PACER Service Center

Announcements

http://pacer.psc.uscourts.gov

January 2008

Digital Audio Pilot Launched

Three federal courts are currently making digital audio recordings of courtroom proceedings publicly available on-line through PACER as participants in a one year long pilot. The U.S. District Court in Nebraska, the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina and the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Alabama have integrated their recording and Case Management/Electronic Case Files (CM/ECF) systems to make some audio files available on the Internet. Two additional courts, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Maine will also be participating in the pilot.

PACER customers can listen to digital recordings of hearings by selecting a docket entry from the Docket Report that contains the audio icon as reflected in the sample. The duration of the pilot project will be 12 months during which the fee for accessing the recordings is \$.08 in addition to \$.08 per page of the Docket Report (up to 30 pages). If audio access becomes permanent, usage and cost information gathered during the pilot will be used to determine an appropriate fee. The Press Release regarding the pilot project may be viewed at http://www.uscourts.gov/Press_Releases/digialaudio080607.html

Fi ling D ate	÷	Docket Text
08/03/2007	<u>48</u>	🧐 PDF with attached Audio File. Court Date & Time (8/2/2007 9 37:24 AM). File Size (1124 KB). Ruc Time (00:09 22). (admin) (Extered: 08/03/2007)

Courts of Appeals and CM/ECF

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit was the first court of its kind to implement the Appellate version of the CM/ECF system recently. Mandatory e-filing (unless granted an exemption) became effective for this court on June 1, 2007. In order to set up an appellate filer account, the appellate CM/ECF filer registration form must be completed at the PACER home page http://pacer.psc.uscourts.gov. Computer-based training modules explaining CM/ECF, PACER reports, and document filing in the Eighth Circuit are available on the court's website www.ca8.uscourts.gov.

The U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Fourth, Sixth and Tenth Circuits followed by implementing CM/ECF. However, e-filing had not yet been implemented for these courts at the time of this article's publishing.

Most of the remaining U.S. Courts of Appeals are set to implement CM/ECF by early 2008. Information regarding a particular court's implementation date may be available at the court's home page.

Questions or Comments regarding information in the announcement? Email *pacer@psc.uscourts.gov* or call (800) 676-6856.

The newest version of the PACER User Manual is available at no charge under the Documents section at the PACER Service Center website *http://pacer.psc.uscourts.gov*.

Notice of Electronic Filings

Previously any recipient of a Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) was allowed one view of the referenced documents without incurring PACER charges. Now only participants in the case (parties and attorneys) are provided a view at no charge while others accrue PACER charges. The NEFs received from cases listed in the "Send Notices for these Additional Cases" section of the Email Information Screen will accrue PACER charges. It is the attorney's responsibility to remove cases in which he/she is not activity involved. Otherwise, he/she will continue to receive notices and will accrue charges for accessing such. Here is how:

Log into CM/ECF using an ECF filer login. Select the Utilities menu item. Select "Maintain Your Account." Select "Email Information." Remove the check mark for "Send notices for these additional cases." Click on "Return to Account Screen." Click on "Submit."

NEW! Transcripts to be Available Online

A September 2007 decision of the Judicial Conference will make transcripts of federal district and bankruptcy court proceedings available on PACER. Under this policy, transcripts that have been ordered by a party and produced by the court reporter or transcriber are delivered to the Clerk's office for public inspection for 90 days. During this time, a copy of the transcript may be purchased from the court reporter or transcriber. A docket entry in PACER will provide the contact information for the court reporter or transcriber. After the initial 90-day period, PACER customers will be able to view, print, and download transcripts at the rate of \$.08 per page. It is expected that customers will begin to see transcripts on PACER during the Spring of 2008.

Example

4:07-cv-04065-MMM S.P.G v John Does, et al Marshall M. McAllen, presiding Date filed: 10/15/2007 Date of last filing: 11/07/2007

CM/ECF New Functionality

General Information

The PACER Service Center hours of operation are 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM Central time, Monday through Friday and is closed for Federal holidays. Holidays for which the PACER Service Center will be closed are January 21 for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, February 18 for President's Day, May 26 for Memorial Day, July 4 for Independence Day, September 1 for Labor Day, October 13 for Columbus Day, November 11 for Veteran's Day, November 27 for Thanksgiving, and December 25 for Christmas.

Billing Information

For your convenience, the PACER Service Center accepts Discover, VISA, MasterCard, and American Express. Login to the Account Information section at *http://pacer. psc.uscourts.gov* to pay by credit card.

Payment for balances less than \$10 will automatically be deferred until the balance is \$10 or more. No phone call is necessary.

The PACER Service Center's Federal Tax ID Number is 74-2747938.

Effective April 1, 2004 a fee of \$45 will be assessed if a check is returned for insufficient funds.

The latest versions of CM/ECF include a number of notable changes that have been requested by PACER customers. District version 3.1 includes the following enhancements and more:

1) The "**Date of last filing**" as reflected in the example above is available. This field appears on the page displaying query options for a particular case.

2) Search for a criminal case or list of criminal cases using a **criminal citation number**. Under the "Reports" option, select "Criminal Cases." Select the criminal citation number and enter a date range.

For a complete listing of changes in both district and bankruptcy versions, see "CM/ECF Release Notes" under "What's New" at *http://pacer.psc.uscourts.gov*.