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"Robinson, Eliot S."
<Eliot.Robinson@Sterlingban
corp.com>

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To <Rules_Comments@ao.uscourts.gov>

cc

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Subject Comment on Proposed Admendment to FRCP Rule 5 (e)
Service and Filing of Pleadings and Other Papers - Filing
with the Court Defined.

January 31, 2005
Peter G. McCabe
Secretary, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts
One Columbus Circle, NE
Washington, DC 20544

Dear Mr. McCabe:

With respect to the subject, I have had experience as a pro se in a civil case and know how hard it is for a pro se party to function effectively in a legal action. I want to make sure that pro se parties are considered in this rule making process.

To help pro se parties protect their constitutional, Bill of Rights and other legal rights, they must be provided the following:

(A) Full Access. Pro se parties must be provided with full access to any electronic system for the filing of papers with the court. Full access includes without limitation system access at the Pro Se Office, remote pro se system access, training, filing capability, searching capability, reading capability, bi-directional file transfers and printing capability.

(B) Filing Assistance. If the court requires electronic filings and the pro se party elects not to file electronically, district court Pro Se Offices must accept pro se paper filings and convert them to electronic filings.

(C) Non-Proprietary File Standards. Only non-proprietary files standards shall be used. These include without limitation Portable Document Format (PDF), TIFF, ANSI text, OpenOffice, and Rich Text Format (RTF).

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed rule.

Sincerely,

Eliot S. Robinson
201 East 66th Street, Apartment 8E
New York, NY 10021

Telephone: 212 861 6644 (home)
212 356-6516 (office)