UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN AND WESTERN DISTRICTS OF ARKANSAS

GENERAL ORDER 23

Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure 5005(a)(2), 9029, and 9036 authorize this Court to establish practices and procedures for the filing, signing, maintaining, and verification of pleadings and papers by electronic means.

It is therefore **ORDERED** that all pleadings and documents required to be filed with the Court, in connection with a case assigned to the Court's Electronic Case Filing ("**ECF**") System, shall be electronically filed effective January 1, 2003. Electronic filing shall mean filed over the internet using the Court's ECF System. Orders submitted in open court shall be announced and then submitted either on diskette or CD in Portable Document Format ("**PDF format**"), or e-mailed in PDF format. Filers filing pleadings and/or documents via paper will be issued an Order to Show Cause as to why they can not file electronically, and will be requested to appear before this Court.

Exceptions to this required procedure for electronically filing documents and pleadings include:

(1) Documents under seal.

(2) Pleadings and/or documents submitted by Parties without legal representation.

(3) Proofs of Claim filed by a creditor who is not a registered user of ECF.

(4) Filer's Internet failure.

Filers experiencing Internet failure shall submit a pleading and/or document on diskette or CD in PDF format with an "Affidavit and Request to File" attached. The Clerk's Office will electronically file the pleading and/or document on behalf of the filer.

(5) Court's Internet failure.

If a filer attempts to electronically file a pleading and/or document but cannot do so because ECF is not accessible, the filer shall print the notification that ECF is not accessible, and submit it with the pleading and/or document to be filed either on diskette or CD in PDF format.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: October 23, 2002.

JAMES G. MIXON
Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge

AUDREY R. EVANS
U.S. Bankruptcy Judge

ROBERT F. FUSSELL
U.S. Bankruptcy Judge