
❖ PACER Service Center ❖

Announcements

<http://pacer.uscourts.gov>

October 2009

Electronic Public Access Program/PACER Assessment Currently Underway

Share Your Views

The Federal Judiciary has undertaken a year-long, comprehensive assessment of the Electronic Public Access program, including PACER and the U.S. Party/Case Index. The goal of the assessment is to identify potential enhancements to existing services and new public access services that could be provided. We are gathering information through focus groups, interviews, and surveys. Please be aware you may be solicited for your views about PACER and our services with an eye towards what you, the customer, would like to see in the future.

Please check our website (pacer.uscourts.gov) for more information about how you can participate.

New Functionality in CM/ECF Applications

The Federal Courts are taking a number of steps to ensure that privacy protections afforded under federal rules are followed. Upcoming in all CM/ECF applications, e-filers will be reminded of their obligation under the law to redact personal identifier information with a message that includes links to relevant rules. The sample below is similar to the what public filers will see. Prior to entering the site, e-filers must acknowledge the rule by checking the box indicating they have read the notice.

<p>Authentication</p> <p>Login: <input type="text"/></p> <p>Password: <input type="password"/></p> <p>Client Code: <input type="text"/></p> <p><input type="button" value="Login"/> <input type="button" value="Clear"/></p>	<p>IMPORTANT NOTICE OF REDACTION RESPONSIBILITY: All filers must redact: Social Security or taxpayer-identification numbers; dates of birth; names of minor children; financial account numbers; and, in criminal cases, home addresses, in compliance with Fed. R. App. P. 25(a)(5), Fed. R. Civ. P. 5.2, Fed. R. Crim. P. 49.1, or Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9037. This requirement applies to all documents, including attachments.</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> I understand that, if I file, I must comply with the redaction rules. I have read this notice.</p>	

In addition, a new banner (shown below) was added to the final Event Review confirmation with the text "Have you redacted?" as another reminder of the importance of redacting.

Attention!! Submitting this screen commits this transaction. You will have no further opportunity to modify

Have you redacted?

For a complete listing of changes, see "CM/ECF Release Notes" under "Featured Links" at pacer.uscourts.gov.

Password Changes

To prevent the unauthorized use of PACER accounts, the PACER Service Center recommends changing passwords every 90 days. It is possible to change passwords at pacer.uscourts.gov. Click on "Account Information," then "Change Password."

General Information

The PACER Service Center hours of operation are 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM Central Time, Monday through Friday and is closed for Federal holidays. Remaining holidays for which the PACER Service Center will be closed are October 12 for Columbus Day, November 11 for Veteran's Day, November 26 for Thanksgiving, and December 25 for Christmas.

The latest version of the PACER User Manual is available at no charge under the Documents section at the PACER Service Center website pacer.uscourts.gov.

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

Go Green

The PACER Service Center encourages customers to make a positive environmental change by switching from paper statements to electronic billing. Under PACER's Paperless Statement/Invoice option, quarterly statements are sent via email instead of sending a paper bill. It's simple, secure and sustainable. To go paperless, log into the Account Information section at pacer.uscourts.gov then select "Sign up for Paperless Statement/Invoice" to add one or more email addresses to receive an emailed quarterly statement and announcements.

Firms, agencies or companies with multiple PACER accounts may elect to have all statements sent to one or more email address. Email the PACER Service Center at pacer@psc.uscourts.gov to provide the email address(es) for multiple statements.

NOTE: The paperless option applies to Quarterly Statements/Invoices only. If payment is past due, notices will be sent by US Mail.

Save a stamp and pay online!

In addition to receiving the PACER Quarterly Statement/Invoice by email, the convenient option of paying online is also available at the PACER Web site pacer.uscourts.gov. You can make a one-time credit card payment or sign up for automatic billing to a credit card. It's fast, safe and secure. To pay online, log into the Account Information section at pacer.uscourts.gov then select "Make Online Credit Card Payment" and/or "Sign up for Automatic Billing."

PACER Policy Reminder

Public Access to Court Electronic Records is supported by user fees. Any attempt to collect data from PACER in a manner which avoids billing is strictly prohibited and may result in criminal prosecution or civil action. PACER privileges will be terminated if, in the judgment of judiciary personnel, they are being misused. Misuse includes, but is not limited to, using an automated process to repeatedly access those portions of the PACER application that do not assess a fee (i.e. calendar events report or case header information) for purposes of collecting case information.

Appellate CM/ECF

Most U.S. Courts of Appeals have implemented CM/ECF. The remaining courts, the Second and Eleventh Circuits, are scheduled to go live later in 2009. Information regarding a particular court's filing requirements may be available at the court's website.

The Appellate ECF Filer Registration form is available at the PACER Service Center website pacer.uscourts.gov. Appellate CM/ECF Computer-Based Training Modules demonstrating CM/ECF, PACER reports, and document filing functionality are also available at pacer.uscourts.gov. Click on the "CM/ECF Information" icon. Next, select "Training," then "Appellate."

The latest version of Java is required to access the CM/ECF Appellate application, to e-file, or to view case information. This can be downloaded at www.java.com at no charge.

Billing Information

- ◆ The PACER Service Center accepts Discover, VISA, MasterCard, and American Express. Login to the Account Information section at pacer.uscourts.gov to pay by credit card.
- ◆ No payment is owed until an account accrues charges of more than \$10 in a calendar year. Billing for balances of less than \$10 will automatically be deferred. No phone call is necessary.
- ◆ The PACER Service Center's Federal Tax ID Number is 74-2747938.
- ◆ A fee of \$45 will be assessed if a check is returned for insufficient funds.
- ◆ Receipts for the most recent payment made to a PACER account can now be accessed online. Login to the Account Information section at pacer.uscourts.gov then select "Check Account Balance."