

**STATE OF MAINE
SUPERIOR COURT
DISTRICT COURT**

STANDING ORDER REGARDING SMALL CLAIMS

Effective December 1, 2020

Whereas, Rule 2(a) of the Maine Rules of Small Claims Procedure (“M.R.S.C.P.”) requires the use of the Statement of Claim form provided by the court to commence a small claims action; and

Whereas, the Legislature has imposed a filing fee pursuant to 4 M.R.S. § 18-A(3-A)(C) on small claims filings by a “debt collector” as defined by Title 32 M.R.S. § 11002(6); and

Whereas, the court revised the Statement of Claim SC-001 in July 2020, to clarify the fee requirements pursuant to 4 M.R.S. § 18-A(3-A)(C);

NOW, THEREFORE, it is ORDERED as follows:

- A. In all small claims actions filed on or after December 1, 2020, where the filer either fails to submit the Statement of Claim form provided by the court (SC-001, see copy attached), fails to submit the correct filing fee, or fails to do both; then
- B. Pursuant to M.R.S.C.P 15 and Rule 5(f) of the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure the small claims filing shall be deemed to be an “incomplete filing” and shall be returned to the filer.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: November 2, 2020

Robert E. Mullen, Chief Justice
Maine Superior Court

Jed J. French, Chief Judge
Maine District Court