

Memorandum of Understanding: Use of Electronically Generated Subpoenas in Criminal Matters

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is entered into by the Clerk of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia ("USDC") and U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Division, Consumer Protection Branch ("DOJ-CPB"). The understandings and expectations of the USDC's Clerk's Office and DOJ-CPB regarding the use of electronically generated subpoenas in criminal matters are set forth below.

Background: Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 17 governs the issuance and use of subpoenas in criminal proceedings. This Rule mandates that the Clerk of Court issue blank subpoenas, signed and with court seal, upon request of a party. FED. R. CRIM. P. 17(a).

Authorized Use: DOJ-CPB is authorized to generate electronically standard subpoena forms AO-110 (Subpoena to Testify Before a Grand Jury), AO-89 (Subpoena to Testify at a Hearing or Trial in a Criminal Case), AO-89B (Subpoena to Produce Documents, Information, or Objects in a Criminal Case), and AO-90 (Subpoena to Testify at a Deposition in a Criminal Case) with an electronically affixed USDC seal and USDC Clerk signature. Electronic versions of these subpoena forms have been provided to DOJ-CPB for such use. As with paper subpoena forms, DOJ-CPB is responsible for ensuring appropriate case-specific information is included on any subpoena generated electronically.

Limitations:

- 1. Use of the electronic USDC seal and USDC Clerk signature is limited to standard subpoena forms AO-110, AO-89, AO-89B, and AO-90 generated electronically by DOJ-CPB. The USDC seal and USDC Clerk signature may not be used for any other purposes, affixed to any other documents, or used by any other entities or parties.
- 2. All legal requirements relating to the proper use, service and/or scope of subpoenas issued in connection with criminal proceedings, including any provisions requiring court orders, remain in full force and effect.
- 3. DOJ-CPB is authorized to include language on the face of AO-110 grand jury subpoenas and attachments to such subpoenas permitting the recipient to return subpoenaed materials directly to DOJ-CPB (or a law enforcement representative designated by DOJ-CPB) in lieu of personal appearance before the grand jury. Any legal requirements regarding presentment of subpoenaed materials to the grand jury remain in full force and effect.

Periodic Review: The USDC Clerk of Court and the DOJ-CPB will review this process and communicate as needed in order to ensure that the electronic subpoena forms, USDC seal and USDC Clerk signature remain current and in accord with the mandates of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

Signed and agreed:

Angela D. Caesar

Date: 4/9/2024

AMANDA LISKAMM Digitally signed by AMANDA LISKAMM Date: 2024.04.09 14:42:19 -04'00'

Amanda N. Liskamm

Director, Consumer Protection Branch

Date: April 9, 2024