

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT Southern District of Indiana

Laura A. Briggs, Clerk of Court

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NOTICE

Effective **January 4, 2016**, the United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana will implement important new changes in the delivery of e-mailed Notices of Electronic Filing (NEFs). The court's CM/ECF system will begin generating NEFs for both docketed and e-filed events in **sealed cases** and for **sealed entries** in non-sealed cases.

Previously, e-mailed NEFs were generated for all case activity <u>except</u> for sealed entries/cases. Attorneys had been required to provide traditional service (by U.S. mail) of sealed documents, and copies of sealed orders/entries issued by the court were also distributed on paper by U.S. mail. **However**, e-mailed NEFs will now be generated for <u>ALL</u> case activity, and attorneys may rely on electronic service for all filings – including sealed documents.

IMPORTANT: Paper service of case documents is still required for all *pro se* parties.

Access to sealed cases and documents is restricted to authorized case participants <u>only</u>. Also, in order to protect the identity of parties and other information in sealed matters – NEFs sent for sealed events will display limited (redacted) data. Electronic access to sealed or restricted case documents viewed from NEFs will require authentication with an appropriate CM/ECF attorney user account. As with other NEFs, attorneys and secondary e-mail recipients will receive one "free look" for documents linked in sealed NEFs, without incurring PACER fees.

Sealed filings are governed by <u>Local Rule 5-11</u> and <u>Local Criminal Rule 49.1-2</u>. Attorney e-filers are encouraged to review updates to the court's <u>ECF Policies and Procedures</u> <u>Manual</u> (Sections 11 and 18), which address changes in service requirements for sealed filings.

For more information, a helpful <u>Technical Guide for Using Notices of Electronic Filing</u> (<u>NEFs</u>) is available on the <u>E-Filing Resources</u> page of the court's website. It contains detailed procedures on accessing documents from sealed/redacted NEFs.

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