July 22, 2009

SPECIAL NOTICE

Dear Friends,

As you are aware, the Madison County Chancery Court has been serving as the pilot court for testing and implementation of the Mississippi Electronic Court system ("MEC") – an electronic filing, docketing, and case management system modeled on the federal court system known as CM/ECF. By special Order of our Chancellors, effective immediately, attorneys may voluntarily participate in our pilot test by filing pleadings electronically in cases bearing cause number 2008-0425 and forward. The Order provides specific instructions on what and how to file electronically, and it requires attorney registration. To view the Order and register, please visit the MEC website www.mssc.state.ms.us/mec. In addition, you should review and study the Administrative Procedures found on the MEC website.

Many of you have become accustomed to receiving the Notices of Electronic Filing (NEF) which are generated automatically by the MEC upon completion of the filing and e-mailed, and which contain a link to the pleading which has been docketed. Please note that from henceforth, only those attorneys who have registered for MEC will receive NEFs and the associated pleading by email. Therefore, if you wish to continue receiving NEFs, please visit the MEC website and register.

Finally, the court's Order provides that use of MEC will become <u>mandatory</u> for all MEC cases <u>beginning September 15, 2009</u>. After that date, all cases will become MEC cases after a single pleading has been docketed in paper form. We will, therefore, very quickly arrive at a point in which all Madison County Chancery Court cases are MEC cases and subject to e-filing and the governing Administrative Procedures.

On a related matter, please be sure to use the most current version of the Civil Case Cover Sheet, a copy of which is also available on the Supreme Court's website – <u>www.mssc.state.ms.us/forms</u>

Thank you for helping us in this landmark effort to develop a user-friendly e-filing system, and, as always, do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Arthur Johnston Chancery Clerk