

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF FULTON COUNTY

STATE OF GEORGIA

STATE OF GEORGIA,	:	
	:	
v.	:	INDICTMENT NO.
	:	05SC29988
BRIAN NICHOLS	:	
	:	JUDGE HILTON M. FULLER
	:	

**STATEMENT OF THE COURT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC FILING**

In response to questions about electronic filing in this case, the court deems the following explanations to be appropriate:

1.

Through the use of electronic filing, the court and the attorneys in this case have equal and immediate access to all pleadings, orders and other documents the *instant* they are filed. There is no longer a need to wait for mailed copies or to request paper copies from the clerk's office. This feature is especially efficient in cases involving out-of-state counsel.

2.

When documents are e-filed, all parties are served instantaneously through the LexisNexis FileandServe electronic filing system. There can never be a question of when or if a party was served: the system preserves the notification of service, as well as the date and time each party is served.

3.

The clerk's paper file for a case of this nature is likely to be so large that its sheer size will render it unwieldy for practical use. With electronic filing, the record is maintained online, so that there is no longer a necessity to spend time poring over a lengthy case file to find a document or even to locate a reference sought in a particular brief.

4.

The record in the case will always be complete, accurate and up to date. Every document e-filed is printed in the clerk's office, and a paper record is maintained there in addition to the electronic log. Also, LexisNexis FileandServe checks the electronic record and keeps a second log of everything that is filed. That log is electronically backed up daily. Finally, because the parties have access to the entire record, the electronic files are always available to the attorneys so that they can check to make sure they have *actually* filed everything they *intended* to file.

5.

All the parties have equal access to filing with the electronic "clerk's office." The rush to the clerk's physical office to meet a deadline is thus eliminated. Any document can be e-filed directly from the attorney's desk up until 11:59pm on the date it is due.

6.

All e-filed documents can be read online; those parties with a Lexis.com research password can go straight to each case citation referenced in a e-filed document and review the reference while reading the document online. The speed and convenience of this feature will be appreciated by anyone who has ever done legal research. A separate Lexis.com is required in order to access legal citations within a document.

7.

The court wishes to thank R.M.Christian Brown and Dana Mercer of LexisNexis FileandServe. and the Clerk of Fulton County Superior Court for their assistance in implementing the electronic filing system for this case.

/S/ Hilton M. Fuller  
SENIOR JUDGE HILTON M. FULLER  
SUPERIOR COURT OF FULTON COUNTY  
ATLANTA JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
PRESIDING BY DESIGNATION

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