

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

GENERAL ORDER NO. 2026-01

Procedures for Access and Management of Sealed and Restricted Documents

Due to a recent escalation in cyberattacks on electronic filing systems of federal courts, the Judicial Conference requires the implementation of new procedures for the storage and management of documents filed in the court's case management/electronic filing system (CM/ECF) to which public access is restricted. Accordingly, **effective March 1, 2026**,

IT IS ORDERED that sealed and restricted filings shall be subject to the procedures and requirements set forth below. This General Order supersedes any inconsistent provisions in the Rules of the United States Court of Federal Claims (RCFC), procedure manuals, or other general orders of this court.

- 1. Electronic Access to Sealed and Restricted Documents:** Sealed and restricted documents will continue to be filed in CM/ECF under existing procedures but will no longer be accessible or viewable by counsel via CM/ECF or PACER; only court users (judges and staff) can access sealed and restricted documents via CM/ECF.
- 2. Service of Sealed and Restricted Documents:** Because sealed and restricted documents filed in CM/ECF are no longer accessible or viewable electronically, parties can no longer rely on CM/ECF to effectuate service. Thus, the court and the parties must serve sealed and restricted documents by other appropriate means as provided by RCFC 5(b)(2), and the parties must adhere to the certificate of service requirement set forth in RCFC 5(d)(1)(B).

3. **Copies of Sealed and Restricted Documents:** A party or person with the right to access a sealed or restricted document who requires a copy of such document must:
 - a. request a copy from the filing party; or
 - b. contact the Clerk's Office to request a copy. Applicable copy fees will be applied to such requests.
4. **Questions about Sealed and Restricted Document Procedures:** Any questions about the filing of or access to sealed and restricted documents shall be directed to the Clerk's Office at (202) 357-6406.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



MATTHEW H. SOLOMSON
Chief Judge

February 19, 2026
Washington, DC