## **Public Announcement**

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

Kristine Seufert, Clerk

## **Electronic Access to Sealed Documents and Service of Sealed Documents**

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana (September 24, 2025): Chief Judge James R. Sweeney II today issued a <u>general order</u> reflecting a nationwide change in how sealed documents may be accessed electronically. Effective immediately, only authorized court employees will have access to sealed documents in CM/ECF.

Parties will continue to file sealed documents in CM/ECF under existing procedures. However, because sealed documents filed in CM/ECF will no longer be accessible or viewable electronically by anyone other than authorized court staff, service cannot be accomplished via 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 sealed orders, notices, and other Court-generated documents by U.S. Mail.

A party who thinks they have the right to access a sealed document can request a paper copy by contacting the Clerk's Office at <a href="mailto:insd\_sealed@insd.uscourts.gov">insd\_sealed@insd.uscourts.gov</a>. The <a href="mailto:court's fee schedule">court's fee schedule</a> will apply to such requests. The court will process copy requests for sealed documents in the order in which they are received. To avoid potential delays, parties may wish to contact the filing party to request re-service of the relevant document.

The court will continue to update parties and the public regarding sealed document procedures as information becomes available.