













The COVID19 pandemic has changed the way we do business. Social distancing and government orders, have brought on the prominence of electronic signing of documents. In this digital era, the legal validity of electronically signed documents may arise.

Below is a non-exhaustive table of document types, and the permissible signature(s).

Key	Document type	Type of signature	Witness/ Declaration	Exceptions	Notes
 Personal signature	Last Will and Testament¹ Trust Deeds Power of Attorney		Y	¹ Members of the Royal Bahamas Defense Force in actual naval, military or air force service, or any mariner or seaman being at sea	i. Legal documents executed outside of The Bahamas, must be Apostilled, e.g. conveyances, marriage, birth/death certificates and Power of Attorneys. ii. "signed" or "signature" includes any symbol executed or adopted, or any methodology or procedure employed or adopted, by a person with the intention of authenticating a record, including electronic methods - The Electronic Communications and Transactions Act.
 Personal signature of elected Director, witnessed by Company Secretary and affixed with Company seal	Employment contracts	 	N		iii. "electronic communication" means information which is communicated, processed, recorded, displayed, created, stored, generated, received or transmitted by electronic means - The Electronic Communications and Transactions Act.
 Signed in copart, executed via email or facsimile	Memorandum and Articles of Association		Y		iv. For electronic communications, which may have the implication of an agreement, insist upon an acknowledgment receipt. v. A company's memorandum and articles of association should also be reviewed for guidance.
	Contracts, signed by individuals or companies	  			
	Deeds, Mortgages, Conveyances, executed by companies and/or individuals	 	Y		



Darren O. Bain
Principal

1(242) 328-8119 (Office)

1(242) 427-4019 (Mobile)

darren@lignumadvisors.net