

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS**

**GENERAL ORDER REGARDING PROCEDURES FOR ACCESS AND MANAGEMENT OF
SEALED DOCUMENTS**

In light of a recent escalation in cyberattacks on the CM/ECF system, federal courts are required to implement new procedures for the storage and management of sealed documents.

Effective immediately and until such time as the court orders otherwise,

1. **Electronic Access to Sealed Documents.** Sealed documents will continue to be filed in CM/ECF under existing procedures, but will not be accessible or viewable by electronic means.
2. **Service of Sealed Documents Filed in CM/ECF.** Because sealed documents filed in CM/ECF are not accessible or viewable electronically, service of those documents cannot be accomplished through CM/ECF. Parties will have to serve sealed documents by other appropriate means as provided by the Federal Rules of Procedure. The court will serve by paper or other appropriate means.
3. **Additional Copies of Sealed Documents.** Because sealed documents filed in CM/ECF are not accessible or viewable electronically, a party entitled to access a sealed document, who requires a copy, should obtain a copy from the filing party, who must provide it upon request if not already provided. The Clerk's Office can provide a copy to an authorized party but must charge the copy fees set forth in the Judicial Conference's fee schedule.
4. **Highly Sensitive Documents (HSDs).** Sealed documents that are defined as HSDs will continue to be subject to the court's HSD procedures (See GO 24-04).
5. **Questions about Sealed Document Procedures.** Any questions about the filing of and access to sealed documents should be directed to the clerk's office.

So **ORDERED and SIGNED**, this 24th day of September, 2025.

FOR THE COURT:



AMOS L. MAZZANT, III
CHIEF JUDGE