

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

IN RE: ACCESS AND SERVICE OF ELECTRONICALLY
FILED SEALED DOCUMENTS

General Order 2025-12

GENERAL ORDER

WHEREAS a recent escalation in cyberattacks on the CM/ECF systems of federal courts requires the implementation of new procedures for the secure storage and management of electronically sealed documents,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that, effective as of the date of this Order and until such time as the Court orders otherwise,

1. **Electronic Access to Sealed Documents.** Sealed documents will continue to be filed in the manner prescribed in General Order 2025-11; however, electronically filed sealed documents will no longer be accessible or viewable by electronic means after filing except by designated Northern District of Indiana restricted access court users. Non-designated users will receive an updated warning message that advises that the sealed document is not available in CM/ECF and that opening the stub file (which will not open the actual document) will result in an electronic public access fee charge.

2. **Service of Sealed Documents Filed in CM/ECF.** Because sealed documents filed in CM/ECF are no longer accessible or viewable electronically, **service of those documents can no longer be accomplished through CM/ECF**. Parties **must serve** manually filed or electronically filed sealed documents **by other appropriate means (outside of CM/ECF)** as provided by the Federal Rules of Procedure and consistent with General Order 2025-11. The court will serve

court-issued sealed documents via U.S. mail (absent an alternative arrangement for service consented to in writing by a party or agency in advance).

3. **Additional Copies of Sealed Documents.** Because sealed documents filed in CM/ECF are no longer accessible or viewable electronically, a party with the right to access a sealed document in a case who requires a copy of a sealed document will have to contact the clerk's office to request a paper copy. Applicable copy fees will be applied to such requests according to the miscellaneous fee schedule: <https://www.innd.uscourts.gov/MiscellaneousFeeSchedule>

This provision does not expand the right of access to sealed documents.

4. **Highly Sensitive Documents (HSDs).** Sealed documents that are defined as HSDs will continue to be subject to the Court's HSD procedures as detailed in General Order 2025-11.

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 at 219-852-6500 (Hammond), 260-423-3000 (Fort Wayne), or 574-246-8000 (South Bend).

IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 28th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2025.

/s/ Holly A. Brady

Chief Judge, United States District Court
Northern District of Indiana