

**FILED**  
CLERK'S OFFICE  
United States District Court  
Eastern District of Tennessee  
Date: ***Sep 24, 2025, 10:23 am***

SO-25-09

Chief District Judge  
Travis R. McDonough

**WHEREAS** a recent escalation in cyberattacks on the CM/ECF systems of federal courts requires the implementation of new procedures for the storage and management of 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 CM/ECF under existing procedures but will no longer be accessible or viewable to authorized external users by electronic means.
2. **Service of Sealed Documents Filed in CM/ECF.** Service of sealed documents cannot be accomplished through CM/ECF. Parties shall serve sealed documents by other appropriate means as provided by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure or Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. When the Court enters a sealed document, it will serve the document by secure electronic means or, in the alternative, in paper by mail. Federal Defender Services of Eastern Tennessee, the United States Attorney's Office, and United States Probation and Pretrial

Services shall provide the Clerk's Office with a single email address for the receipt of service of sealed documents by secure electronic means.

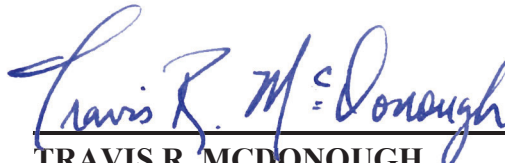
3. **Additional Copies of Sealed Documents.** Subsequent to service, any additional copies of a sealed document requested by a party with the right to access the document will be provided in paper format. Copy fees will be applied to such requests in accordance with the current fee schedule.

4. **Highly Sensitive Information (HSI).** Sealed documents containing HSI will continue to be subject to the Court's HSI procedures as set forth in SO-25-08.

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.

This Order supersedes any and all inconsistent orders and local rules.

**SO ORDERED.**

  
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**TRAVIS R. MCDONOUGH**  
**UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE**