

Local Rule 5-3 – Eligibility, Registration, Passwords for Electronic Filing; Exemption from Electronic Filing

(a) Registration. To register to use the ECF system, an attorney must complete the registration form adopted by the clerk. The form must require:

- (1) the attorney's name, address, and telephone number;
- (2) the attorney's e-mail address; and
- (3) a declaration that the attorney is admitted to this court's bar.

(b) Change in Information; Compromise of Password. An attorney who has registered to use the ECF system must notify the clerk:

- (1) in writing within 30 days after the attorney's address, telephone number, or e-mail address changes; and
- (2) immediately upon learning that the attorney's password for the ECF system has been compromised.

(c) Exemption from Participation Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(d)(3)(A). An attorney must file a petition for ECF exemption and a CM/ECF technical requirements exemption questionnaire in each case in which the attorney seeks an exemption. (The CM/ECF technical requirements exemption questionnaire is available on the court's website, www.insd.uscourts.gov).

(d) Suspension of Electronic Filing. Only attorneys who are active and in good standing with the court's bar may utilize the ECF system. Upon receipt of a court order subjecting an attorney to suspension or disbarment, or notice that the attorney's license to practice law is inactive, the clerk will suspend the attorney's ECF rights, pending the attorney's reinstatement to active, good standing status.

(e) Electronic Filing by an Unrepresented Person. If authorized to file electronically pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(d)(3)(B), the person's electronic signature in accordance with Local Rule 5-7 constitutes the person's signature on the document for purposes of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, including Rule 11, and these local rules, and for any other purpose for which

the unrepresented person's signature may be required in connection with the court's activities.

Note: Amended December 1, 2018, for consistency with amended Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(b)(2)(E), which explicitly provides that service is accomplished by filing with the court's electronic filing system. The amendment also is consistent with Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(d)(3)(A), which generally requires electronic filing. Amended July 1, 2017, to clarify that attorneys in good standing with the court are required to file electronically, and provide a mechanism for permissive filing by pro se litigants. Effective January 1, 2012, former Local Rule 5.7 became Local Rule 5-3.