

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
DISTRICT OF VERMONT**

In re:

Extension of Standing Orders # 20-10 and # 20-13

- (i) Modifying the Original Signature Requirement for Non-Attorneys, under Vt. LBR. 9011-4(c), and**
(ii) Modifying Attorneys' Duty to Maintain Original Documents, under Vt. LBR. 9011-1(b),
in Response to the Exigent Circumstances Created by COVID-19, and the Preventative Measures Enacted in Response to the Pandemic Through April 2, 2021

**STANDING ORDER
20-15**

On June 24, 2020, this Court issued Standing Order # 20-13 to extend the relief set out in Standing Order # 20-10, which

- (i) modified the original signature requirement of non-attorneys set out in Vt. LBR. 9011-4(c),
- (ii) modified attorneys' duty to maintain original documents, under Vt. LBR. 9011-1(b), and
- (iii) expired on November 30, 2020, unless this Court ordered otherwise.

Since entry of these Standing Orders, there have been no challenges to the authenticity or sufficiency of any signature presented pursuant to that Standing Order. Additionally, the feedback the bar has offered regarding the value and effect of that Standing Order has been uniformly positive.

Since it appears (a) there is no actual or perceived diminution in the quality or reliability of the documents filed pursuant to the modifications authorized by Standing Orders ## 20-10 and 20-13; (b) the coronavirus pandemic, and the restrictions flowing from it, which led to the entry of Standing Orders ## 20-10 and 20-13, continue to impede attorneys' ability to obtain original signatures from some of their clients; and (c) it is reasonable to expect all of these circumstances are likely to continue for several months, **THE COURT FINDS** good cause to continue the modification of both the original signature requirement and original document retention rules of Vt. LBR. 9011-4(c) and 9011-1(b).

Accordingly, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** the relief set forth in Standing Order ## 20-10 and 20-13 shall remain in effect **through April 2, 2021**, unless the Court orders otherwise.

SO ORDERED.

November 2, 2020
Burlington, Vermont



Colleen A. Brown
United States Bankruptcy Judge