

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**

**IN RE: PROCEDURES FOR ACCESS  
AND MANAGEMENT OF SEALED  
OR RESTRICTED DOCUMENTS**

**GENERAL ORDER:  
0001-2025**


**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 or restricted 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 or Restricted Documents.** Sealed or restricted documents will continue to be filed in CM/ECF under existing procedures but will no longer be accessible or viewable by electronic means.
2. **Service of Sealed or Restricted Documents Filed in CM/ECF.** Because sealed documents filed in CM/ECF are no longer accessible or viewable electronically, service of those documents can no longer be accomplished through CM/ECF. Parties will have to serve sealed documents by other appropriate means as provided by the Federal Rules of Procedure.
3. **Additional Copies of Sealed or Restricted Documents.** Because sealed or restricted documents filed in CM/ECF are no longer accessible or viewable electronically, a party with the right to access said documents in a case who requires a copy of a sealed or restricted document will have to contact the clerk's office to request a paper or e-mailed copy. Applicable copy fees will be applied to such requests. See the [Fees and Online Payments](#) page on our website for more information.
4. **Highly Sensitive Documents (HSDs).** Sealed documents that are defined as HSDs will continue to be subject to the court's HSD procedures. See the [General Orders](#) page on our website for more information.
5. **Questions about Sealed or Restricted Document Procedures.** Any questions about the filing of and access to sealed or restricted documents should be directed to the clerk's office at 1-866-323-1101.

This Order supersedes any and all inconsistent prior court orders, administrative procedures for filing, and local rules.

**IT IS SO ORDERED**, this 26th day of September, 2025.



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Chief Judge Terry A. Doughty  
Chief United States District Judge  
Western District of Louisiana