

**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR  
THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE**

**IN RE:**

**RESUMPTION OF HANDWRITTEN  
SIGNATURE REQUIREMENT OF  
E.D. TENN. LBR 5005-4(h)**

**No. 2021-04**

**GENERAL ORDER**

Given the public health crisis due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the court entered General Order 2020-06 to temporarily suspend the requirements in E.D. Tenn. LBR 5005-4(h)(2) and (3) that actual handwritten signatures be obtained before certain documents can be filed. Paragraph (2) of subsection (h) requires actual handwritten signatures to appear on filed affidavits, declarations, verified documents, and reaffirmation agreements. Although paragraph (3) permits petitions, lists, schedules, statements, and other documents requiring a debtor's signature using "s/" followed by the debtor's typed name, the rule requires that the debtor must have actually signed a copy of the document.

Having found that the public health crisis has sufficiently diminished to allow resumption of normal operations, General Order 2020-06 is hereby rescinded, and the suspension of the requirements is terminated effective June 1, 2021. The requirements of E.D. Tenn. LBR 5005-4(h)(2) and (3) are reinstated as of that date.

ENTERED: May 20, 2021

/s/ Shelley D. Rucker  
SHELLEY D. RUCKER  
United States Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Suzanne H. Bauknight  
SUZANNE H. BAUKNIGHT  
United States Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Nicholas W. Whittenburg  
NICHOLAS W. WHITTENBURG  
United States Bankruptcy Judge