

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE**

FILED
CLERK'S OFFICE
United States District Court
Eastern District of Tennessee
Date: August 17, 2026 8:00am

IN RE:

LR-26-02

AMENDMENT OF ECF RULES

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ORDER

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2071, it is hereby **ORDERED** that Rule 2 (Definitions) and Rule 5 (Registration and Passwords) of the Electronic Case Filing Rules and Procedures of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee are **AMENDED** to read as follows:

2. Definitions

- 2.1 "Electronic Filing System" means the Court's automated system for receipt, retention and retrieval of documents filed in electronic form.¹
- 2.2 "Filing Error" means an error in submission of a filing to the Electronic Filing System, *e.g.*, a filing with an incorrect case number, with an incorrect docket entry or with the wrong PDF file attached to a docket entry.
- 2.3 "E-Filer" means an attorney registered with the Public Access to Court Electronic Records ("PACER") system to whom the Court has granted access to the Court's Electronic Filing System for all permitted purposes.
- 2.4 "Notice of Electronic Filing" means the electronic notice generated by the Electronic Filing System which is e-mailed to participating E-Filers at the time a document is filed with the system. The Notice

¹ The system is part of the Next Generation of Case Management/Electronic Case Files ("CM/ECF") application developed for the federal judiciary by the Administrative Office of the United States Courts. "Electronic Filing System" does not include the electronic portal used by non-prisoner pro se litigants to submit selected documents to the Clerk's Office for filing.

of Electronic Filing sets forth the time the document is filed, the names of the party and attorney filing the document, the type of document filed, the text of the docket entry describing the document as it will appear on the Court's docket, the name of each recipient of the Notice and an electronic link to the filed document allowing the recipients to retrieve the filed document.

- 2.5 "PACER" ("Public Access to Court Electronic Records") is an electronic public access service established by the Administrative Office of the United States Courts that allows access to federal court records, including those filed through the Electronic Filing System. Any person establishing a PACER account will be able to view, print and download information filed with the Electronic Filing System over the Internet.
- 2.6 "PDF" means Portable Document Format. "PDF text format" means a text-searchable PDF file generated from an original word-processing file.
- 2.7 "Technical Failure" means a malfunction of the Court's Electronic Filing System or the telecommunications facilities through which the system is accessed which prevents an E-Filer from filing a document electronically. Technical Failure does not include a malfunction of an E-Filer's computer and/or telecommunications facilities which prevents an E-Filer from electronically filing a document.

5. Registration and Passwords

Only a registered E-Filer may electronically file documents with the Electronic Filing System.

Attorneys practicing before the Court, including those admitted *pro hac vice* and those authorized to represent the United States, shall, absent good cause shown, register as E-Filers of the Electronic Filing System.² Registration

² Prior versions of these Rules permitted a pro se party to an action to apply to the Court for permission to register as an E-Filer solely for the purposes of that action. The Court amended the Rules to allow only attorneys to register as E-Filers. Any pro se party to an action who was granted e-filing privileges for the purposes of that action prior to the amendment may maintain those privileges during the course of that action only. Otherwise, non-prisoner pro se parties may utilize the pro se filing portal (available at <https://www.tned.uscourts.gov/ProSeEPortal>) to submit select documents electronically for filing. All other forms of electronic submission (e.g.,

to E-File shall occur through PACER and requires each registrant's name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, and a confirmation that the attorney is admitted to practice before the Court. By registering to E-File, E-Filers certify that they have read the Electronic Case Filing Rules and Procedures and will abide by them.

Registration as an E-Filer constitutes consent to electronic service of all documents as provided herein, by the local rules of the Court and by any applicable rule of procedure.

Once registration is complete, the E-Filer will use his/her PACER login and password to access the Court's Electronic Filing System.

No E-Filer or other person may knowingly permit an E-Filer's login and password to be used by anyone other than an authorized agent of the E-Filer.

E-Filers agree to protect the security of their passwords. In the event that an E-Filer believes that the security of an existing password has been compromised and that a threat to the Electronic Filing System exists, the E-Filer shall immediately give notice by telephone to the ECF Help Desk and PACER. E-Filers may be sanctioned for failure to comply with this provision.

SO ORDERED.



TRAVIS R. MCDONOUGH
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

emails, facsimile, etc.) are strictly prohibited.