initiated by law enforcement agencies, such as arrest or probable cause affidavits, should not be required to be filed through the statewide portal if all required data elements are captured by the clerk's CMS and reported to the state. Many local jurisdictions have established systems for the electronic transmission of the initial law enforcement paperwork between corrections facilities, state attorneys' offices, and the clerk. The commission did not believe that the statewide portal could or should supersede these existing systems.

2. Judges should not be required to file through the portal and should be allowed to file directly with the local clerk through the clerk's local CMS system. The FCTC did not believe that it was desirable to require judges to go through the portal to file with the clerk of their court. In addition, some circuits have developed the ability to electronically file orders directly with their clerk.

Either of these positions could be revisited in the future once the statewide portal is more robust and provides services that would make its use more efficient than the present practices outlined above.

On behalf of the FCTC, I am submitting to the court for review and approval the above recommendation. I am available to answer any questions you may have. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,



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