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# ❖ PACER Service Center ❖

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Announcements

<http://pacer.psc.uscourts.gov>

October 2007

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## NEW! Digital Audio Pilot Launched

In August 2007, the Digital Audio Pilot Project was launched making digital audio recordings of federal courtroom proceedings publicly available online through CM/ECF. During this project, five courts – three bankruptcy courts and two district courts – will offer audio files in the same manner as written files. Using PACER, customers can listen to digital recordings of hearings by selecting a docket entry from the Docket Report that contains the audio icon as reflected in the sample below.

Judges from the five participating courts determine which hearings will be publicly available using PACER. The duration of the pilot project is expected to last 6 to 12 months during which the fee for accessing the recordings is \$.08 in addition to \$.08 per page of the Docket Report (up to 30 pages). If audio access becomes permanent, the Electronic Public Access office of the Administrative Office of the US Courts will determine an appropriate fee. Participants of the pilot project are the US Bankruptcy Courts for the Northern District of Alabama, the District of Maine, and the Eastern District of North Carolina as well as the US District Courts for the District of Nebraska and the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. The Press Release regarding the pilot project may be viewed at [http://www.uscourts.gov/Press\\_Releases/digialaudio080607.html](http://www.uscourts.gov/Press_Releases/digialaudio080607.html)

Filing Date	#	Docket Text
08/03/2007	<a href="#">48</a>	 PDF with attached Audio File. Court Date & Time : 8/2/2007 9:37:24 AM . File Size : 1124 KB   Run Time : 00:09:22   (admin) (history)

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## NEW! Courts of Appeals and CM/ECF

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit was the first court of its kind to implement the Appellate version of the CM/ECF system recently. Mandatory e-filing (unless granted an exemption) became effective for this court on June 1, 2007. In order to set up an appellate filer status, the appellate court registration form available at the PACER home page <http://pacer.psc.uscourts.gov> must be completed. Computer-based training modules explaining CM/ECF, PACER reports, and document filing in the Eighth Circuit are available on the court's website [www.ca8.uscourts.gov](http://www.ca8.uscourts.gov).

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit followed by implementing CM/ECF on August 20, 2007. However, e-filing had not yet been implemented for the Sixth Circuit at the time of this article's publishing.

Most of the remaining U.S. Courts of Appeals are set to implement CM/ECF by early 2008. Information regarding a particular court's implementation date may be available at the court's home page.

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**Questions or Comments regarding information in the announcement?** Email [pacer@psc.uscourts.gov](mailto:pacer@psc.uscourts.gov) or call (800) 676-6856.

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## Notice of Electronic Filings

Previously any recipient of a Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) was allowed one view of the referenced documents without incurring PACER charges. Now only participants in the case (parties and attorneys) are provided a view at no charge while others accrue PACER charges. The NEFs received from cases listed in the "Send Notices for these Additional Cases" section of the Email Information Screen will accrue PACER charges. It is the attorney's responsibility to remove cases in which he/she is not activity involved. Otherwise, he/she will continue to receive notices and will accrue charges for accessing such. Here is how:

Log into CM/ECF using an ECF filer login.  
 Select the Utilities menu item.  
 Select "Maintain Your Account."  
 Select "Email Information."  
 Remove the check mark for "Send notices for these additional cases."  
 Click on "Return to Account Screen."

## Client Code Feature

PACER customers now have the option to require the use of a client code at login. In addition, customers have the option to specify the format of that client code. Client codes are text fields provided for tracking charges. To activate this new feature, log into the Account Information section of the PACER Service Center's website at <http://pacer.psc.uscourts.gov>. Click on "Set PACER Preferences." After the preferences have been set, the system will prompt customers for a client code if one is not entered at login. If it is not in the proper format, the system will provide a hint as to what the proper format should be. This feature works in all bankruptcy court sites and those district court sites that have upgraded to CM/ECF version 3.0. It should be noted that if a customer logs into PACER at a site that does not support the new functionality, that customer will be able to access any other PACER site using the Universal Login functionality with whatever client code was entered at the older site regardless of whether or not it meets the format set in the preferences option. This problem will diminish as all courts upgrade to the newest versions of CM/ECF.

The client code feature is intended as a means to help customers account for PACER charges. The PACER Service Center does not recommend setting the client code preference as a means to restrict usage on an account. The PACER Service Center recommends changing the password to maintain proper control of usage.

## EPA Fee Schedule

The Judicial Conference amended the Electronic Public Access (EPA) fee schedule at its March 14, 2006 session. The amendments include a new fee and an increase to an existing fee for searches by the PACER Service Center. The new fee of \$.50 per page was established to recover the costs of paper copies produced by the PACER Service Center. The fee applies to any record pertaining to a PACER account or instructional document that is remotely available through electronic access. The existing fee of \$20 per court record obtained by the PACER Service Center staff was increased to \$26 by the Conference. The fees were effective July 1, 2006.

## General Information

The PACER Service Center hours of operation are 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Central time, Monday through Friday and is closed for Federal holidays. Remaining holidays for which the PACER Service Center will be closed are November 12 for Veteran's Day, November 22 for Thanksgiving, and December 25 for Christmas.

The newest version of the PACER User Manual is available at no charge under the Documents section at the PACER Service Center website <http://pacer.psc.uscourts.gov>.

## Billing Information

For your convenience, the PACER Service Center accepts Discover, VISA, MasterCard, and American Express. Login to the Account Information section at <http://pacer.psc.uscourts.gov> to pay by credit card.

Payment for balances less than \$10 will automatically be deferred until the balance is \$10 or more. No phone call is necessary.

The PACER Service Center's Federal Tax ID Number is 74-2747938.

Effective April 1, 2004 a fee of \$45 will be assessed if a check is returned for insufficient funds.