

LEGAL NOTICE NO. 11

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

THE SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE ACT, CHAP. 4:01

RULES

MADE BY THE RULES COMMITTEE UNDER SECTION 78 OF THE SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE ACT AND SUBJECT TO NEGATIVE RESOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT

THE CIVIL PROCEEDINGS (AMENDMENT) RULES, 2022

1. These Rules may be cited as the Civil Proceedings (Amendment) Citation Rules, 2022.
2. In these Rules, “the Rules” means the Civil Proceedings Rules, Interpretation 1998.
3. Part 2 of the Rules is amended—Part 2
amended
 - (a) in rule 2.3 by inserting in the appropriate alphabetical sequence, the following definitions:
 - “**electronically verified copy**” means a court document which has been authenticated and verified using the Judiciary’s E-vrfy System and is effective as an office copy, as may be required;
 - “**E-vrfy**” is the Judiciary’s Document Authentication and Verification system;
 - “**office copy**” shall be construed as a reference to an electronically verified copy of a court document;”.

4. Part 43 of the Rules is amended—Part 43
amended
 - (a) in rule 43.5—
 - (i) by revoking sub-rule (5) and substituting the following sub-rule:

“(5) Every judgment or order drawn up by the court or a party shall be issued and transmitted electronically, unless otherwise directed by the court.”; and
 - (ii) by inserting after sub-rule (5), the following new sub-rule:

“(6) Every electronically issued order of the court shall bear the Judiciary’s E-vrfy endorsement.”; and

(b) by revoking rule 43.13 and substituting the following rule:

“Electronically verified copy

43.13 (1) Every copy of a document issued by the court shall be an electronically verified copy and same shall—

- (a) bear the Judiciary’s E-vrfy endorsement;
- (b) be issued electronically; and
- (c) be transmitted electronically, unless the Registrar otherwise directs, upon the payment of the prescribed fee.

(2) Subject to the payment of any fees as prescribed, the court may supply an electronically verified copy of any document upon request to—

- (a) any party to the proceedings; or
- (b) any other person provided that the person provides a good reason for requiring it.

(3) A request may be either—

- (a) in writing to the court office; or
- (b) by oral application to the court, in which case, the court will make the appropriate direction.

(4) Sub-rules (2) and (3) shall apply to documents and copies of documents filed or issued by the court before and after the coming into force of this rule.

(5) Where a document or copy of a document was issued and transmitted in hardcopy or electronic form prior to the coming into force of this rule, that document or copy of that document shall remain valid and there shall be no requirement for the Judiciary’s E-vrfy endorsement.

(6) In this Part, “document” shall include any order, certificate, direction or any document filed or issued by the court in any proceeding.

(7) The Chief Justice may by practice direction prescribe, vary, suspend, waive or defer any fee including any transaction or processing fee taken by the Registrar from a person requesting an electronically verified copy of any order or any other document and the manner of payment of such fee.”.

Dated this 20th day of January, 2022.

I. ARCHIE
Chief Justice

C. PEMBERTON
Justice of Appeal

C. BROWNE-ANTOINE
Puisne Judge

F. AL-RAWI
Attorney General

A. FITZPATRICK s.c.
Attorney-at-law

S. INDARSINGH
Attorney-at-law

K. OLIVERIE
Registrar