Procedures for Matters Revived under the

Child Victims Act (L. 2019, c.11)

Due to the high volume of cases that may be filed under the Child Victims Act ("CVA") and the confidentiality issues that may arise from those filings, the Nassau County Clerk's Office has instituted the following special procedures:

- 1. <u>Anonymous Captions Initially Accepted</u>: Initial e-filed commencement papers in an action or proceeding under the Child Victims Act that include an anonymous caption (e.g., "Anonymous v. Anonymous," "A.B. v. C.D.") will be accepted by the County Clerk without an accompanying judicial order authorizing the anonymous caption.
- 2. OSC Application Required in Anonymous Caption Cases: Such initial CVA filings with an anonymous caption **must** include an application for an Order to Show Cause seeking judicial permission to continue the use of the anonymous caption. The OSC may also contain requests for any other judicial relief, i.e., a request for restriction of access to confidential documents.
- 3. <u>Rejection of CVA Initiating Papers</u>: Initiating papers with an anonymous caption that are either e-filed or paper filed in a CVA matter that do not include an OSC addressing the anonymous caption will be rejected and returned by the County Clerk.
- 4. <u>Pre-Action Disclosure Applications</u>: Initiating e-filed and paper filed cases seeking pre-action disclosure in a proposed CVA action must be filed as a CVA action case type.
- 5. <u>Requests for Restricted Access</u>: E-filed papers (with or without an anonymous caption) that include an application for a judicial order of confidentiality or restricted access to the contents of the filing shall, absent the grant of such application, become public five (5) days after the filing.

*NOTE: When a matter is filed electronically – even when filed under an anonymous caption – any documentation uploaded via NYSCEF will be visible to the public unless otherwise directed by court order. Additionally, paper filed cases will be available for public inspection at the Nassau County Clerk's Office unless otherwise directed by court order.