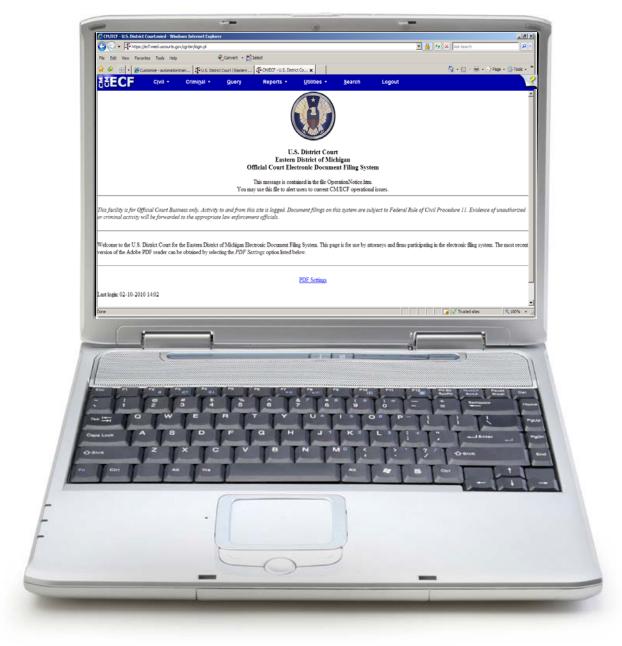
## Electronic Case Filing User Manual



U.S. District Court Eastern District of Michigan

Last updated: April 27, 2015

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#### 1 Information to Get Started

#### 1.1 Introduction

The Eastern District of Michigan implemented Electronic Case Filing (ECF) June 1, 2004 as part of a nationwide implementation by the Federal Judiciary. As of June 1, 2004, the official record of filed cases is maintained electronically. E-filing became mandatory for attorneys after November 30, 2005.

#### **User Manual – Staying Current**

Readers are encouraged to refer to the on-line version of documents for the most current information because a previously printed hard copy of the User Manual may become obsolete.

#### **Help Desk**

A CM/ECF Help Desk has been established to respond to inquiries. The help desk is staffed Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. The number is (313) 234-5000. There are several pre-recorded topics that pertain to the most common questions the help desk receives. We encourage callers to listen to the pre-recorded topics available. If after listening to the available topics, the question is still not answered, there is an option to speak to Help Desk staff.

#### 1.2 Requirements for Electronic Filing

The ECF Policies & Procedures are required reading before using the ECF system. For a copy of the Policies & Procedures, visit the following Web site: <a href="http://www.mied.uscourts.gov/CMECF">http://www.mied.uscourts.gov/CMECF</a>. The rules contained in the Policies & Procedures will be referred to throughout the User Manual. The Policies & Procedures will be revised from time to time and it is advisable to periodically check the web site for the most current materials.

The hardware and software needed to electronically file, view and retrieve case documents are:

- A personal computer running a standard platform such as Windows® or Macintosh®
- Electronic PDF conversion software, such as Adobe Acrobat Writer® to convert documents from a word processor format to portable document format (PDF) and Adobe Acrobat Reader®
- A PDF-compatible word processor application like Microsoft Word® or Corel WordPerfect®
- Internet access, preferably cable modem or DSL
- Internet service with Internet Explorer® or Firefox (more current versions advised)
- A scanner or access to a scanner for the creation of electronic papers from documents that are non-computerized

The user should also be familiar with PACER (Public Access to Court Electronic Records) and have access to an active PACER account. More information is available on PACER's web site, http://pacer.uscourts.gov/.

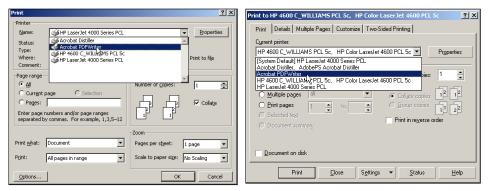
#### 2 Preparing Documents for E-Filing

#### 2.1 Converting Electronic Documents to PDF Documents

A filing user must convert all documents from their native word processing application to PDF before submitting them to the Court's ECF system. Depending on word processing capabilities and what type of PDF conversion software is used, the process to convert will vary slightly.

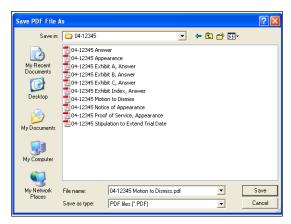
#### Microsoft© and Corel© Products (Generally)

- 1. Open the document.
- 2. Click on the **File** menu and select **Print**.
- 3. In the **Printer Name** field (or **Current Printer** field), click to view the drop-down menu options and instead of choosing a printer, select **Acrobat PDF Writer or other appropriate PDF conversion software**. See Figure 2.2-1
- 4. Confirm Number of copies is set to "1" and page range is "All."



**Figure 2.1-1** 

- 5. Click **[OK]** (or **[Print]**) to begin the conversion process. The document will not print to a printer; instead a new box will open and prompt to save as a PDF document.
- 6. Follow the prompts, verify the saved file type is .pdf and click the [Save] button.
- 7. After PDF has been created, view the document to ensure it converted properly.
- 8. Be sure to remember where the document is saved on the hard drive and the name of the file because later, this will be the version of the document uploaded to the ECF system.



In Figure 2.1-2, the file is saved in the folder titled, "04-12345" and it is saved on the C:\ drive. The entire file path (or Filename) is "C:\My Documents\04-12345\04-12345 Motion to Dismiss.pdf". This file path is needed to upload documents in THE ECF SYSTEM. The system directs the filing user to identify the right file path when filing a document by browsing through the computer's hard-drive.

#### **Figure 2.1-2**

If there are problems loading and using ECF with a personal computer, consider the following:

- The Court has verified that its version of ECF is compatible with current versions of Microsoft's Internet Explorer® and Firefox. ECF users might experience compatibility issues with other web browsers or older versions of Internet Explorer® and Firefox.
- Any version of a Web browser will frequently require the filing user to clear the temporary Internet files. This ensures the screens viewed within ECF display all available options.

<u>Clearing temporary files/history in Internet Explorer ONLY</u> (Other web browsers may have a similar process to clear temporary files, consult the help section for that particular browser for more information)

- Open an Internet Explorer® window and select **Tools**. Select **Internet Options**.
- In the "Browsing History" section, select [Delete] and choose Temporary Internet Files.

#### 2.2 Scanning Documents

Use a scanner only if it is not possible to electronically prepare papers using word processing software and converting to PDF. When scanning papers for the ECF system, the Court recommends scanning at a resolution of 300 dpi. All papers should be scanned with a "black and white" setting whenever possible and should be 8.5" x 11". After scanning a document, review the file to make sure the images are not upside down or scanned in landscape.

#### 2.3 Scanning Color Documents

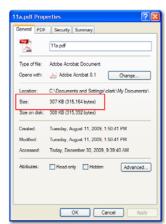
If the document being scanned is a color photo or illustration and the image needs to retain the color, scan the image using the lowest setting to keep the file size as small as possible. Filing a color photo or illustration will display in color in the CM/ECF system.

#### 2.4 Dividing Oversized Files

If the document being scanned is exceptionally long (usually an exhibit), be aware of the file size limitation. THE ECF SYSTEM will not accept a file larger than 12.5 MB or approximately 12,500 KB. If a single exhibit is larger than 12.5 MB, it must be divided into smaller segments.

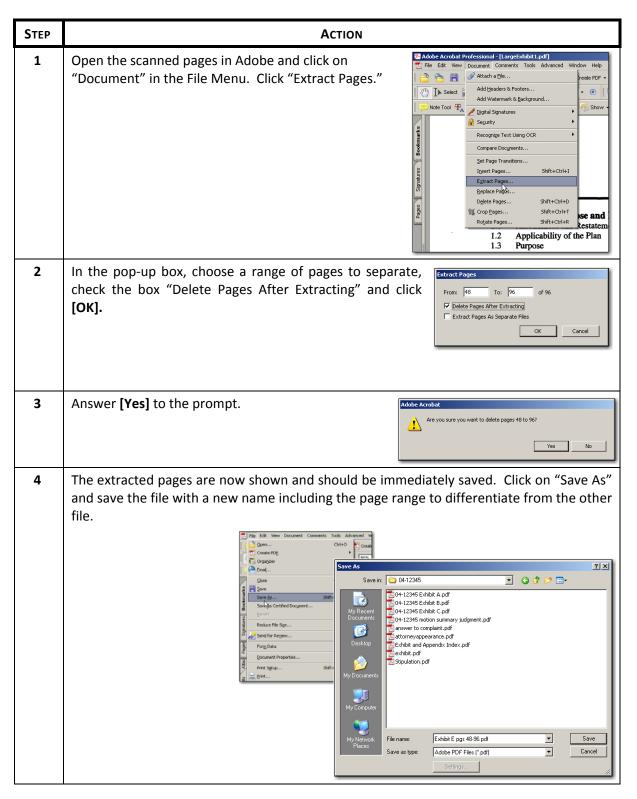
To see what size a document is, locate the document and right click on the file name, then choose "properties." See Figure 2.4-1.

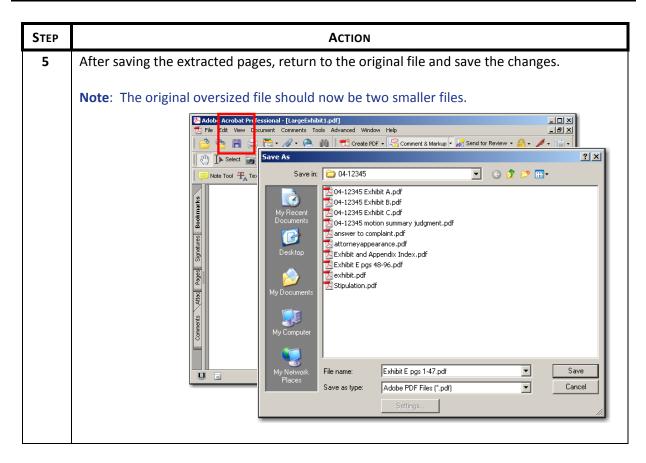
If the pages are scanned and in PDF, Adobe software allows the user to divide the file without rescanning. Note: This function is not available in free versions of Adobe Reader.



**Figure 2.4-1** 

To divide a PDF document into smaller files, follow these steps: (These instructions are for use with Adobe Acrobat Software. The process may not be the same if you are using other PDF conversion software.)



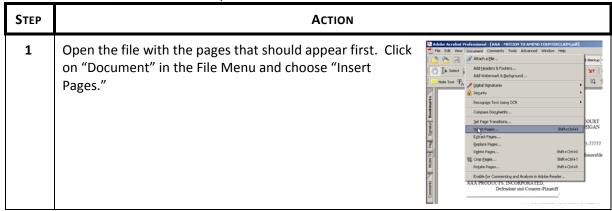


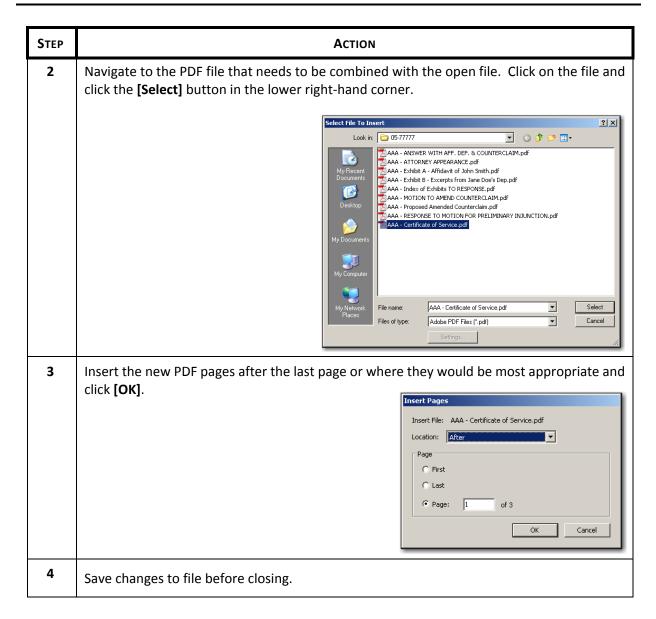
These instructions were created using Adobe Acrobat 8.0. Newer versions might require a variation of this step-by-step instruction. Refer to Adobe Help online, other specific PDF conversion software instructions, or call the ECF Help Desk.

#### 2.5 Combining Two PDF Files

At times, it may be necessary to combine files that were scanned as two or more separate documents. For instance a motion and a brief will need to be combined with the proof of service before being e-filed. In this situation, as long as the separate files are all saved as PDF files, Adobe software or other conversion software will allow the user to join the files together.

To combine PDF files, follow these steps:





**Note:** These instructions were created using Adobe Acrobat 8.0. Newer versions might require a variation of this step-by-step instruction. Refer to Adobe Help online, other specific PDF conversion software instructions, or call the ECF Help Desk.

#### 2.6 Certificates of Service

Pursuant to Fed R. Civ 5(d), a certificate of service is required to be filed within a reasonable time after service. The certificate of service should be included as part of the e-filed paper, rather than a separate filing. To determine whether the paper will be served electronically on a registered attorney via a Notice of Electronic Filing, log into THE ECF SYSTEM, click on "<a href="Utilities"><u>Utilities</u></a>" and click on "<a href="Mailings"><u>Mailings</u></a>" under the heading "Miscellaneous". Choose "<a href="Mailing Info for a Case"><u>Mailing Info for a Case</u></a>". The system will list which parties are registered filing users, receiving NEFs and which parties are non-filing users, possibly requiring service in the traditional manner.

#### 3 Guide to Filing in the ECF System

#### 3.1 Definitions

The following are a list of definitions important to a filing user while navigating in the ECF System.

**Client Code** – A code created by the user that is entered on the PACER/ECF login screen along with a PACER account. The code allows the user to track filings and PACER usage by client. The quarterly billing statements from PACER will show the total amount due according to each client code. Contact PACER for more information.



**Court-issued Login** – A login and password given to every filing user by the Eastern District of Michigan. The login and password allow users to electronically file in the ECF system. The court-issued login and password will serve as a signature on all electronically filed documents.

**Electronic Service** — A Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) automatically generated by the ECF system constitutes service on a registered filing user when a paper is e-filed by an attorney. Service of Process and service on a non-filing user must be done in the traditional manner.

**Free-text box** – At some points in the ECF system, the filing user has the ability to type whatever he or she feels is appropriate to add to the docket text. These free-text boxes are optional.

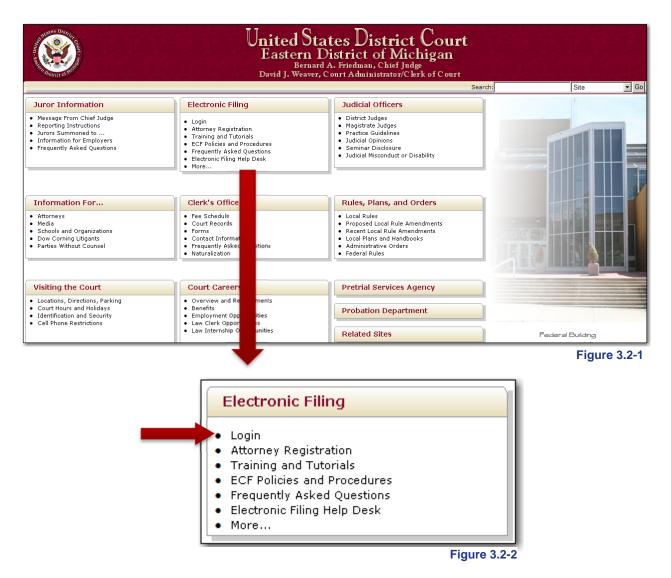


Main Menu Bar – The blue bar at the top of all ECF screens. The bar guides a user through the different functions of ECF and has seven different features: Civil, Criminal, Query, Reports, Utilities, Search and Logout. If Civil and Criminal are omitted, the filing user is logged in with a PACER account. Clicking any of the options in the Menu Bar will negate the current filing and allow the filing user to start over. Filing users are encouraged to click on the selected option instead of the drop down menu as the former may cause "page not found" errors.



#### 3.2 Entering the ECF System

Enter the ECF system by accessing the Internet and going to the Court's Web site, <a href="http://www.mied.uscourts.gov">http://www.mied.uscourts.gov</a>. The top middle section of the web site is devoted to electronic filing. Click on "Login" or click on the **Electronic Filing** header to review the CM/ECF page with the most up-to-date information, policies and announcements. See Figures 3.2-1 and 3.2-2.



To *file an electronic document*, use the Court-issued ECF login and password assigned to the attorney on whose behalf a paper is being filed.

To view and retrieve court documents only, use a PACER login and password.

All ECF logins and passwords are case sensitive

Enter the login and password. The filing user must also check the box to the right of the authentication box. This indicates that the filing user has read, understands and agrees to abide by the court's redaction rules. See Figure 3.2-3. Redaction rules are covered in Fed.R.Civ.P.5.2 or Fed.R.Crim.P. 49.1.

After entering the correct login and password, click on the [Login] button to access the ECF system.

CM/ECF Filer or PACER Log	M/ECF Filer or PACER Login		
Notice This is a Restricted Web Site for Official Cour attempts are logged.	t Business only. Unauthorized entry is prohibited and subject to prosecution under Title 18 of the U.S. Code. All activities and access		
Instructions for filing: Enter your CM/ECF filer login and password if y	you are electronically filing something with the court.		
	esult of a link from a Notice of Electronic Filing email: he system prompts customers for a CM/ECF login and password when attempting to view certain types of documents.		
document is restricted to attorneys of record in	ent: u should be able to view the document. If you receive the message "You do not have permission to view this document," viewing the the case and the system does not recognize you as such. If the login prompt appears again, after you have entered your CM/ECF (" link has expired. You will need to enter your PACER login and password to view the document.		
Instructions for viewing filed docume If you do not need filing capabilities, enter your	ents and case information: PACER login and password. If you do not have a PACER login, you may register online at <a href="http://pacer.psc.uscourts.gov">http://pacer.psc.uscourts.gov</a> .		
Login:   Password:   Password:	IMPORTANT NOTICE OF REDACTION RESPONSIBILITY: All filers must redact: Social Security or taxpayer-identification numbers; dates of birth; names of minor children; financial account numbers; and, in criminal cases, home addresses, in compliance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 5.2 or Fed. R. Crim. P. 49.1. This requirement applies to all documents, including attachments.  I understand that, if I file, I must comply with the redaction rules. I have read this notice.		

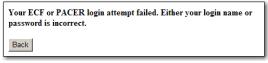
**Figure 3.2-3** 

#### What is the Client Code?

The client code provides a way to track filings and PACER usage billed to a specific client. Enter the client's name, law office file number or some distinctive code. It is not necessary to register the client code with the Court or with PACER. The quarterly billing statements from PACER will show the total amount due according to each client code. Detailed transactions with client codes are available on the PACER Service Center Web site or through a PACER statement email service. Contact PACER for more information. A filing user should not enter anything in the client code field if logging in to e-file a paper.

#### 3.3 Login and Password Failure

If the ECF system does not recognize the login and password, it will display the following error message on the screen, see Figure 3.3-1.



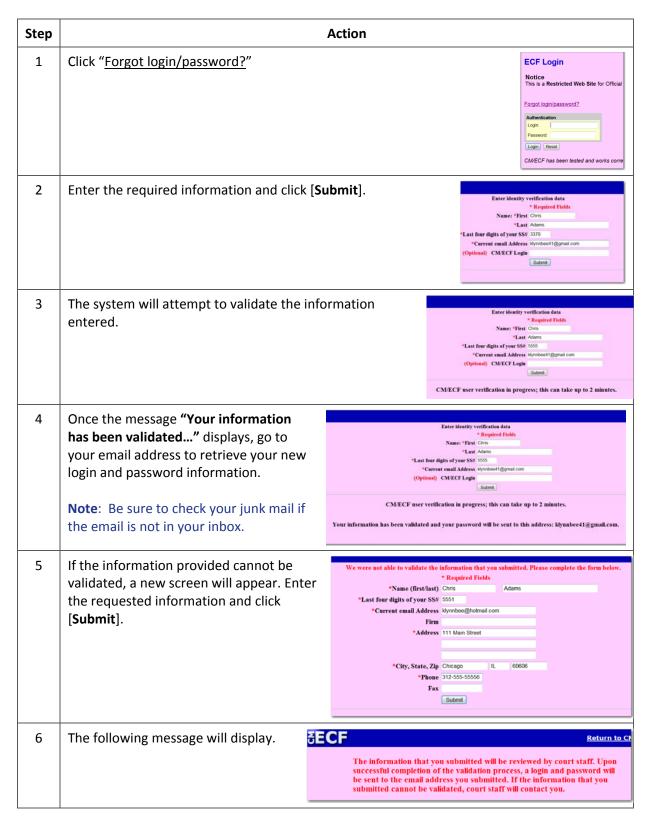
**Figure 3.3-1** 

Click the [Back] button and re-enter the correct login and password.

**Note:** After 5 failed attempts, the CM/ECF system will lock the filing user out for five minutes. Each failed attempt after adds another minute to the lock out time.

#### 3.4 Login and Password Reset

If the filing user has forgotten the correct login and/or password, follow these instructions to reset:



Once the new password has been received, login to CM/ECF and change the password as soon as possible.

Passwords must contain:

- at least eight characters;
- one upper case character;
- one lower case character; and
- one digit or special character (@,#,\$,%,&,\*,+).

If you have any questions, email attyhelp@mied.uscourts.gov or call 313-234-5000 and select the option for "assistance with electronic filing."

#### 3.5 General Rules and Manipulations

There are several routines and screens that are common throughout the e-filing system, regardless of the document being filed or the event being used. This section describes this information. Filing users should be familiar with these terms and concepts before beginning to file anything in the ECF system.

#### 3.5.1 Progressing Through the Screens

Most event screens have two buttons associated with data entry. See Figure 3.5-1.

• Use the [Next] button to accept entered data, display the next dataentry screen or commit and finalize the transaction. Sometimes, instead of [Next], the button is [Submit].



**Figure 3.5-1** 

• Use the **[Clear]** button to remove all characters entered in its associated field or box.

Many screens will display the case number at the top as a hyperlink. Clicking this hyperlink will prompt the user to log into PACER. Upon logging into PACER a docket report for that case will display. PACER Fees will apply. See Figure 3.5-2.



#### 3.5.2 Use of the Brower's Back Buttons

The use of the **[Back]** button (Figure 3.5-3) on the browser toolbar to return to the previous screen and correct any data entry errors is possible; however this may produce a "page not found" error. If this occurs the filing will most likely

CM/ECF - U.S. District Court:mied-Att

Tile Edit View Favorites Tools

Favorites Suggested Site

CM/ECF - U.S. District Court:mied-A

Figure 3.5-3

need to be started again from beginning.

The [Back] button may be used to correct most screens *until* the "Attention!!" warning message, which appears immediately before the transaction is committed. Clicking the [Next] button after seeing this message means the document has been filed with the Court and the user will not be able to go back and fix mistakes. See Figure 3.5-4.

Attention!! Pressing the NEXT button on this screen commits this transaction. You will have no further opportunity to modify this transaction if you continue.

-igure 3.5-

#### 3.5.3 Completion of the Filing

Once the final **[Next]** button is clicked, the court docket will be updated with the given docket text and the Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) will display. See Figure 3.5-5. Any mistakes discovered after this point can only be corrected by the Clerk's Office. **Please make sure the submitted information is correct and accurate.** 

The Clerk's Office may edit a docket entry to correct or clarify, however docket entries will not be automatically modified upon request.

Once an entry has been made the entry becomes part of the court's official docket. Documents filed in error cannot be removed without an Order from the Court.

If a mistake is recognized after a paper has been filed, contact the CM/ECF help desk at (313) 234-5000 or by emailing attyhelp@mied.uscourts.gov.

The Notice of Electronic of Electronic Filing (NEF) includes the following information:

- Date and the time of the filing
- E-filer's name
- Case name and case number (quick link to the docket report, PACER fees apply)
- Filer (party) name
- Document number (quick link to the PDF image, the first click is free, PACER fees apply on subsequent viewings)
- Docket text
- NEF recipients
- Non e-filers (if any, see ECF Policies & Procedures Rule 8 concerning service)
- Electronic document stamp (unique identifier for internal court tracking)

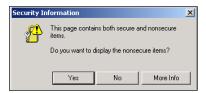


**Figure 3.5-5** 

The NEF is sent to all registered e-filers in a case. In addition, the NEF has a hyperlink to the PDF document that was filed. Non-efiling parties must be served in the traditional manner.

#### 3.5.4 Security Information Warning

When trying to access certain areas of the ECF System, especially the area to send proposed orders, a pop-up may appear (Figure 3.5-6). Users must click [Yes], otherwise, the screens will not display correctly.



**Figure 3.5-6** 

#### 3.5.5 Using the Search Feature

After logging into the ECF system with a Court issued login and password, click on the words "Civil" or "Criminal" or hover over the words to active the cascading menu. Locate and click on the appropriate event from the cascading list or the screen. See Figure 3.5-7.



**Figure 3.5-7** 

If the user clicks on "Civil" or "Criminal", the system displays a menu of all event options. The black text denotes categories of filings. The underlined blue texts are hyperlinks to types of filings and the events contained within them. See Figure 3.5-8.



**Figure 3.5-8** 

If unsure of the appropriate event to use when filing a document, click on "Search" in the Main Menu bar. A pop-up box will appear prompting the user to enter a keyword. See Figure 3.5-9.

For example, if a user was filing an Objection to a Magistrate's Report and Recommendation, he or she could type the word "objection" and click Search. A new screen would display with the search results.



**Figure 3.5-9** 

From the list of results, the user would find "Objection to Report and Recommendation" located under the heading Civil Events > Other Answers and Criminal Events > Other Documents.

See Figure 3.5-10.

.....

**NOTE:** Pay careful attention because both civil and criminal events are displayed and many are similarly named.

If the right event cannot be found, please call the help desk for assistance at (313) 234-5042.

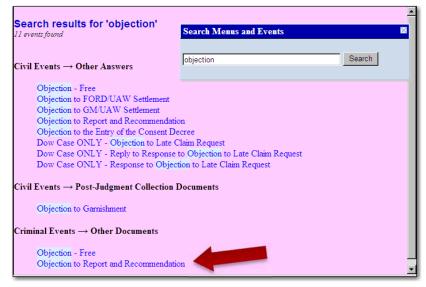
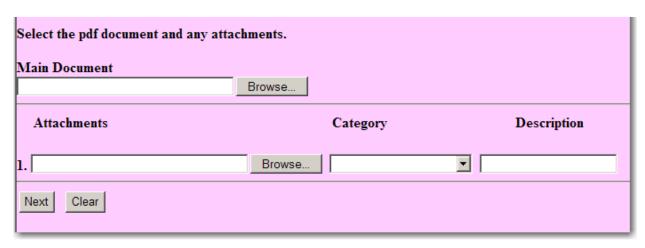


Figure 3.5-10

#### 3.6 Uploading Documents

Documents must be converted to PDF, before uploading into e-filing system. (See **Preparing Documents for E-Filing** for more information). The screen to upload documents is the same regardless of the event selected. See Figure 3.6-1.

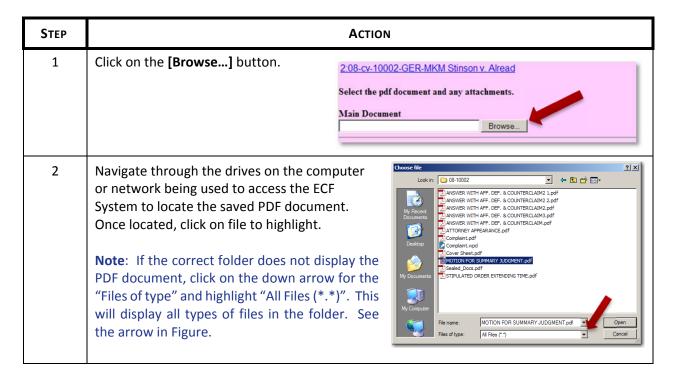
The document upload screen is split into two sections:



**Figure 3.6-1** 

- Main Document Should be used to upload the main document that is being filed. Example: The
  PDF containing a Motion, Brief, and Certificate of Service; the PDF containing the Complaint or
  Notice of Removal with supporting documents.
- Attachments Should be used when uploading Exhibits, other types of attachments, OR when the main document exceeds the file size limit and must be broken into smaller files. See 3.6.3 Filing Attachments for more information.

Follow these steps to upload the Main document:

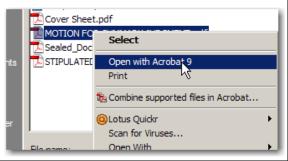


STEP ACTION



More likely than not, there are two versions of the document saved. There will be a word processing version and a PDF version. **Be sure** to select the PDF version to upload to the system. The ECF system only accepts PDF documents for filing.

Werify this is the correct PDF document by right-clicking on the document name to bring up the "quick menu".



4 From the quick menu, click Open with Acrobat.

The document will open in Adobe. Review the document and then click the [X] at the top of the Adobe window to close and return to the file selection window.

**Note:** Depending on the version of PDF reader software installed on the user's computer, the choice of **"Open with..."** may be different than pictured.

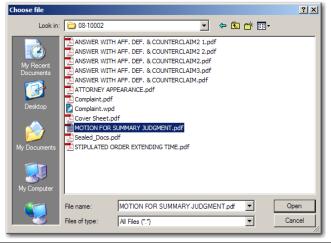




This is the only opportunity to review the document. Viewing the document allows a filing user to find and correct significant filing errors before sending the filing to the Court and other parties. Remember, once submitted, a filing cannot be edited or changed in any way by an attorney.

5 Click the **[Open]** button in the lower right hand corner of the box to bring the selected PDF

into the filing.



STEP	Action
6	The pop-up box will disappear and the path to the Filename will appear in the Main Document box. If there were attachments to upload, the process is similar, however, consult <b>Filing Attachments</b> section for instructions.
	Once main document and attachments (if included) are uploaded, click [Next] to continue.
7	Continue the filing.

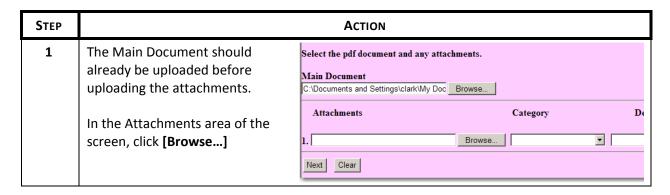
#### 3.6.1 Filing Attachments

If there are two or more exhibits, the first attachment must be an index of exhibits. Each additional exhibit should be individually attached and must be identified in the electronic record with an exhibit identifier and brief narrative description. See below. (For more information, see <a href="ECF Policies and Procedures Rule">ECF Policies and Procedures Rule</a> 18, Exhibits).

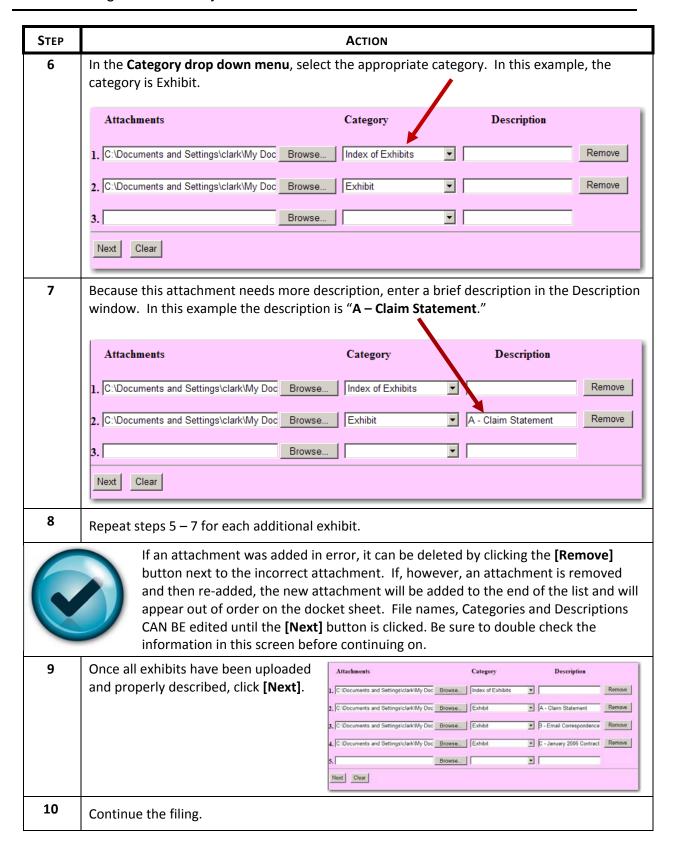
# Example Sample Index of Exhibits Exhibit Title/Description A Claim Statement B Email Correspondence C January 2006 Contract

In this example, there is an Index of Exhibits and three exhibits: Exhibit A – Claim Statement, Exhibit B – Email Correspondence and Exhibit C – January 2006 Contract.

Follow these steps to upload attachments:



#### **STEP** ACTION 2 Navigate to the first PDF attachment saved on the hard drive or network drive that is being used to connect to the ECF System. Remember if there are two or more attachments, the first attachment should be an Index of Exhibits. ? X Click [Open]. Look in: Documents for Training (<del>-</del> 🕒 📸 🏢 -ExC.pdf orderdenying.pdf ExD.pdf orderdenyingpart1.pdf exhibitb.pdf orderdenyingpart2.pdf extensionoftimepdf.pdf orderdenyingppart1tm.p Pages from orderdenying IndexEx.pdf JOHNSON TRANSCRIPT, wpd Pages from orderdenying kelly results.pdf proposed order.wpd RITE AID TRANSCRIPT. MoSummJudg.pdf Order Amending Case Caption.wpd ROGERS TRANSCRIPT P ROGERS TRANSCRIPT P order denying part 1 ew.pdf 💆 ROGERS TRANSCRIPT P order denying part 1.pdf StOrderforTime.wpd order denying part 2 ew.pdf order denying part 2.pdf transcript.pdf transcriptoptimized.pdf orderdenying part 2.pdf crderdenying part two sms.pdf orderdenying part 2.pdf 1 F ▾ Open File name: IndexEx.pdf Files of type All Files (\*.\*) -Cancel It is recommended that the document be reviewed at this time. The process is the same as when reviewing the Main Document. See Uploading Documents. Viewing the document allows a filing user to find and correct significant filing errors before sending the filing to the Court and other parties. Remember, once submitted, a filing cannot be edited or changed unless by order of the court. 3 After the document file path appears in the Attachment window, select the Drop Down menu in the Category window. Select the appropriate category. For this example, the first attachment is the Index of Exhibits. Attachments Category Description C:\Documents and Settings\clark\My Doc Browse... Index of Exhibits Remove Browse. 2. Exhibit Document Continuation Next Clear Note: Once a document is uploaded in the first attachment window, a new row is added to the list. This will continue until all attachments have been uploaded. 4 The last step is to enter a brief description in the Description window if necessary. Because this example is an Index of Exhibits, no further description is necessary. 5 To add the next exhibit, click [Browse...] and locate the next attachment as described in Steps 1-2.



#### 3.6.2 Filing Voluminous Exhibits

Exhibits, no matter the quantity or length can be e-filed if the following guidelines are adhered to.

- 1. Know your system. If you have a slow modem or slow Internet service, you may want to keep the total file size below the recommended 50MB. Also, keep in mind the time of day you are e-filing may impact how quickly your system transmits the documents.
- 2. Monitor and adjust the total file size of what you are e-filing. A general guideline is to keep the total file size (main document plus attachments) around 50 MB. If your total file size exceeds 50MB, e-file your exhibits as separate group filings, receiving multiple Notices of Electronic Filings (see example below). Remember, the system does not accept any one PDF file larger than 12.5 MB, so any single exhibit larger than 12.5 MB must be divided into parts.
- 3. Don't get "timed out" of the ECF System by trying to send too much at one time. The connection to the ECF System is lost if it takes longer than 20 minutes to move from one screen to the next and the move from the final docket text screen to the notice of electronic filing is when your filing is actually being transmitted to the court.
- 4. To file voluminous exhibits in groups, file the main document along with a portion of your exhibits. After receiving a Notice of Electronic Filing, go back to the Civil Events menu. Go to "Other Documents" and select "Exhibit." Upload the next sequential exhibit as the main document and file the next several exhibits as attachments to this filing. Continue this process until all of your exhibits are filed. (See below for an example of filing a motion for summary judgment with 15 exhibits)

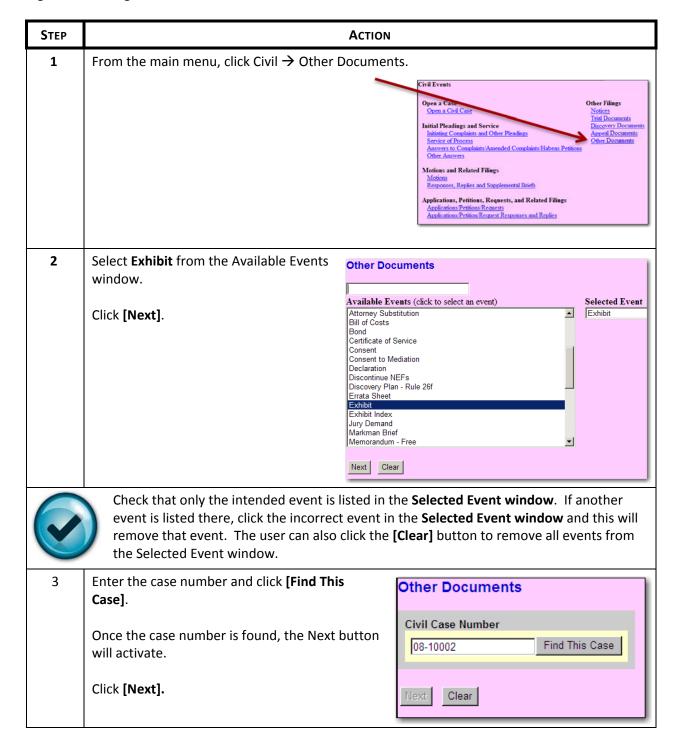
#### **Example**

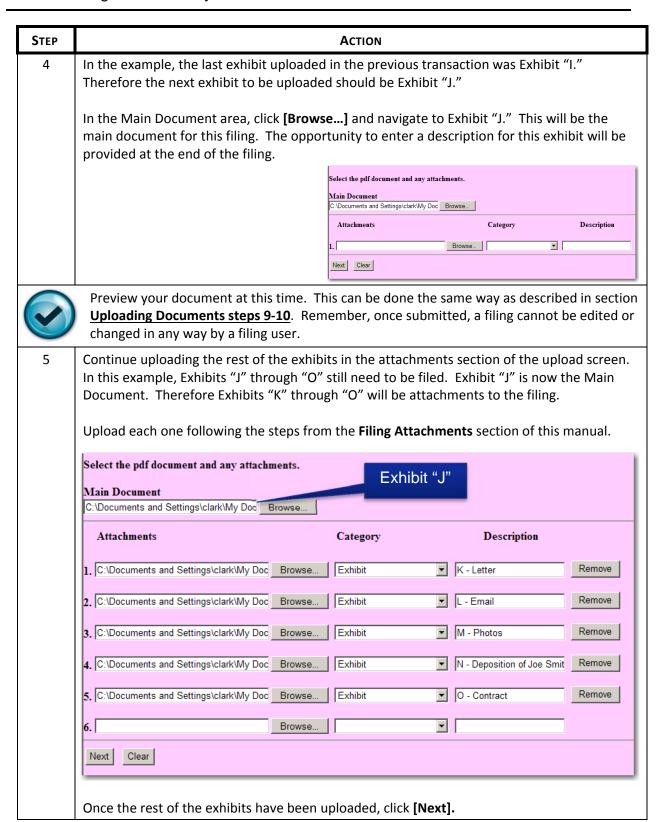
File your motion with the first group of exhibits, kept under a 50 MB. Receive a Notice of Electronic Filing with the docket text similar to the below example. See Figure 3.6-2.

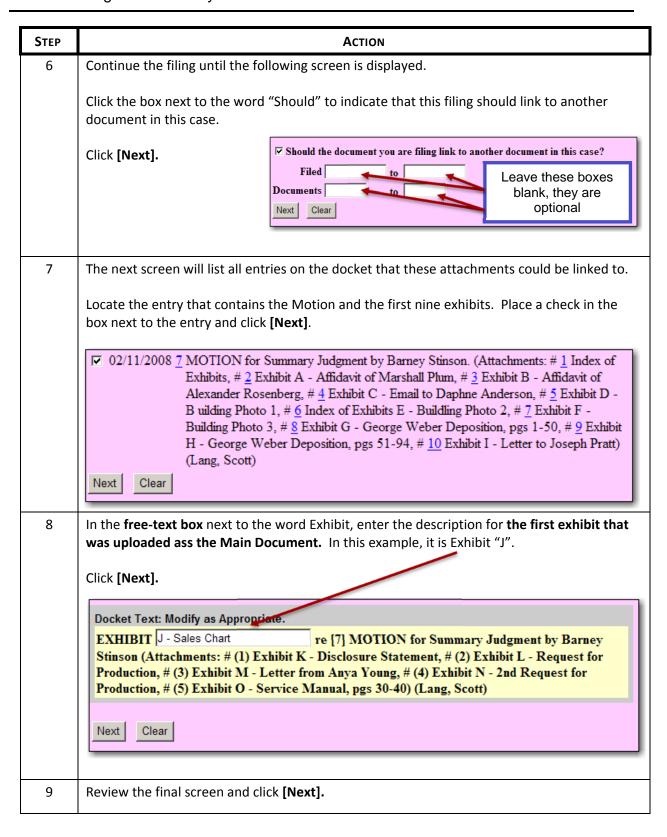
MOTION for Summary Judgment by Barney Stinson. (Attachments: # 1 Index of Exhibits, # 2 Exhibit A - Affidavit of Marshall Plum, # 3 Exhibit B - Affidavit of Alexander Rosenberg, # 4 Exhibit C - Email to Daphne Anderson, # 5 Exhibit D - Building Photo 1, # 6 Index of Exhibits E - Building Photo 2, # 7 Exhibit F - Building Photo 3, # 8 Exhibit G - George Weber Deposition, pgs 1-50, # 9 Exhibit H - George Weber Deposition, pgs 51-94, # 10 Exhibit I - Letter to Joseph Pratt) (Lang, Scott) (Entered: 02/11/2008)

**Figure 3.6-2** 

Once the Main Document and the first set of exhibits have been filed, follow these steps to continue filing the remaining exhibits:







STEP	Action
10	The NEF will display. This is an example of the docket text for this entry.
	Docket Text:  EXHIBIT J - Sales Chart re [7] MOTION for Summary Judgment by Lilly Alread  (Attachments: # (1) Exhibit K - Letter, # (2) Exhibit L - Email, # (3) Exhibit M - Photos, #  (4) Exhibit N - Deposition of Joe Smith, # (5) Exhibit O - Contract) (Adams, Chris)

#### 4 Civil Events

#### 4.1 On-Line Civil Case Submission

The online case submission program is used to open a new civil or miscellaneous case. The following civil cases can be opened using the Open a New Civil Case:

- Complaint
- Interpleader Complaint
- Notice of Removal
- Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus
- Re: Application of Arbitration Award

For information on filing a miscellaneous case, see Filing a New Miscellaneous Case.

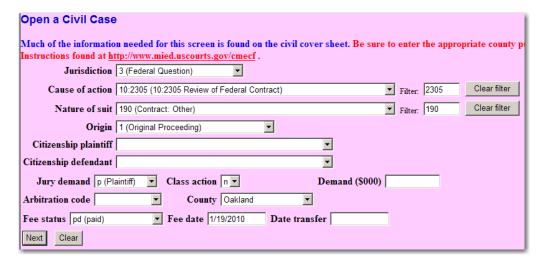
The steps to opening a new civil are:

- 1. Provide jurisdictional information
- 2. Add parties to the case
- 3. Upload the initiating document
- 4. Pay the filing fee

Sections **4.1.1** through **4.1.4** will discuss each of these four steps in detail. **Section 4.2 Filing Initiating Civil Documents** will illustrate the actual process of opening a new civil case.

#### 4.1.1 JS 44/Civil Cover Sheet

During the filing of a new civil case, the filing user must provide information regarding the jurisdiction of the case (figure 4.1-1). This information can be found on the JS 44/Civil Cover Sheet (figure 4.1-2). This section will provide explanations of each area of this screen and provide comparisons between the jurisdiction information screen and the civil cover sheet.



%JS 44 (Rev. 12/07) CIVIL COVER SHEET County in which action arose The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.) I. (a) PLAINTIFFS DEFENDANTS (b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES) (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE LAND INVOLVED (c) Attorney's (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) Attorneys (If Known) II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only) III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES(Place on "X" in One Box for Plaintiff Figure 4.1-1 (For Diversity Cases Only) ☐ 1 U.S. Government ☐ 3 Federal Ouestion Citizen of This State Incorporated or Principal Place Plaintiff (U.S. Government Not a Party) **O** 1 **O** 1  $\Box$  4 of Business In This State ☐ 2 U.S. Government O 4 Diversity Citizen of Another State Incorporated and Principal Place **O** 5 **O** 5 O 2 of Business In Another State Defendant (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III) 3 Foreign Nation 06 06 Citizen or Subject of a  $\mathbf{O}$  3 Foreign Country IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only) FORFEITURE/PENALTY BANKRUPTCY OTHER STATUTES ☐ 110 Insurance PERSONAL INJURY PERSONAL INJURY ☐ 610 Agriculture 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 ☐ 400 State Reapportionment ☐ 120 Marine ☐ 620 Other Food & Drug O 423 Withdrawal 310 Airplane 362 Personal Injury -410 Antitrust ☐ 130 Miller Act Med. Malpractice 315 Airplane Product ☐ 625 Drug Related Seizure 28 USC 157 430 Banks and Banking Liability 320 Assault, Libel & ☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument 365 Personal Injury of Property 21 USC 881 450 Commerce 0 ☐ 630 Liquor Laws PROPERTY RIGHTS ☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment Product Liability 460 Deportation & Enforcement of Judgmen Slander ☐ 368 Asbestos Personal ☐ 640 R.Ř. & Truck ☐ 820 Copyrights 470 Racketeer Influenced and 330 Federal Employers' ☐ 151 Medicare Act Injury Product ☐ 650 Airline Regs. ☐ 830 Patent Corrupt Organizations ☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted 480 Consumer Credit Liability Liability □ 660 Occupational 340 Trademark PERSONAL PROPERTY Section 1 Sectio Student Loans 340 Marine 490 Cable/Sat TV (Excl. Veterans) ☐ 370 Other Fraud 810 Selective Service 345 Marine Product 371 Truth in Lending 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits SOCIAL SECURITY Liability 850 Securities/Commodities/ 350 Motor Vehicle ☐ 710 Fair Labor Standards ☐ 380 Other Personal Ø 861 HIA (1395ff) Exchange ☐ 160 Stockholders' Suits 355 Motor Vehicle 862 Black Lung (923) Property Damage 875 Customer Challenge 385 Property Damage ☐ 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations CL 199 Other Contract Product Liability D 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) 12 USC 3410 890 Other Statutory Actions ☐ 195 Contract Product Liability ☐ 730 Labor/MgmtReporting ☐ 864 SSID Title XVI 360 Other Personal Product Liability □ 196 Franchise & Disclosure Act 865 RSI (405(g)) 891 Agricultural Acts Ιημιγ CIVIL RIGHTS REAL PROPERTY PRISONER PETITIONS 🗇 740 Railway Labor Act FEDERAL TAX SUITS ☐ 892 Economic Stabilization Act 441 Voting □ 210 Land Condemnation 510 Motions to Vacate 790 Other Labor Litigation 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff 893 Environmental Matters ☐ 220 Foreclosure 442 Employment Sentence ☐ 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. or Defendant) 894 Energy Allocation Act ☐ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 443 Housing/ 🗇 871 IRS—Third Party 895 Freedom of Information Habeas Corpus Security Act ☐ 240 Torts to Land Accommo dations 530 General 26 USC 7609 Act IMMIGRATION ☐ 900Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access ☐ 245 Tort Product Liability 444 Welfare 53 5 Death Penalty ☐ 290 All Other Real Property 445 Amer. w/Disabilities 540 Mandamus & Other 462 Naturalization Application 550 Civil Rights 🗇 463 Habeas Corpus to Justice Employment 446 Amer. w/Disabilities 555 Prison Condition Alien Detainee 950 Constitutionality of ☐ 465 Other Immigration State Statutes Other 440 Other Civil Rights Actions Appeal to District Judge from V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

**Figure 4.1-2** 

Original

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION

VII. REQUESTED IN

COMPLAINT:

2 Removed from

Remanded from

Appellate Court

CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION

Brief description of cause:

UNDER F.R.C.P. 23

☐ 6 Multidistrict

JURY DEMAND:

Litigation

 $\square$  7

Yes

CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:

Magistrate

 $\square$  No

Judement

Transferred from

another district

(specify)

Reinstated or 🗍 5

DEMAND \$

Reopened

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):

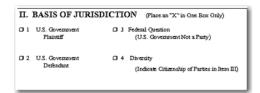
 $\Box$  4

#### **Table of JS44 Explanations**

#### **Jurisdiction Code**

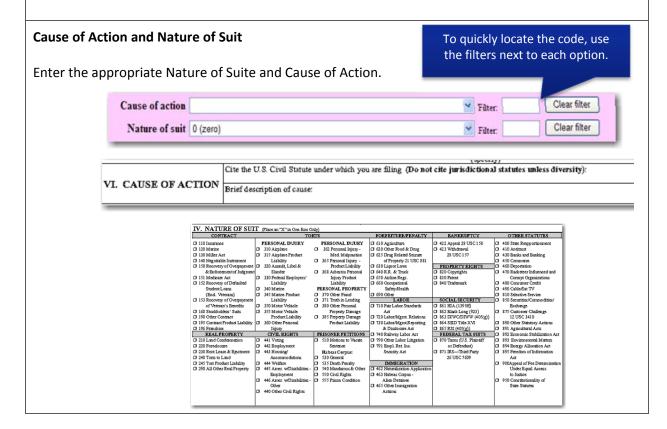
Select the appropriate Jurisdiction code.





If there is more than one basis for jurisdiction, precedence is given in the following order:

- 1. **United States Plaintiff** Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included.
- 2. United States Defendant The plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies.
- 3. **Federal Question** Suits brought under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States.
- 4. **Diversity of Citizenship** Suits brought under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens or businesses of different states or counties. Citizenship for plaintiff and defendant must be entered in the corresponding fields.



#### **Table of JS44 Explanations**

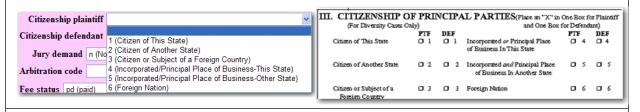
#### Origin

Select an origin code. When entering an Origin code, choose between 1 (Original Proceeding) and 2 (Removal from State Court). All other options are for internal use only.



#### Citizenship

Enter the Citizenship of the Plaintiff and Defendant **ONLY** if the jurisdiction of the case is **4 (Diversity).** Be sure to select Citizen if the party is a person; and Incorporated/Principal Place of Business if the party is a business.



#### **Jury Demand**

If plaintiff is filing a Jury demand, change to "p (Plaintiff)". If filing a Notice of Removal and both parties have demanded a jury, or if the defendant relied on plaintiff's jury demand, select "b (Both)" from the drop-down list. If filing a Notice of Removal and only the defendants are demanding a jury, change to "d (Defendant)." If none of these scenarios apply, change to "n (None)".



#### **Class Action**

If requesting class action status, change the drop-down menu to "y".



#### **Demand**

#### **Table of JS44 Explanations**

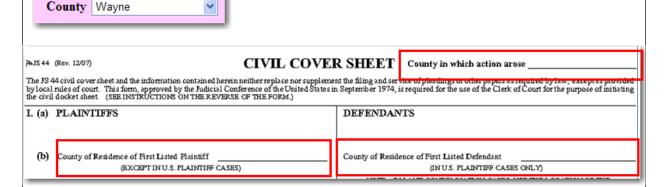
Enter a monetary Demand, if applicable. Enter the demand to the nearest thousand. For example, if the demand is \$100,000, enter "100" in the text field.



#### County

Based on LR 83.10, select the appropriate County found within the Eastern District of Michigan according to the following priority:

- 1. If filing a Notice of Removal, choose the county in which the case was pending in State Court
- 2. The county in which the plaintiff resides
- 3. The county in which the claim arose
- 4. If a defendant is a US employee or officer being sued in an official capacity, or if the defendant is a US agency, choose the county in which an office is located
- 5. The county in which the defendant resides or has a place of business

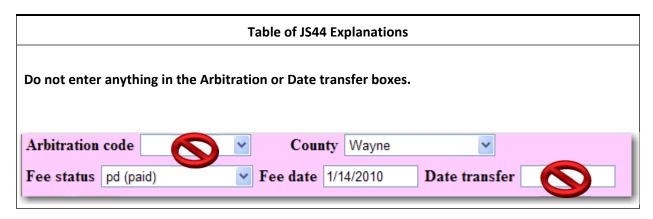


#### **Filing Fee Status**

The filing fee defaults to "pd (paid)." If the filing fee is waived or if filing for the United States, change the Fee Status field to "wv (waived or USA)". If an Application to Proceed In Forma Pauperis will be included with the initial documents, change the Fee Status field to "fp (in forma pauperis)." Leave the **Fee date** set to the default.



**Arbitration Code and Date Transfer** 



#### 4.1.2 Adding/Creating a New Party

The second step during the opening of a new civil case is to add parties to the case. All parties listed on the complaint, notice of removal, or other initiating document <u>must be</u> added at the time of filing. Clerk's office staff will not add party names if they are missed. A notice of error will be entered informing the filer to correct the problem.

In addition, there are other times when it is necessary to add parties to a case after the original parties have been added, such as when a third party complaint is filed.

The party entry screen is divided into two sections. On the left is the participant tree. As each new party is added to the case, the party will be listed in the participant tree on the left. The + and – icons for each branch expand or collapse the branch, respectively. The right side of the screen is used to search for parties to add to the case.

The following table provides a description for each of the icons that may appear in the participant tree.

Icon	Description
*	Delete this party from the case.
*	Add new alias, corporate parent, or attorney.
1	Edit the party, alias, corporate parent or attorney. Only displays beside actual names of participants, so if no participant has been added, this icon is suppressed.

The first step in the process when adding new parties to a case is to initiate a search of the court's database to see if a party's name already exists. To search for a party, enter the last name of the individual or a business name in the search fields. (Figure 4.1-3)

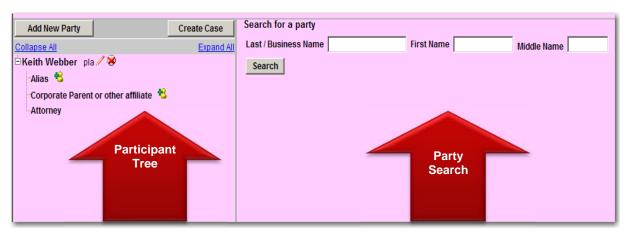
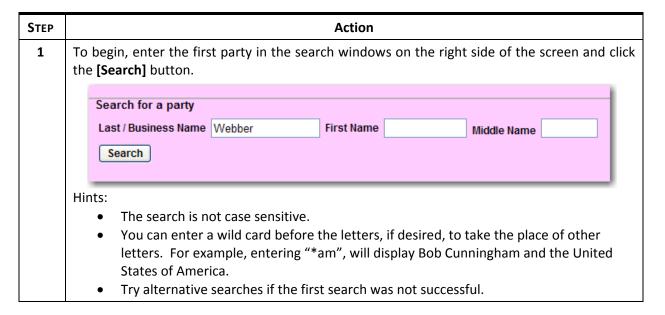
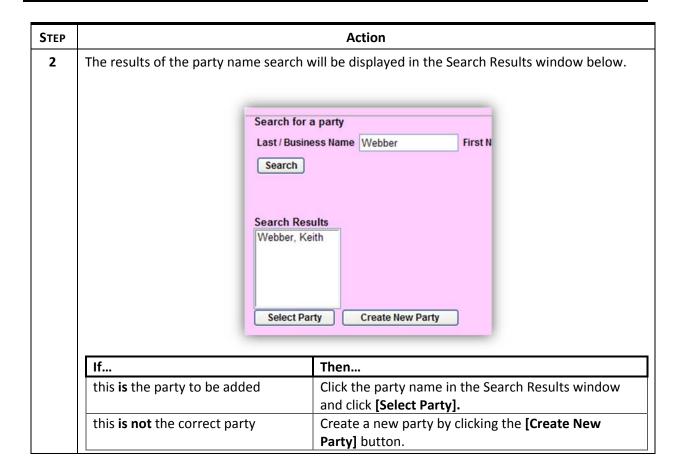
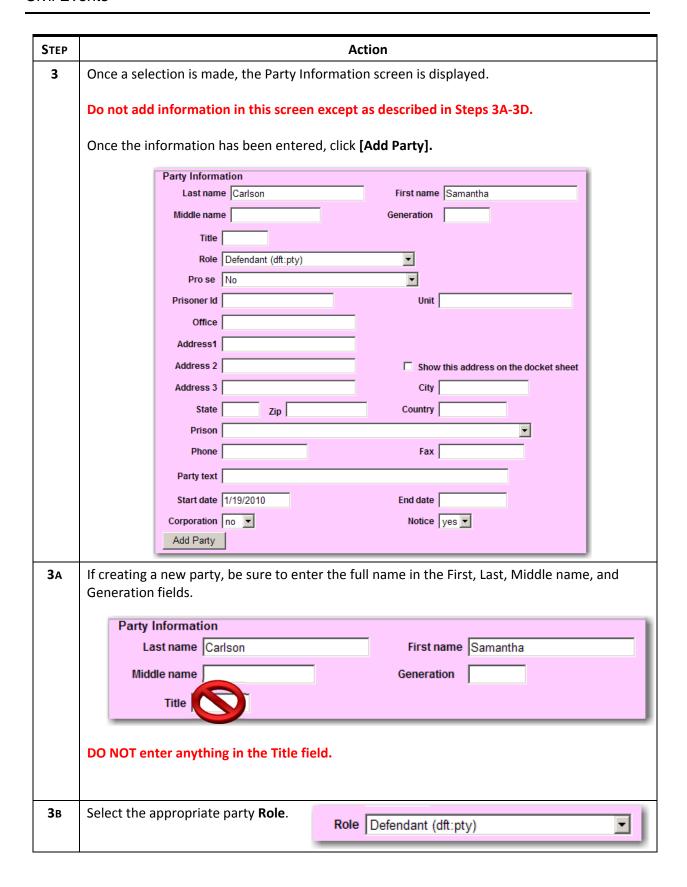


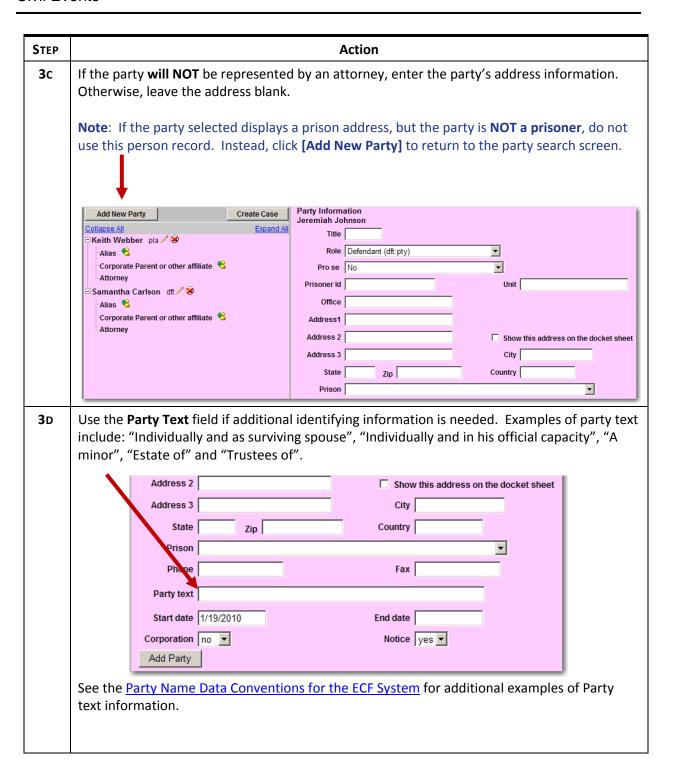
Figure 4.1-3

Depending on the outcome of the search, the party will either be available to select from a list of results, or it will not appear. Follow these steps to search for and add parties to a new or existing case:







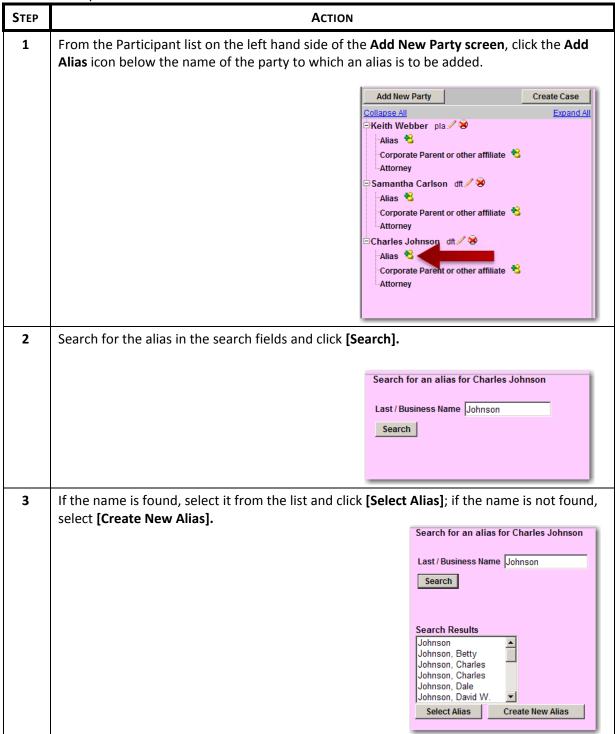


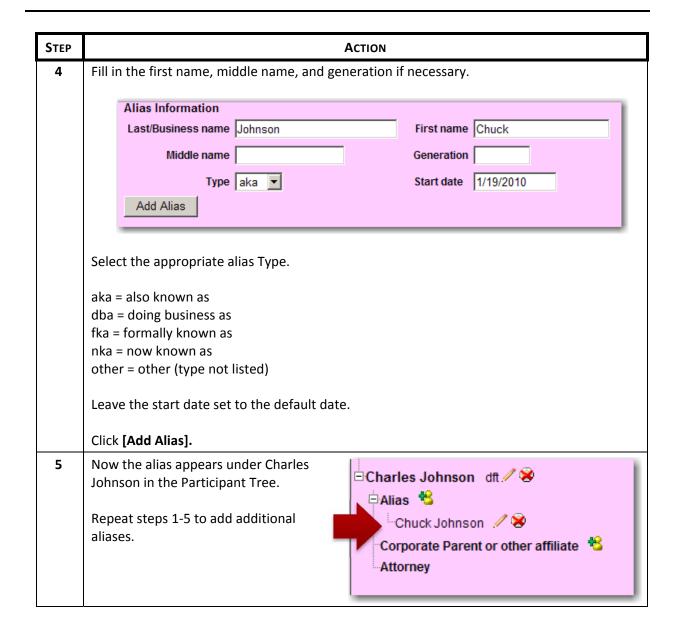
STEP	Action		
4	The new party will be added to the participant tree on the left.		
	Alias  If the party has an alias, enter the alias information at this time. See 4.1.3 Adding Alias for instructions.		
	Corporate Parent  If the party has a Corporate Parent or other affiliate, enter that information at this time. See  4.1.4 Adding Corporate Parent for instructions.		
	Review the participant tree. Double check that the party roles are correctly identified. If changes need to be made, click the edit icon. The party information screen will display on the right. Make the changes and click [Save Changes].		
	<b>Note:</b> Once a party has been added, the name cannot be edited. The party CAN be deleted by clicking the delete icon and then added again correctly. The party will not be in the correct order in the participant tree, but will appear correctly on the docket sheet.		
	To add another party, click [Add New Party] or, when all parties have been entered, click [Create Case].		
	<b>Warning</b> : Once [Create Case] has been clicked, you cannot go back and make changes to the parties including deleting them.		
	Add New Party  Collapse All  Keith Webber pla  Alias  Corporate Parent or other affiliate  Alias  Corporate Parent or other affiliate  Alias  Corporate Parent or other affiliate  Alias  Alias		
5	Continue the filing.		

### 4.1.3 Adding Alias

Part of adding new parties to a case involves adding alias information to parties which have an alias. Alias information is added to parties in the alias information screen after the party has been added to the case.

Follow these steps to add alias information:



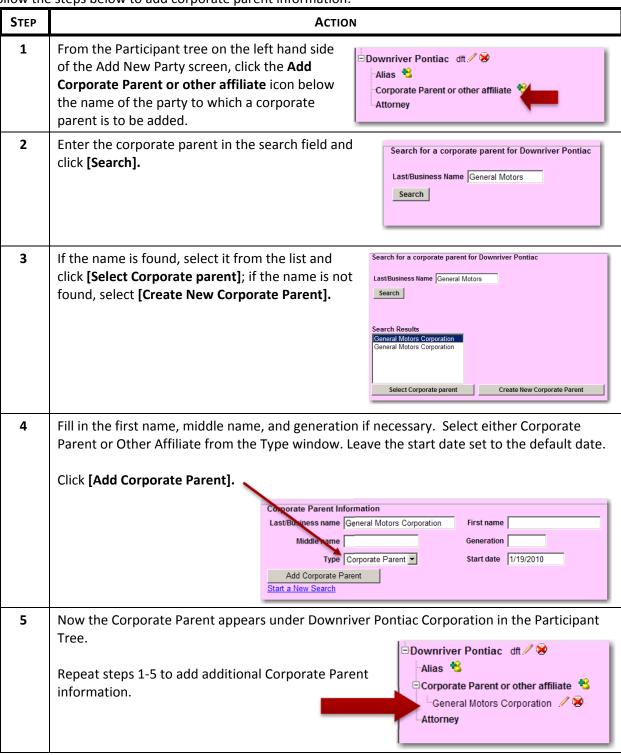


# 4.1.4 Adding Corporate Parent or Other Affiliate information

Also part of adding a new party is the addition of corporate parent or other affiliate information to corporate parties.

**Note:** Don't forget, if the party has a corporate parent they are required to submit a Statement of Disclosure of Corporate Affiliations and Financial Interest.

Follow the steps below to add corporate parent information:



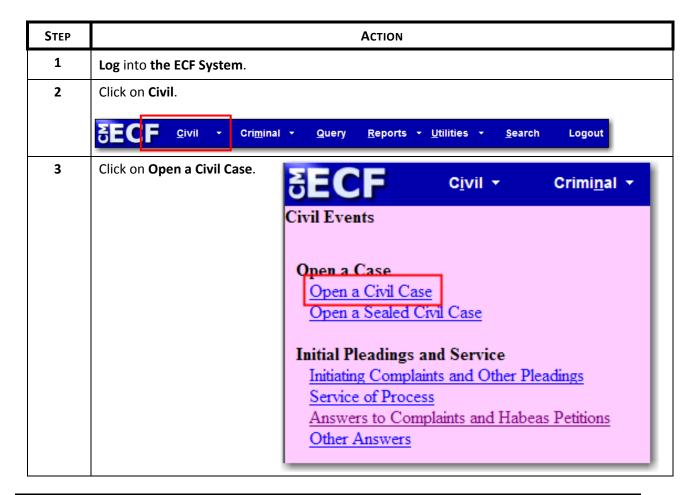
### 4.2 Filing Civil Initiating Document

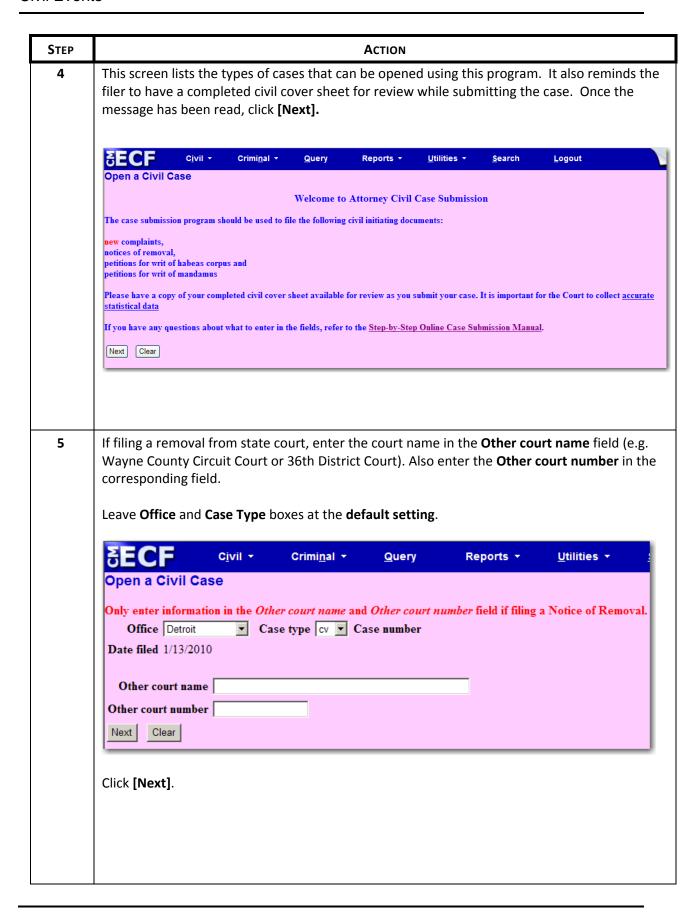
This section will illustrate the filing of a new civil case. Part of filing a new civil case involves adding the parties as described in the previous section.

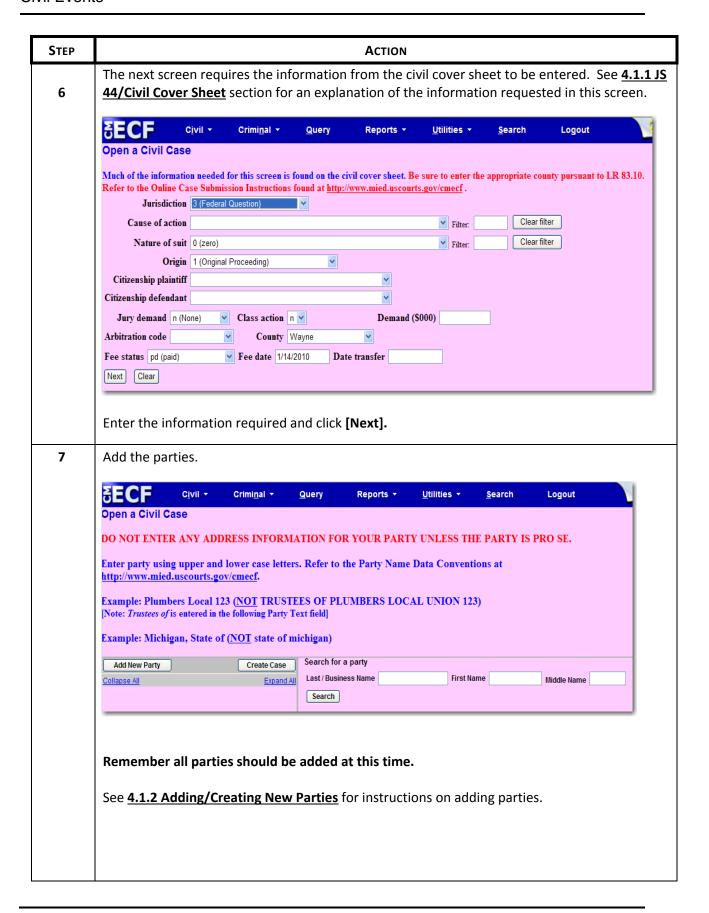
Before a user begins opening a new case, the following should be compiled to minimize any mistakes and to provide the court with accurate information compliant with local rules and ECF policies:

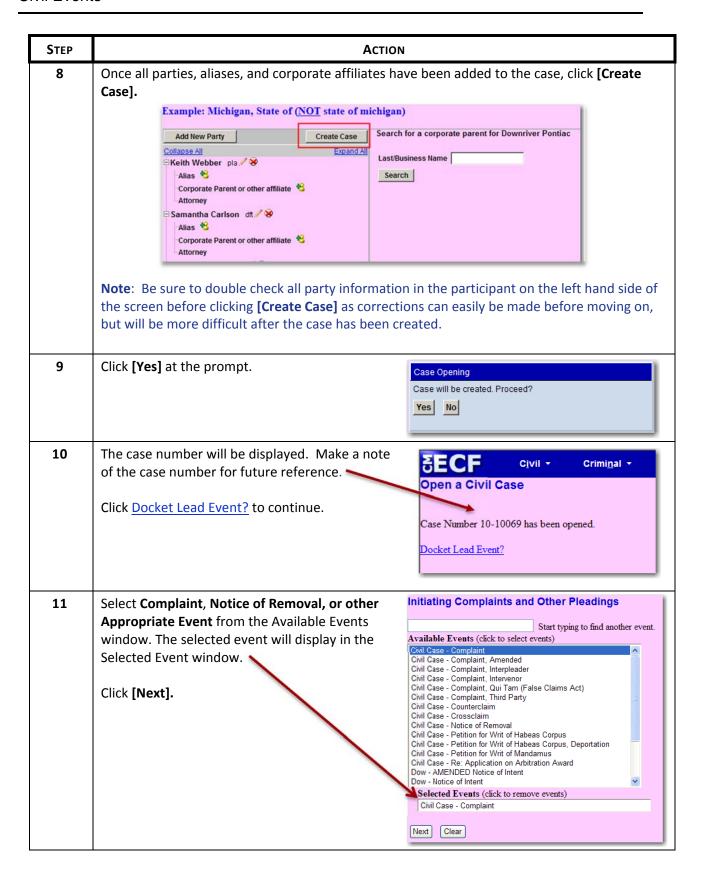
- 1. The initiating document saved as a PDF document.
  - a. Any accompanying documents, including exhibits, should be saved as separate PDF documents.
  - b. The 12.5 MB limit applies to any single PDF file.
- 2. Valid credit card to pay filing fees, if applicable (VISA, MasterCard, American Express, Discover, Diner's Club).
- 3. A completed civil cover sheet for easy reference when entering case statistical information into the ECF System. It is NOT necessary to upload a PDF copy of the civil cover sheet.
- 4. Names of all parties, including aliases and corporate parents. Review the <u>Party Name Data</u> <u>Conventions for the ECF System</u> prior to adding parties.

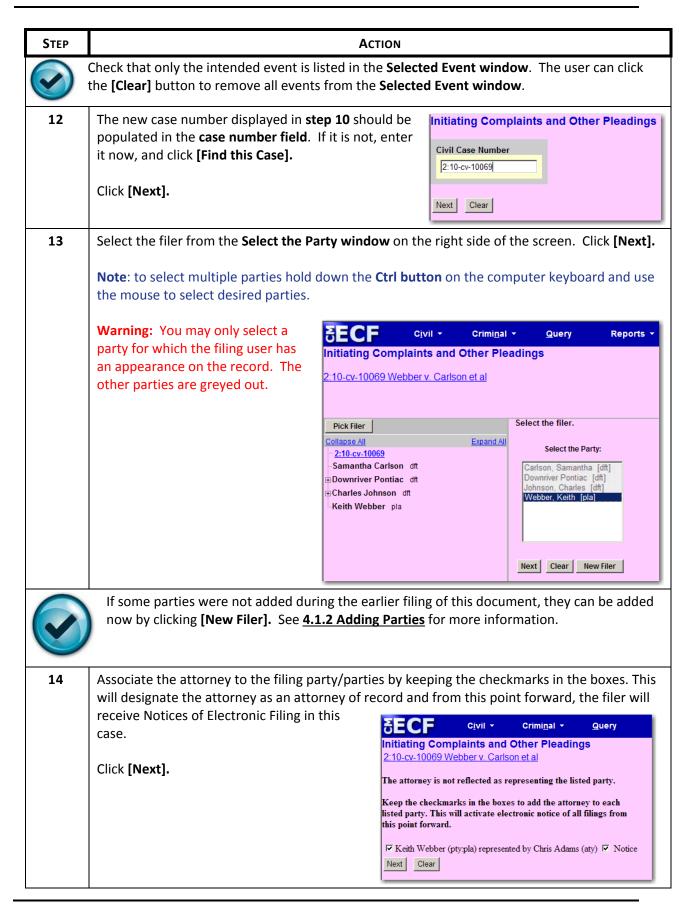
Once all necessary documents and information is gathered and formatted properly, follow these steps to file the new case:

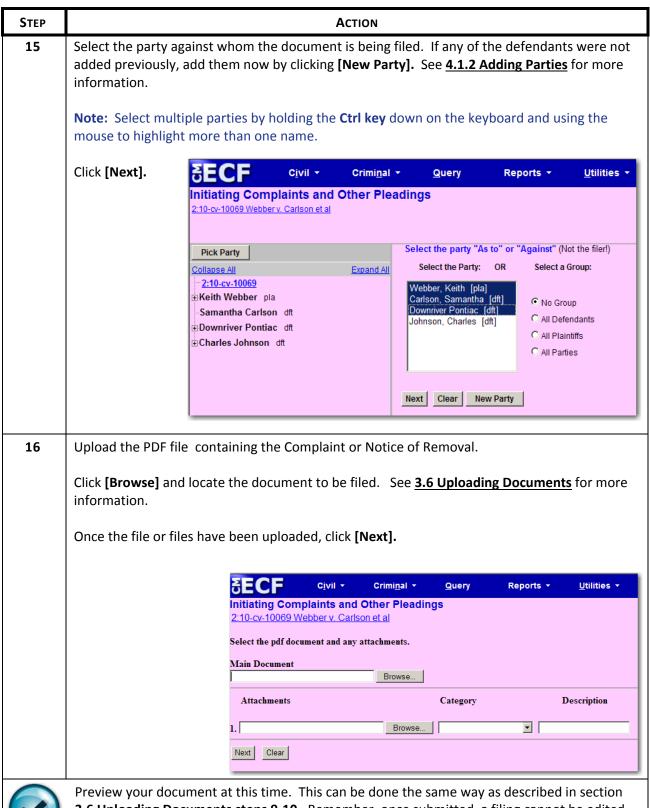








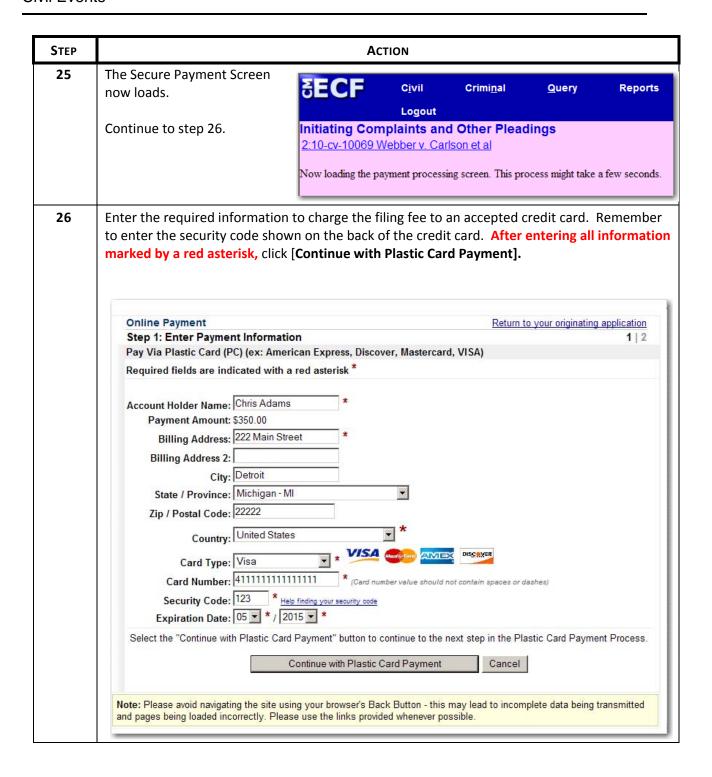


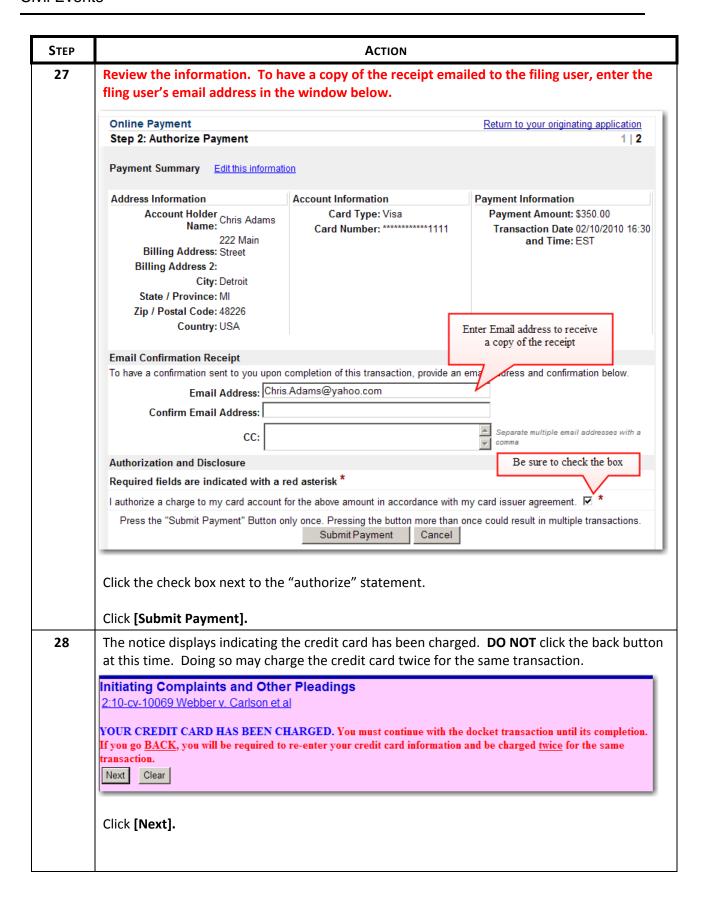


Preview your document at this time. This can be done the same way as described in section **3.6 Uploading Documents steps 9-10**. Remember, once submitted, a filing cannot be edited or changed in any way by an attorney.

STEP		Action		
17	To ensure accurate information is captured by the Court to determine the appropriate place of court is assigned to the case, enter the requested county information.			
	Click [Next].  Initiating Complaints and Other Pleadings 2:10-cv-10069 Webber v. Carlson et al			
		Enter the requested <u>county</u> information. If the action arose or if a party resides outside of Michigan, enter <i>Out of State</i> or <i>Out of Country</i> . If the party is the U.S. Government, enter <i>USA</i> .		
		Enter county in which action arose: Wayne		
		Enter county in which the first listed plaintiff resides: Wayne		
		Enter county in which the first listed defendant resides:  Wayne		
		Next Clear		
18		previously dismissed from either this court or another court, continue. Otherwise, leave the selection at "no" and click		
	[.toxtj.	Initiating Complaints and Other Pleadings 2:10-cv-10069 Webber v. Carlson et al		
	Has this case been previously dismissed from this or another cour C yes o no			
	Next   Clear			
		TOTAL STORY		
19	If there is a possible companio continue.	f there is a possible companion case, change the selection to "yes" and click [Next] to continue.		
	Initiating Complaints and Other Pleadings  2:10-cv-10069 Webber v. Carlson et al			
	<b>Note: Companion cases</b> are matters in which it appears	Are there any pending or previously discontinued or dismissed companion cases in this or any other court, including state court?		
	substantially similar evidence will be offered or the same or	Companion cases are matters in which it appears substantially similar evidence will be offered or the same or		
	related parties are present and	me or related parties are present and the cases arise out of the same transaction or occurrence.		
	the cases arise out of the same	Next Clear		
	transaction or occurrence.	100		
20	Indicate whether there is a Jur	initiating Complaints and Other Fleadings		
	contained within the complain	2:10-cv-10069 Webber v. Carlson et al		
	Click [Next].	Does this complaint include a jury demand?		
		C Yes		
		C No		
		Next Clear		

STEP	Action			
21	Make the appropriate selection regarding the fee status.			
	If filing		Then select	
	On behalf of United States			on behalf of United States
	An IFP application			oplication will be filed
	If fee waiver in accordance with 28	USC 1916		raiver included in accordance with 28
	is included		USC 1	916
	Any other type		Fee m	nandatory*
	screens will follow that will walk the user through paying the filing fee using a credit card.  Warning: Failure to pay filing fee may result in the dismissal of the case		Select one of the following  © fee mandatory  C filing on behalf of United States  C ifp application will be filed  C fee waiver included in accordance with 28 USC 1916	
22	A message displays that states that of "Back" button in the Web browser; of no errors before continuing with the Click [Next] to continue.	otherwise the filing of the linitiating Con 2:10-cv-10069 W  The required filin WARNING: After	nere ma e comp nplaints a Vebber v. C g fee must b r payment c ilure to con	ay be a filing error. Make sure there are laint.  Ind Other Pleadings  Garlson et al  Or paid online using a credit card.  Of the filing fee, you MUST continue with the docket transaction until tinue will result in your credit card being charged, with no record of
23	Choose "yes" from the drop-down to pay online. Click [Next].  Note: If you choose not "N" instead of Y, you will still be able to complete the filing; however, you will have 7 days to send the payment to the Clerk's Office before the case is dismissed.	Initiating Complaints and Other Pleadings 2:10-cv-10069 Webber v. Carlson et al  Are you paying the filing fee via credit card Y/N?  Ves Next Clear		
24	Click [Next].			Initiating Complaints and Other Pleadings 2:10-cv-10069 Webber v. Carlson et al  Fee: \$350  Next Clear





STEP	Action		
29	Indicate if summons will need to be issued for the defendants in this case.		
	Initiating Complaints and Other Pleadings 2:10-cv-10069 Webber v. Carlson et al  To accomplish service of this complaint, please select one of the following. Note - Court staff will electronically issue a summons within one business day.  © Summons Requested © No Summons Requested at this Time  Next Clear		
29A	If summons were requested on the previous screen this notice will display.		
	Click [Next].  Court staff will electronically issue the requested summons(es) within one business day of filing. You will receive a Notice of Electronic Filing containing the summons. Be sure to e-file the return of service.  Next Clear		
	Review the docket text below. The <b>free text window</b> may be used to further describe the filing, but is not necessary.  If errors are noticed at this time, continue the filing and contact the Help Desk. <b>DO NOT</b> attempt to click the "back" button to correct the errors.  Click [Next].  Initiating Complaints and Other Pleadings		
	2:10-cv-10069 Webber v. Carlson et al  Case retention period is: 20 Free Text Window		
	COMPLAINT filed by Keith Webber against Samantha Carlson, Downriver Pontiac, Charles Johnson . Plaintiff requests summons issued. Receipt No: 0645-79366 - Fee: \$ 350. County of 1st Plaintiff: Wayne - County Where Action Arose: Wayne - County of 1st Defendant: Wayne. [Previously dismissed case: No] [Possible companion case(s): None] (Adams, Chris)  Next Clear		

STEP	Action
31	This is the final review screen.
	Click [Next].
	Initiating Complaints and Other Pleadings
	2:10-cv-10069 Webber v. Carlson et al
	Docket Text: Final Text
	COMPLAINT filed by Keith Webber against Samantha Carlson, Downriver Pontiac, Charles Johnson. Plaintiff requests summons issued. Receipt No: 0645-79366 - Fee: \$ 350. County of 1st Plaintiff: Wayne - County Where Action Arose: Wayne - County of 1st Defendant: Wayne. [Previously dismissed case: No] [Possible companion case(s): None] (Adams, Chris)
	Attention!! Pressing the NEXT button on this screen commits this transaction. You will have no further opportunity to modify this transaction if you continue.  Have you redacted?
	Source Document Path (for confirmation only):  C:\Documents and Settings\clark\My Documents\Training Programs\Training Documents\08-10002 \Complaint.pdf pages: 1
	Next Clear
32	The filing is now complete and the NEF will display.

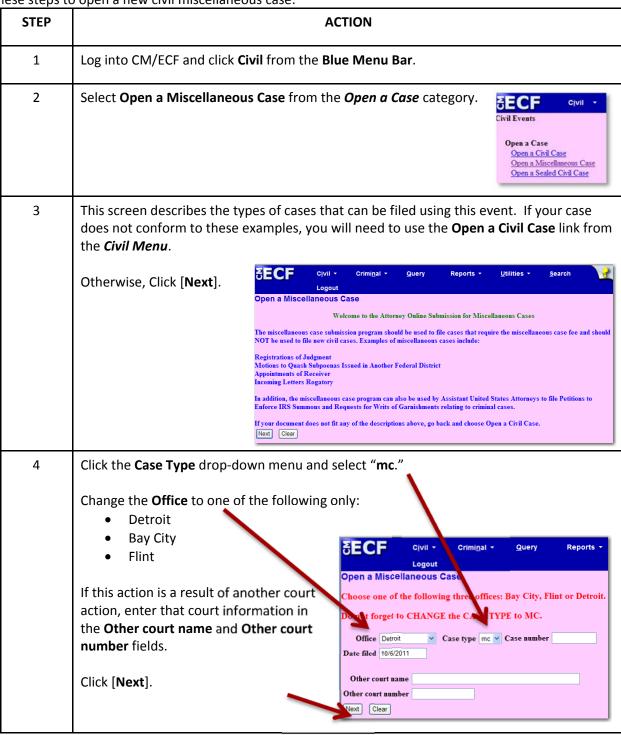
# 4.3 Filing a New Miscellaneous Case

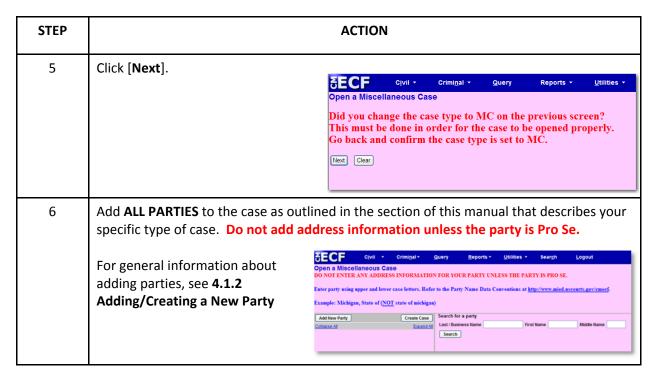
E-Filing users may initiate a new civil miscellaneous case in the CM/ECF system. The following types of cases can be opened with this event:

- Appointments of Receiver
- Incoming Letters Rogatory
- Motions/Petitions to Quash
- Registrations of Judgment
- Petitions to Enforce IRS Summons (U.S. Attorney Only)
- Applications for Writs of Continuing Garnishment (U.S. Attorney Only)

#### 4.3.1 General Information

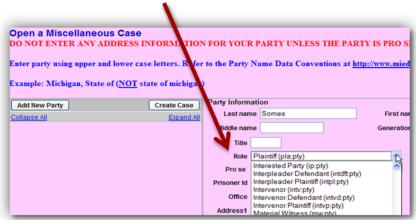
Generally, all miscellaneous cases are opened in the **Open a Miscellaneous Case** link in CM/ECF. Follow these steps to open a new civil miscellaneous case:





### 4.3.2 Adding Parties to Miscellaneous Case

Depending on the type of case being opened, you may need to add specific parties and select different types of roles from the **Role** drop-down menu. The following examples will illustrate various scenarios.



**Figure 4.3-1** 

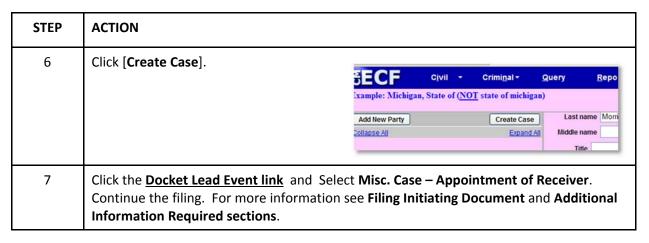
### **Appointment of Receiver**

When filing an **Order Appointing Receiver**, **ALL** plaintiffs and defendants from the originating case in the originating court are added to the case. See the **4.1.2 Adding/Creating New Parties** for more information on adding parties.

In addition, the **Receiver** is added as a party with a Role of "**Receiver**." Do not add address information for any parties, including the Receiver.

**Example**: Entering an Order Appointing Receiver signed by a judge from the U.S. District Court in Missouri Eastern. The Receiver appointed is Morris-Anderson and Associates, Limited.

STEP	ACTION	
1	Add the Plaintiffs and Defendants to the case. See <b>4.1.2 Adding/Creating New Parties</b> for information on how to add a party to the case.	
2	In the Party Search Screen, enter <i>Morris-Anderson and Associates, Limited</i> in the Last/Business Name field.	
	Click [Search].  Search for a  Last / Busines  [Search]	party ss Name Associates, Limited First Name
If the search produces a result, click on the name in the <b>Search Results</b> [Select Party].		ame in the <b>Search Results</b> window and click
	If the name does not return any results, click [Create New Party].	Select Party  Select Party  Create New Party  Search returned no results. Please try again or create a new party.
4	From the <b>Role</b> drop-down menu, click <b>Receiv</b> (rc:pty).	Party Information  Last name Morris-Anderson and Associa First nan Middle name Generation  Title Generation  Title Nole Defendant (dft.pty) Intervency flaintiff (intpl.pty) Intervency flaintiff (intpl.pty) Intervency Plaintiff (intpl.pty) Material Witness (mvr.pty) Movent (mvr.pty)  Address 2 Mediator (med.pty) State Petitioner (pet.pty)  Poperty (prop.pty) Property (prop.pty)  Property (prop.pty) Receiver (cr.pty)  Phone Sepondent (res.pty) Special Master (sm.pty)  E mail Taynawer (taynay)
5	Click [Add Party].	Start date 4/20/2011 Corporation no  Add Party
		, was dry

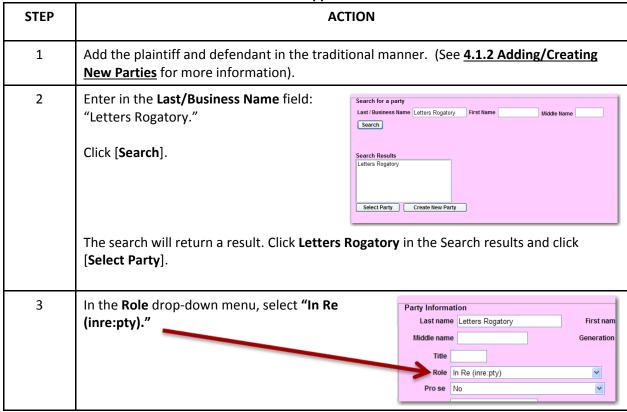


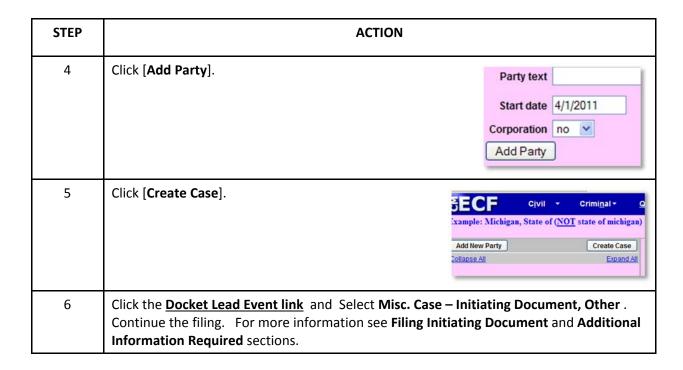
# **Letters Rogatory**

When filing **Letters Rogatory**, **ALL** plaintiffs and defendants from the originating case in the originating court are added to the case. See the **4.1.2 Adding/Creating New Parties** for more information on adding parties.

In addition, the **Letters Rogatory** the **party** is entered as an "In Re:" party type.

**Example**: Request by Italy pursuant to the treaty between the USA and Italian Republic on mutual assistance in criminal matters in the matter of Giuseppe D'Anna.



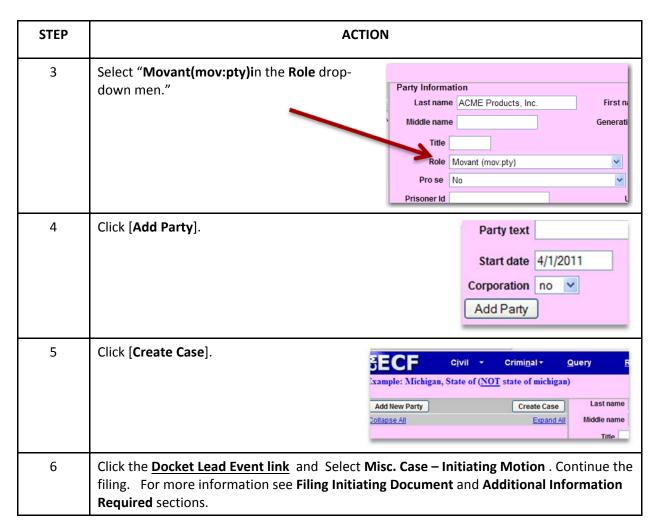


### Motion/Petition to Quash

When filing a **motion or petition to quash**, **ALL** plaintiffs and defendants from the originating case are added to the case. If the party filing the Motion to Quash is not a party to the case, add the moving party with a party role of "**movant**."

**Example:** ACME Products, Inc. is served a subpoena requesting production of documents for a case in another district. ACME Products, Inc. is located in this district and files the Motion to Quash in this court. ACME Products, Inc. is not a party to this case.

STEP	ACTION		
1	Add the plaintiff and defendant in the traditional manner. (See <b>4.1.2 Adding/Creating New Parties</b> for more information).		
2	Enter in the Last/Business Name field: "ACME Products, Inc."  Click [Search].  Search for a party  Last / Business Name CME Products, Inc. First Name  Search		
	Click [Select Party] or [Create New Party].  Select Party   Create New Party   Search returned no results. Please try again or create a new party.		



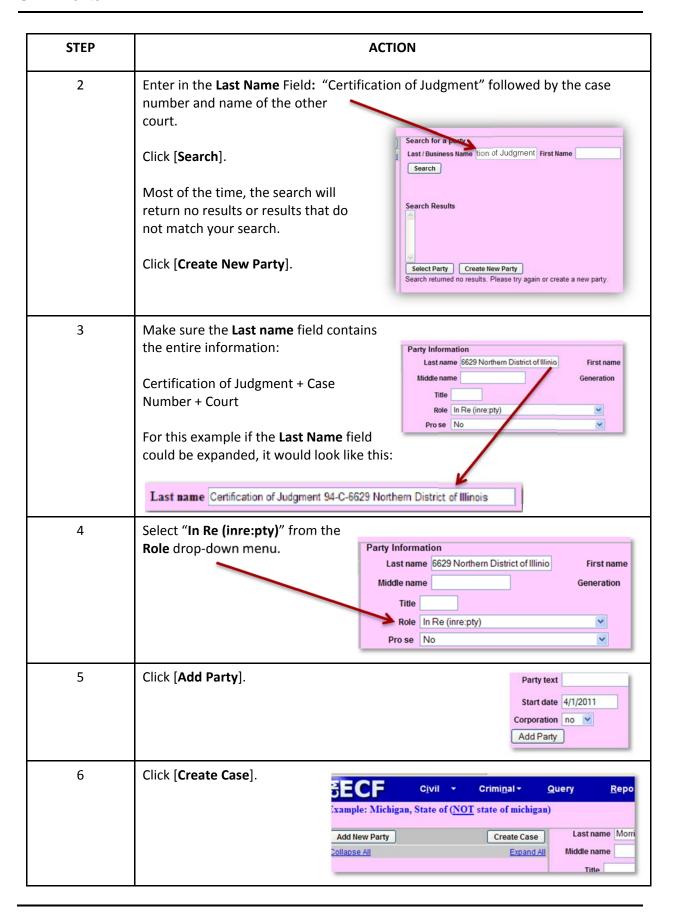
# Registration of Judgment

When filing a **Registration of Judgment**, **ALL** plaintiffs and defendants from the originating case in the originating court are added to the case. See the <u>4.1.2 Adding/Creating New Parties</u> for more information on adding parties.

In addition, the **Certification of Judgment** is added as a party with a Role of "**In Re**." Do not add address information for any parties.

**Example:** Case Number 94-C-6629 Judgment from the Northern District of Illinois to be registered in the Eastern District of Michigan.

STEP	ACTION
1	Add the plaintiff and defendant in the traditional manner. (See <u>4.1.2</u> <u>Adding/Creating New Parties</u> for more information).

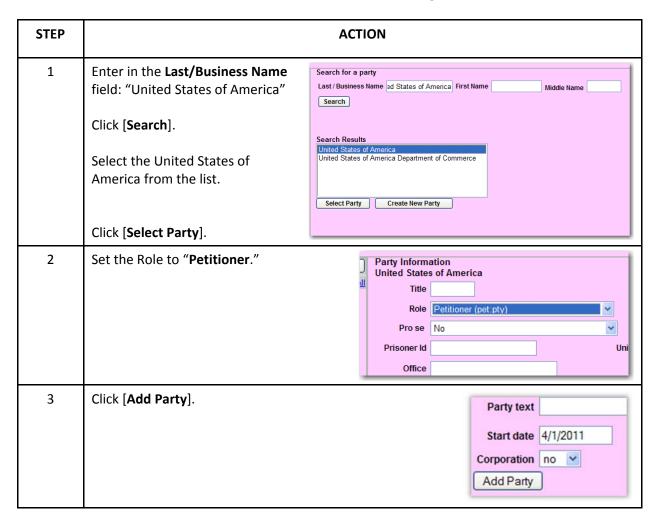


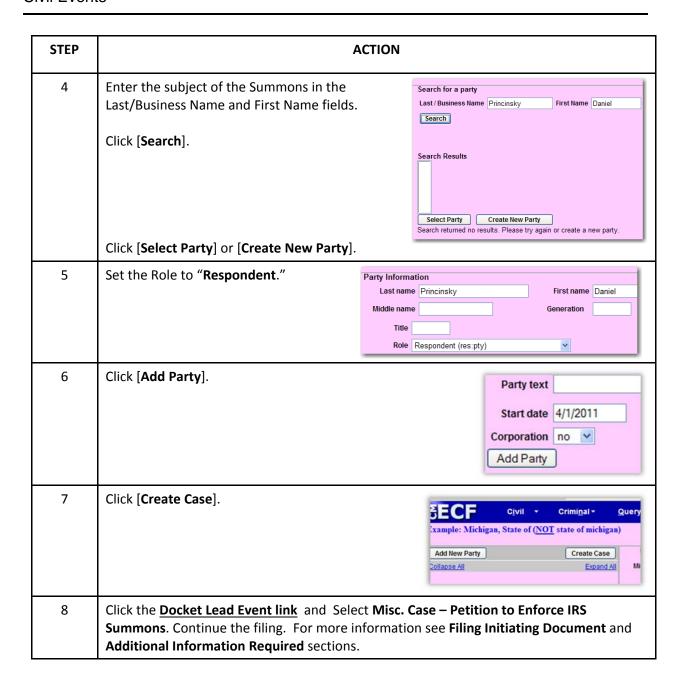
STEP	ACTION
7	Click the <u>Docket Lead Event link</u> and Select Misc. Case – Registration of Judgment. Continue the filing. For more information see Filing Initiating Document and Additional Information Required sections.

# Petition to Enforce IRS Summons

(For use by United States Attorney's Office only) When filing a Petition to Enforce IRS Summons, the United States is added as a party with the role of "Petitioner" and the subject of the IRS Summons is added as the "Respondent."

**Example**: A Petition to Enforce IRS Summons is being filed against Daniel Princinsky. The United States initiates a Miscellaneous Case with the Petition as the initiating document.



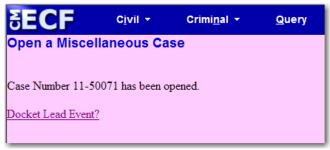


# **Applications for Writs of Continuing Garnishment**

(For use by United States Attorney's Office only) When an Application for Writ of Continuing Garnishment is filed and relates to a previous criminal case, open the case as described in the General Information section. Add the parties as follows:

- Plaintiff: United States of America
- Defendant: Only the criminal defendant the garnishment pertains to

Once the parties have been added, the case is created and the following screen displays.

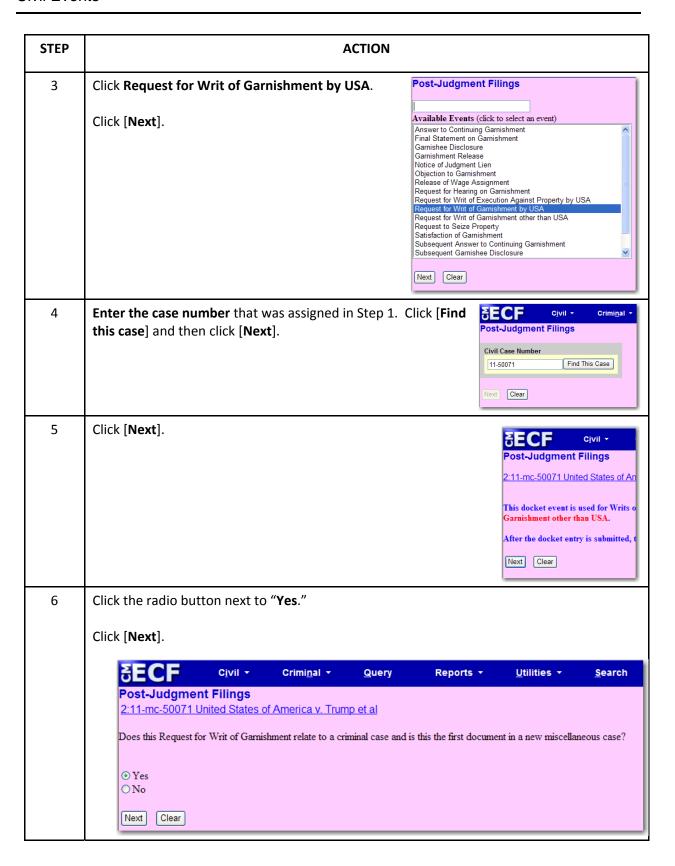


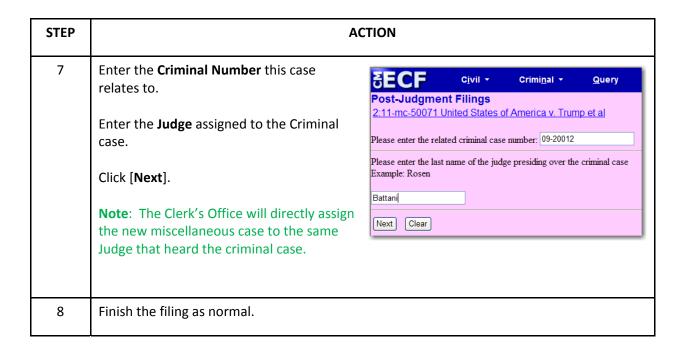
**Figure 4.3-2** 

IMPORTANT!! When filing an Application for Writ of Continuing Garnishment that relates to a previous criminal case and is the FIRST document being filed, **DO NOT** click the Docket Lead Event link shown in the screen above.

Follow these instructions to docket the Application:

STEP	ACTION	
1	After receiving the case number, instead of clicking "Docket Lead Event," click <b>Civil</b> from the main menu.	Open a Miscellaneous Case  Case Number 11-50071 has been opened.  Docket Lead Event?
2	Click Post-Judgment Collection Documents.	Post-Judgment Filings Post-Judgment Collection Documents  Sealed Filings Sealed Documents





# 4.3.3 Filing Initiating Document

When filing a new miscellaneous case, you will need to select the appropriate event from the **Initiating Complaints and Other Pleadings** Available Events window (pictured). All available miscellaneous case initiating documents are listed with "Misc. Case" before the title of the document.

DO NOT select a document with "Civil Case" before the title.

DO NOT select Petition to Enforce IRS Summons or U.S. Attorney Case Initiation, unless you are representing the United States of America.

When Filing a Petition for Writ of Continuing Garnishment DO NOT use any of these events. (See "Applications for Writs of Continuing Garnishment" for more information).

Click on the appropriate event and click [Next]. (See the Additional Information Required section for more specific information about each event and to determine which event to use).



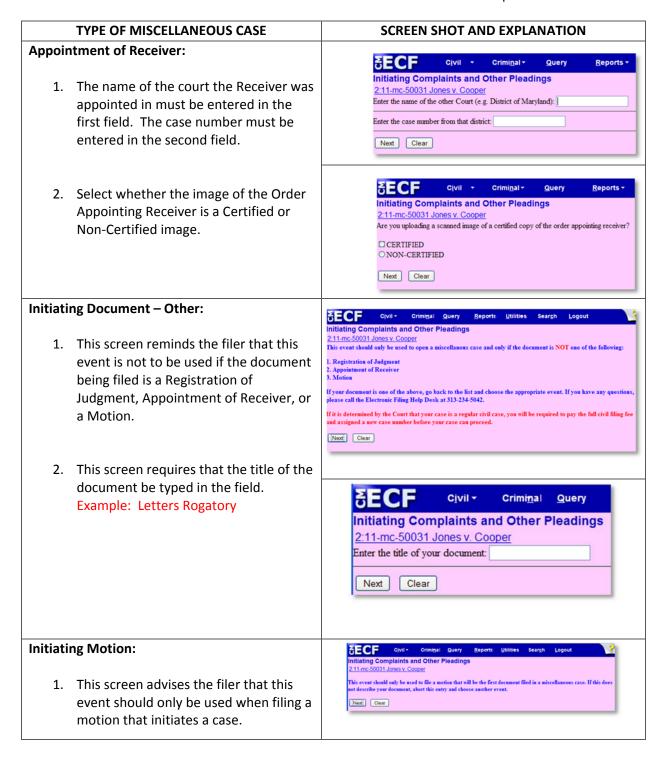
**Figure 4.3-3** 

### 4.3.4 Payment Information

Miscellaneous cases have a fee of \$46.00. The fee is paid on-line during the filing process with a credit card. For more information on how the payment process works, see **4.2 Filing Civil Initiating Document, starting with step 22**. Payment of the fee **MUST** be made during the filing unless the case is being filed by the United States Attorney's Office.

### 4.3.5 Additional Information Required

Depending on the type of document selected, there may be additional screens that require specific information. The table below will detail these screens and what information is required:



#### **TYPE OF MISCELLANEOUS CASE**

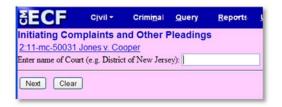
 This screen requires that the title after the word "Motion" should be entered; such as "to Quash Subpoena." DO NOT include the word "Motion" in the text field.

#### **SCREEN SHOT AND EXPLANATION**



# **Registration of Judgment:**

- 1. This screen requires the user to enter the court from which the judgment was issued.
- 2. This screen requires that the user indicate that "Yes" the document being uploaded is a scanned image of a certified copy of the judgment and a Registration of Judgment form completed by a clerk from the court where the judgment was issued.

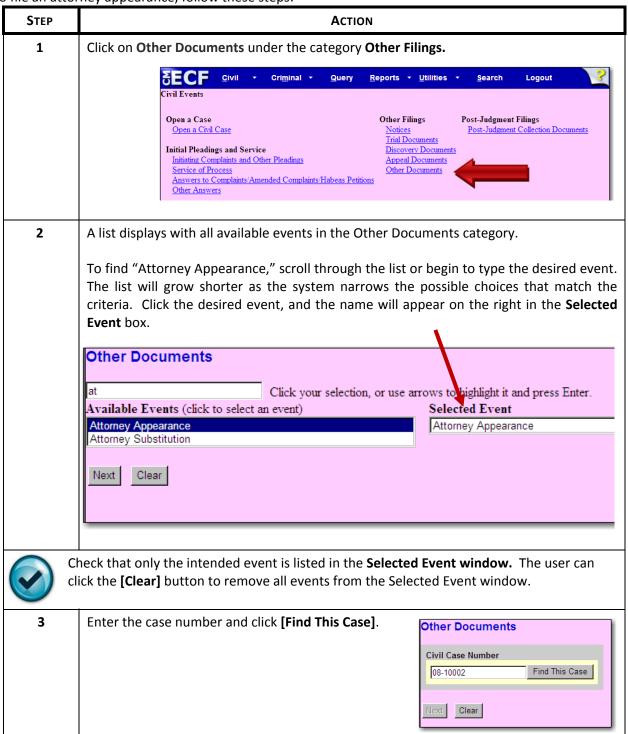


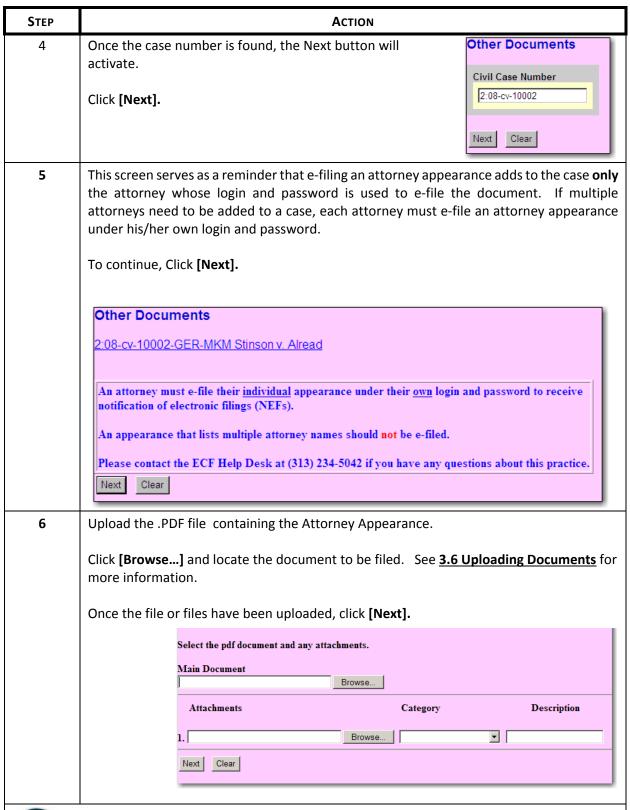


### 4.4 Filing an Attorney Appearance

Filing an Appearance is necessary in order to link an attorney to a specific party in a case. Linking an attorney to a party ensures the attorney receives notices of electronic filing in a case.

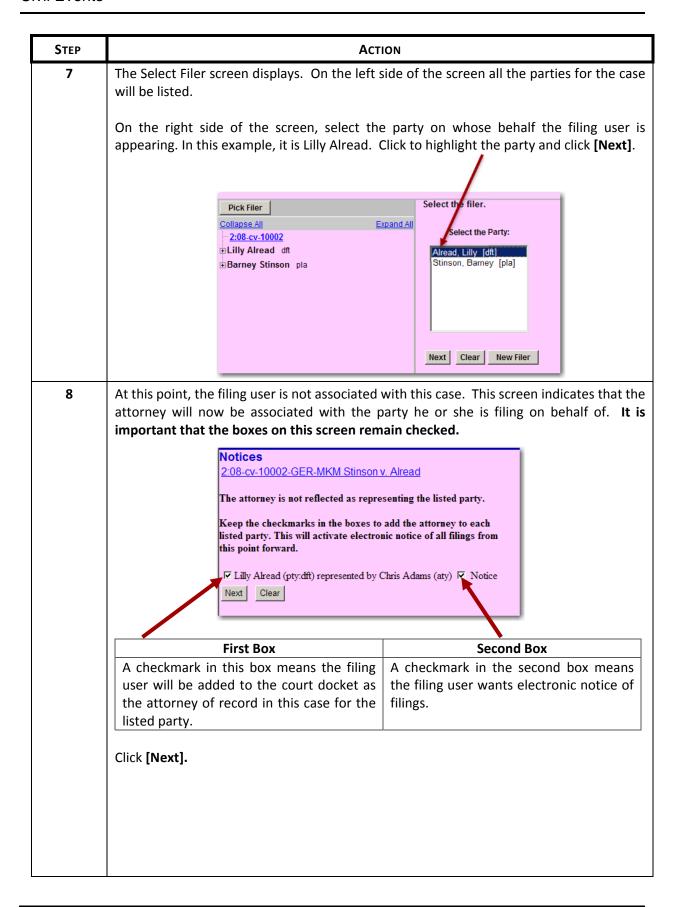
To file an attorney appearance, follow these steps:







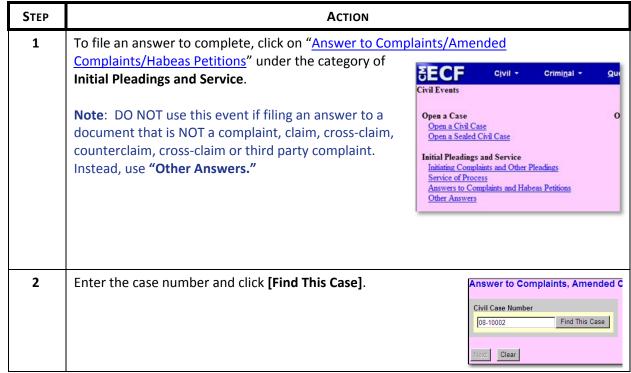
Preview your document at this time. This can be done the same way as described in section **3.6 Uploading Documents steps 9-10**. Remember, once submitted, a filing cannot be edited or changed in any way by an attorney.

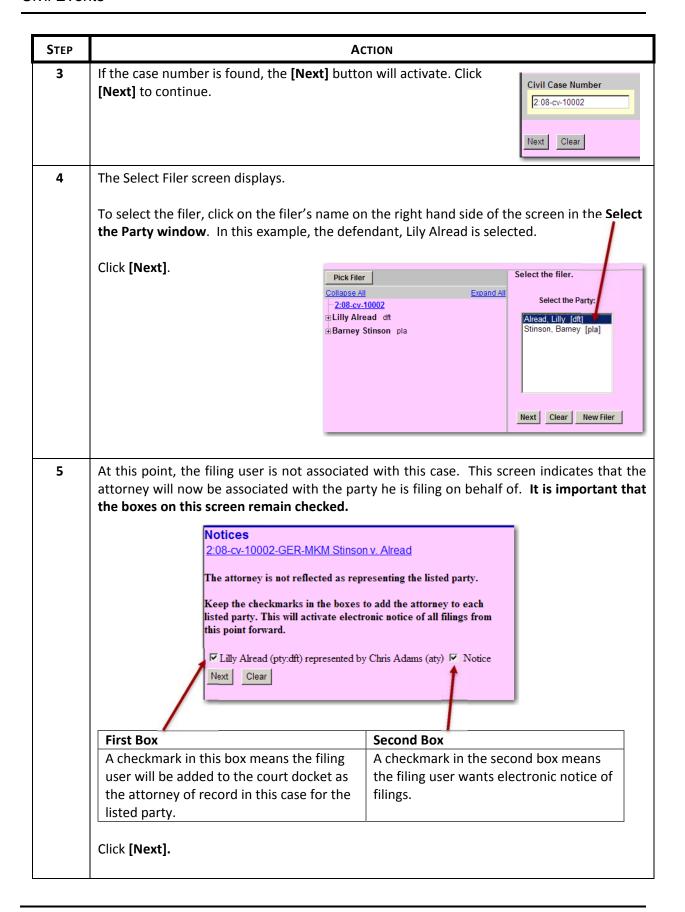


Sтер	Action		
9	This screen is the final check before committing this transaction. Look through the docket text to make sure it is correct, and verify the case number at the top of the screen.  Notice the <b>Source Document Path</b> as another check that the correct PDF is uploaded to the record. At this point it is still possible to click back and make changes.		
	Click [Next] to submit  Docket Text: Final Text NOTICE of Appearance by Chris A Adams on behalf of Lilly Alread. (Adams, Chris)  Attention!! Pressing the NEXT button on this screen commits this transaction. You will have no further opportunity to modify this transaction if you continue. Have you redacted?  Source Document Path (for confirmation only): C:Documents and Settings(clark My Documents) Training Programs (Training Documents) 08-10002 (ATTORNEY APPEARANCE pdf pages: 2		
	<b>Note</b> : Once the Next button is clicked, the transaction cannot be cancelled or changed.		
10	The Notice of Electronic Filing displays.		

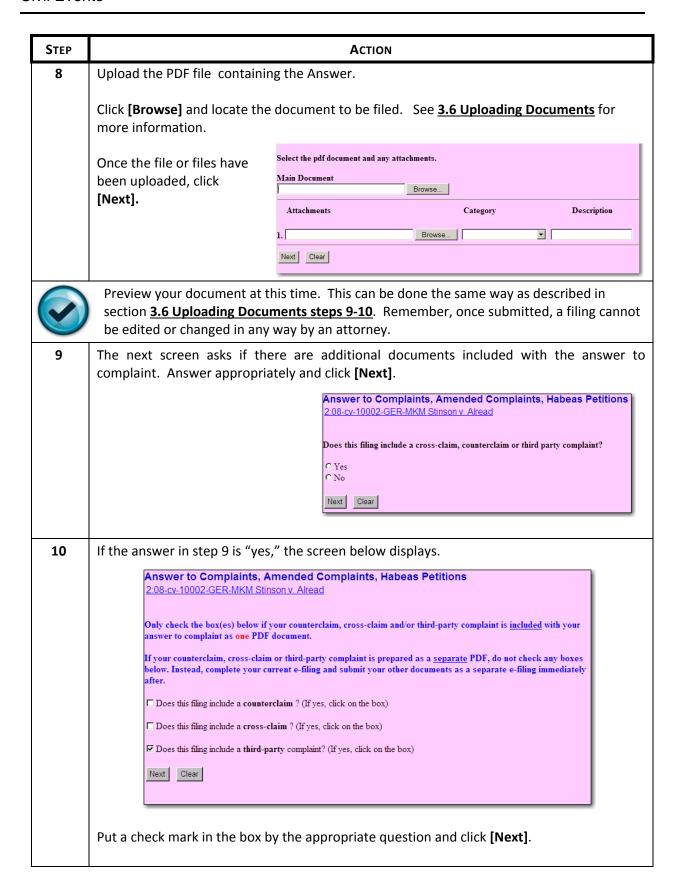
# 4.5 Filing an Answer to Complaint

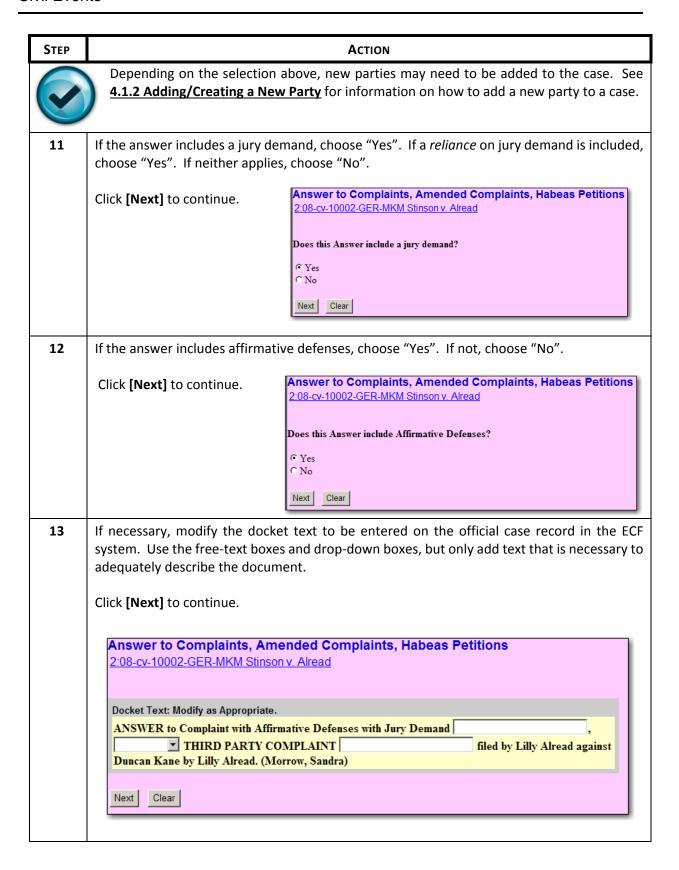
Follow these steps to file an answer to complaint, claim, counterclaim, cross-claim or third-party complaint.

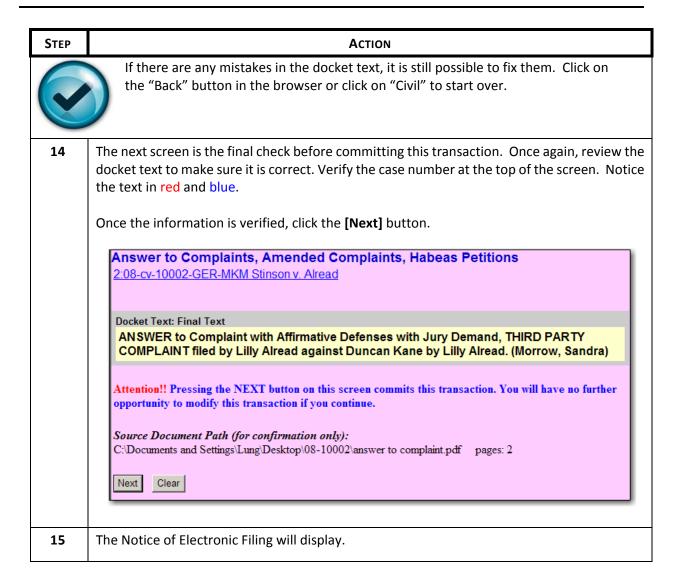




# **STEP ACTION** 6 The system now displays all of the complaints and claims, including notices of removal, counterclaims, cross-claims and third-party complaints, for which an answer is still due in the case. Check the box next to the entry that this answer relates to and click [Next]. Answer to Complaints, Amended Complaints, Habeas Petitions 2:08-cv-10002-GER-MKM Stinson v. Alread Include Date Docket Text 01/22/2008 1 COMPLAINT filed by Barney Stinson against Lilly Alread Receipt No: 52552 -Fee: \$ 350. (Lung, V) Clear Next Note: If the complaint was originally filed in another court and the case has been removed to federal court, select the Notice of Removal. For more information about the complaint, click on the complaint's document number hyperlink (1) to log into PACER and view the electronic image of the complaint. PACER fees will apply. 7 This screen reminds the filer of the obligation to file a **Statement of Disclosure of Corporate** Affiliations and Financial Interest if representing a corporate party. Once the filing of the answer to complaint is complete, the user should prepare and e-file the Statement (if required) as a separate filing. (This form can be found on the court's web site at www.mied.uscourts.gov in the Forms section.) Answer to Complaints, Amended Complaints, Habeas Petitions 2:08-cv-10002-GER-MKM Stinson v. Alread Reminder: Pursuant to LR 83.4, all corporate parties to a civil case must file a Statement of Disclosure of Corporate Affiliations and Financial Interest. If required and you have not already done so, please prepare and e-file this Statement immediately after the completion of this e-filing. Next Clear Click [Next] to continue.







# 4.6 Filing of Discovery Materials

The District Court does not accept discovery material in accordance with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 5(d) and Eastern District of Michigan Local Rule 26.2:

#### 4.6.1 Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(d)

FILING CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE: All papers after the complaint required to be served upon a party, together with a certificate of service, must be filed with the court within a reasonable time after service, but disclosures under Rule 26(a)(1) or (2) and the following discovery requests and responses must not be filed until they are used in the proceeding or the court orders filing: (i) depositions, (ii) interrogatories, (iii) requests for documents or to permit entry upon land, and (iv) requests for admissions.

Note that "Discovery requests" include deposition notices and "Discovery responses" include objections. [Please review Fed. R. Civ. P. 30, 31, 33, 34, and 36.]

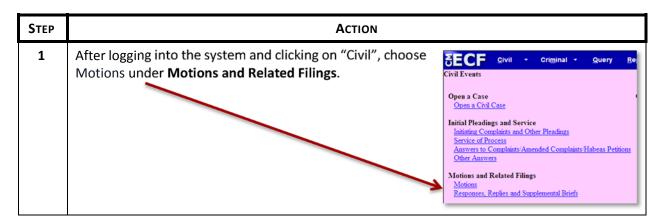
## 4.6.2 LR 26.2 Filing of Discovery Material [Effective 7/01/01]

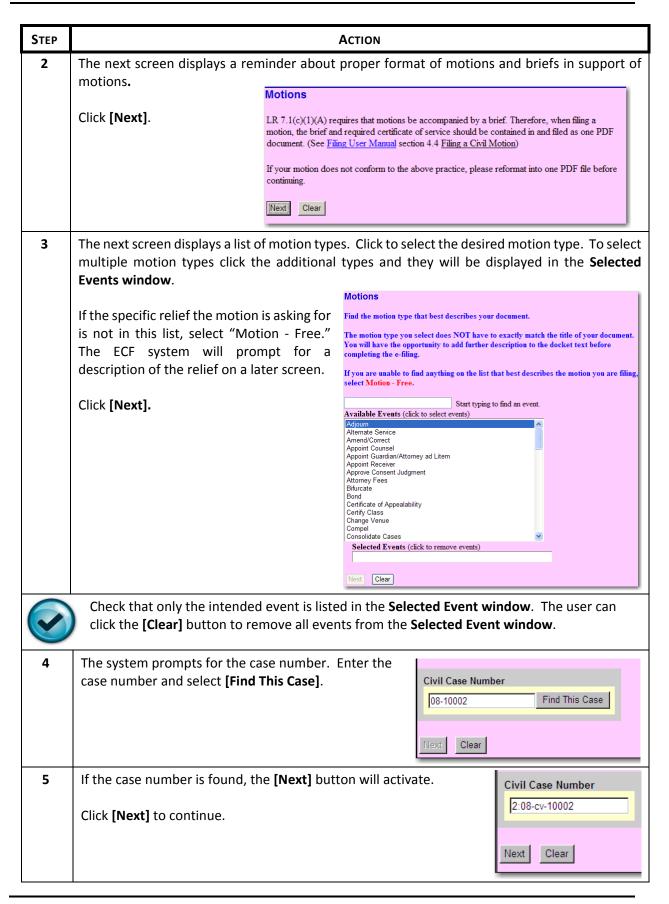
- (a) Depositions, interrogatories, requests for the production of documents, requests for admission and responses to such discovery material shall not be filed with the Clerk except:
  - (1) When discovery material provides factual support of a motion, response, or reply, the party relying on the material must file it as an exhibit or attachment to the motion, response, or reply.
  - (2) When discovery material is to be read or otherwise used during a trial, hearing or other miscellaneous proceeding, the party relying on the material must file it at the start of the trial, hearing or proceeding or at such later time as the Court permits.
- **(b)** Filing of all deposition material shall be only in written form. If audiotaped or videotaped, a written transcript of the depositions will be accepted for filing.
- (c) The party taking the deposition, initiating interrogatories, requesting the production of documents and admissions and any responses to such requests shall maintain custody of the deposition or other discovery material until it is filed with the Court, or until six months after the expiration of the last applicable appeal period, or until the Court directs otherwise. When the Court orders filing, the party charged with custody of the discovery material must file it with the Court within 10 days of service of the order, unless the Court directs otherwise.
- (d) If discovery material not previously filed with the Clerk is needed for an appeal in a case, the party maintaining custody of the discovery material shall file it with the Clerk either on stipulation of the parties or on order of the Court.

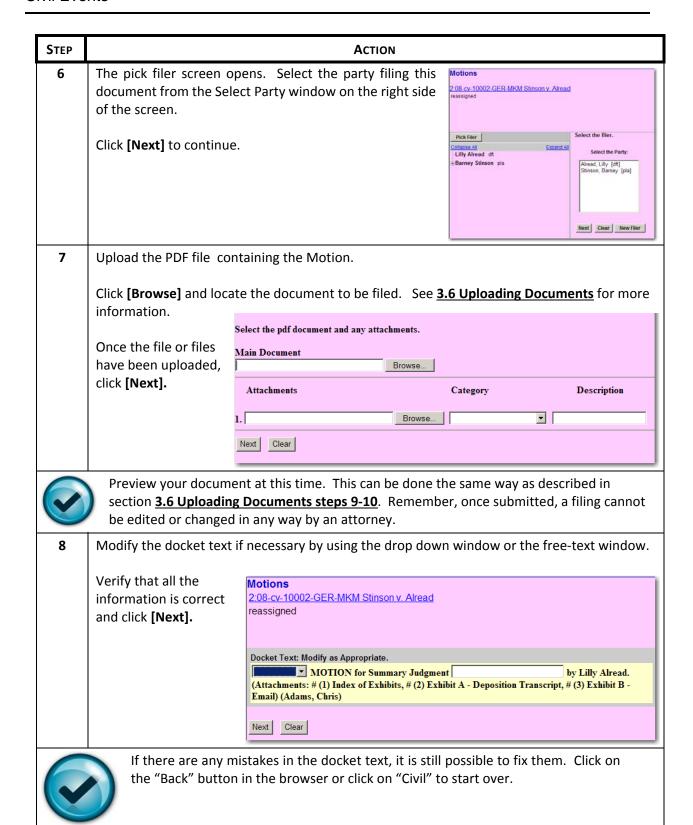
Note: See Notice Regarding Filing of Deposition and/or Other Discovery Material (Local Rule 26.2)

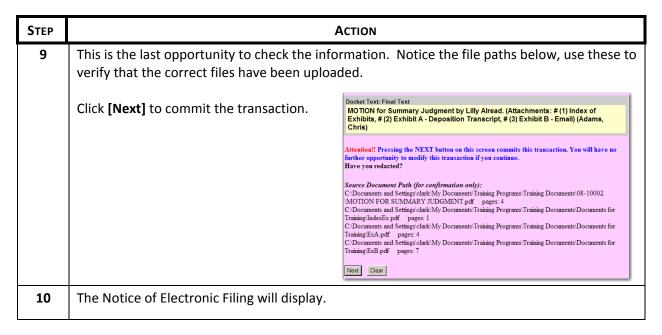
#### 4.7 Filing a Civil Motion

Follow the steps below to file a motion in a civil case:







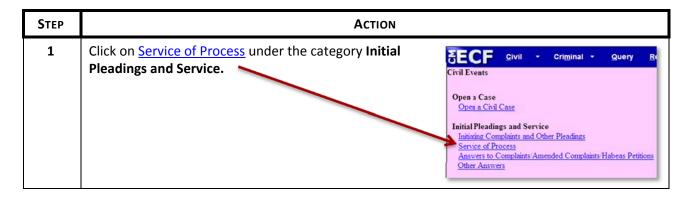


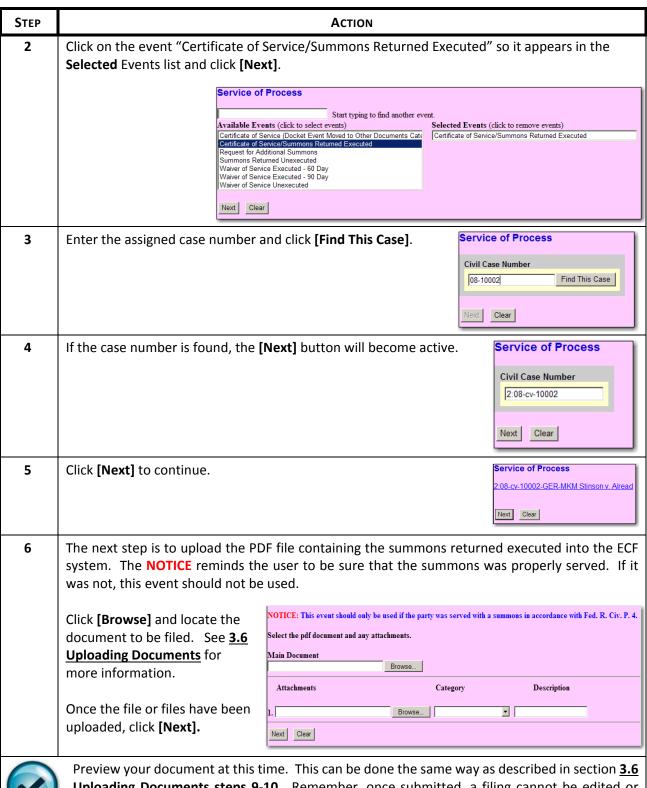
#### 4.8 Filing Summons Returned Executed

Filing a summons returned executed requires the paperwork to be converted into a PDF file. If necessary, scan the back side of the summons and the green card used for certified mail and convert into a PDF for upload into the ECF System.

**PLEASE NOTE**: These instructions are for e-filing a summons returned executed only. Certificates of service for other pleadings, such as motions, should be included as the last page of the pleading when they are e-filed and not submitted to the court as a separate e-filing.

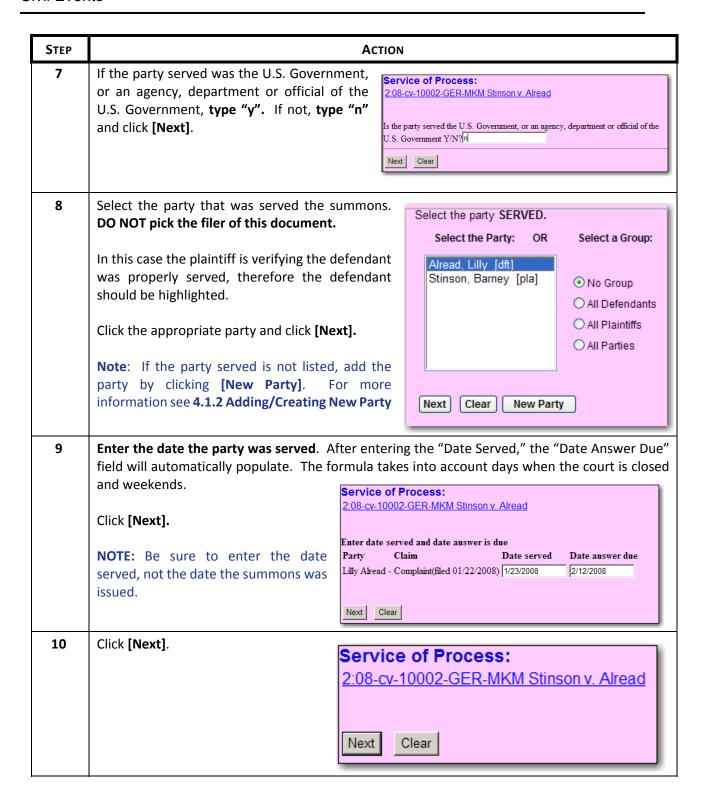
Follow these steps to file a summons returned executed:







Uploading Documents steps 9-10. Remember, once submitted, a filing cannot be edited or changed in any way by an attorney.



STEP	Action					
11	Review the final docket text before completing the filing. Also review the <b>Source Document Path</b> to make sure the proper PDF is going to be uploaded in the system.					
	Service of Process:  2:08-cv-10002-GER-MKM Stinson v. Alread					
	Docket Text: Final Text  CERTIFICATE of Service/Summons Returned Executed. Lilly Alread served on 1/23/2008, answer due 2/12/2008. (Lang, Scott)					
	Attention!! Pressing the NEXT button on this screen commits this transaction. You will have no further opportunity to modify this transaction if you continue.					
	Source Document Path (for confirmation only):  C:\Documents and Settings\Lung\Desktop\08-10002\Summons Returned.pdf pages: 2					
	Next Clear					
	Click [Next].					
12	The Notice of Electronic Filing will display.					

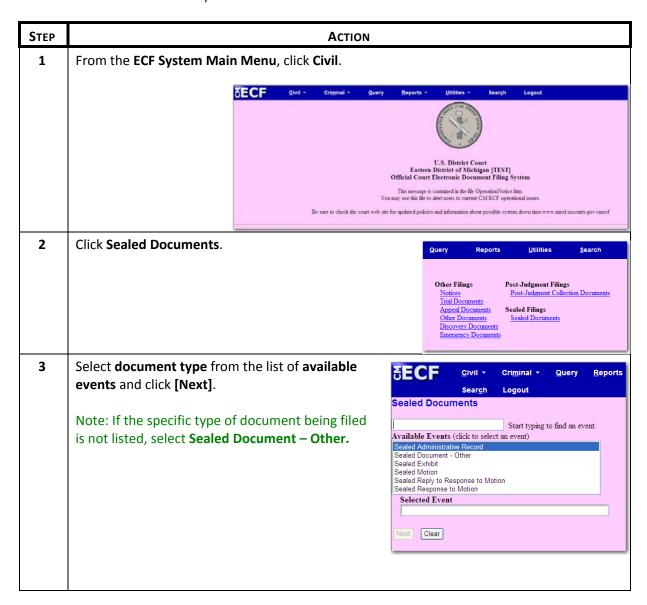
## 5 Filing Documents Under Seal

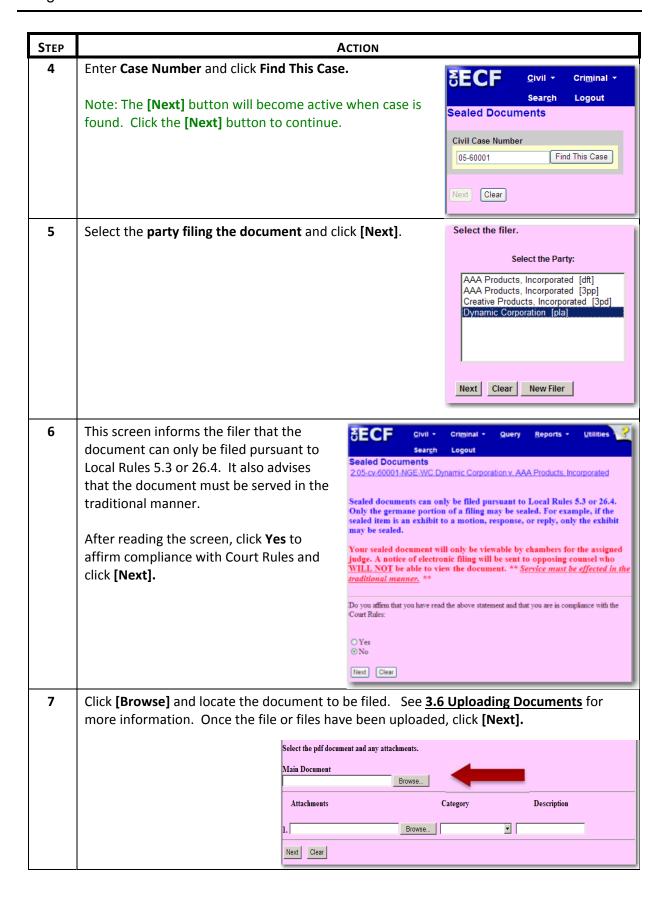
Civil documents can be filed under seal using the ECF System. When a document is filed under seal, a Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) will be sent to all parties; however, the document will not be viewable via the hyperlink contained in the NEF. The filing party must send copies to the other case participants.

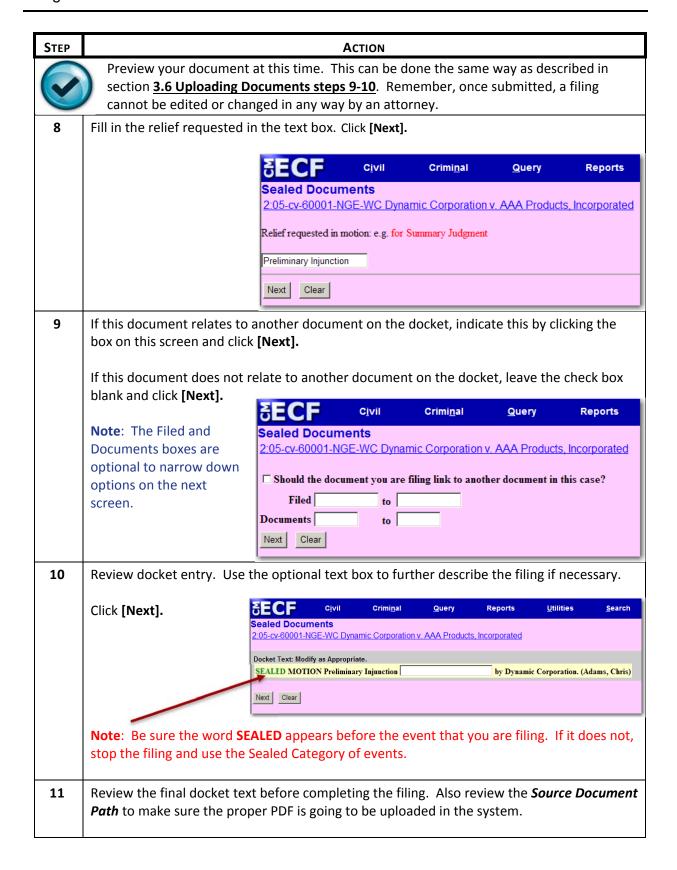
Although the capability exists to file a document under seal at any time, LR 5.3 and LR26.4 still require the filer obtain leave of the Court before filing a document under seal.

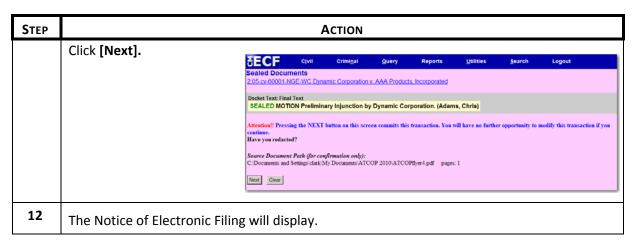
**Note**: At this time criminal documents cannot be filed under seal and must be filed in the traditional manner.

The following procedural steps can be applied to any sealed document. The events progress the same as unsealed events with the exception of several new screens.









## **5.1.1** Filing Sealed Initiating Documents

Filing a new case under seal is different than filing documents under seal. Before filing the new case, contact the help desk at 313-234-5042. Note: The help desk is only available 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. For emergency after-hour filings, contact the U.S. Marshals Service Control Center at 313-234-5656.

## 5.1.2 Filing Exhibits Under Seal

When filing a document that contains exhibits, there are two different scenarios:

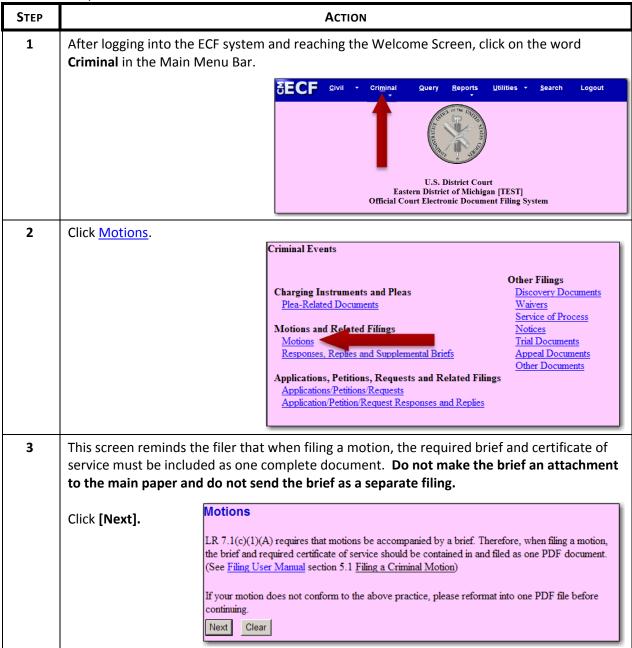
- Some or all of the exhibits are being filed under seal, but the main document is not.
- The main document is being filed under seal as well as the exhibits.

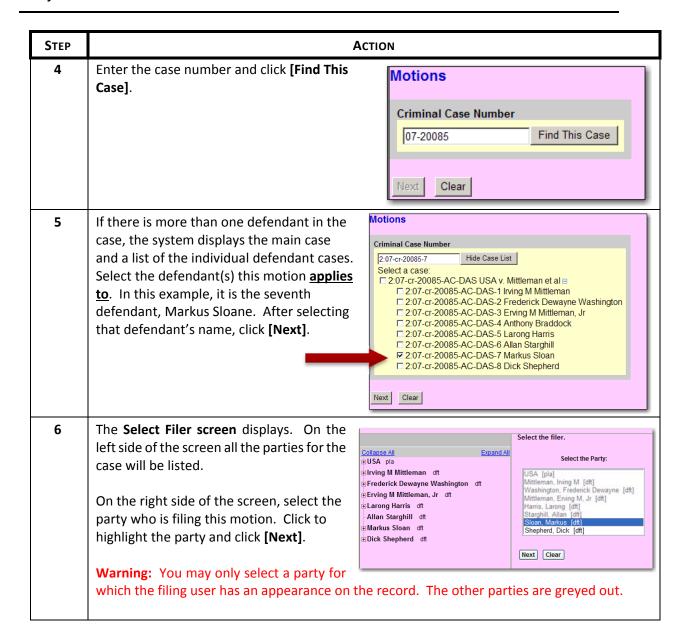
IF	THEN
Some or all of the exhibits are being filed under seal, but the main document is not,	File main document in the appropriate civil category; and use the "Sealed Exhibit" event to file the exhibits that are under seal. Be sure to relate those exhibits to the main document when prompted.
Main document and exhibits are being filed under seal,	Use the appropriate sealed event to file the main document, and then select "Yes" to the attachments question to upload the exhibits that are under seal.

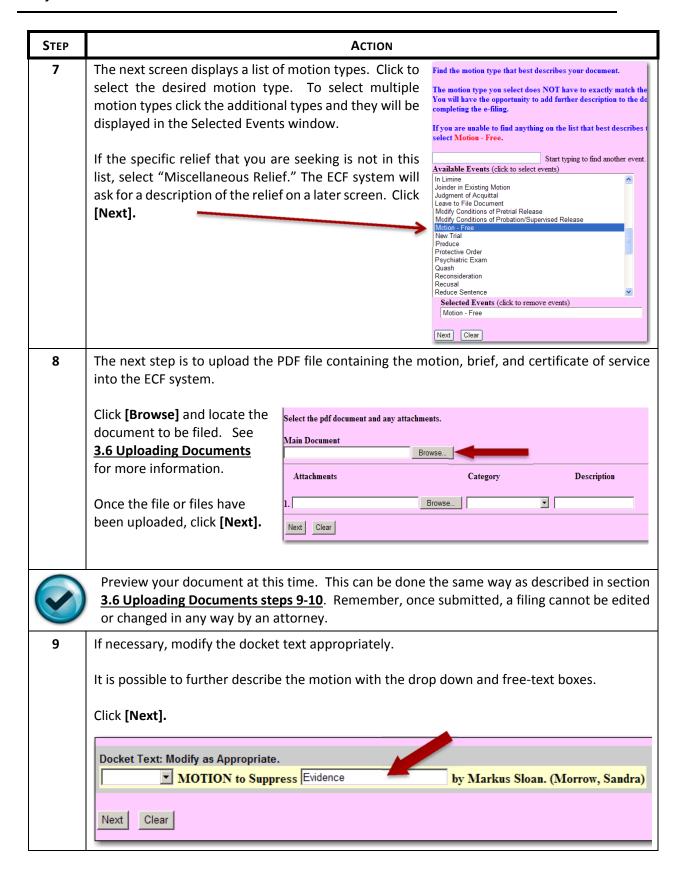
#### 6 Criminal Events

## 6.1 Filing a Criminal Motion

Follow these steps to file a motion in a criminal case:



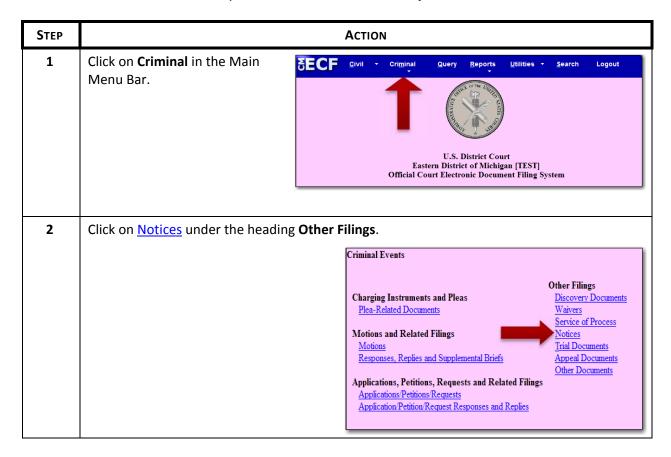


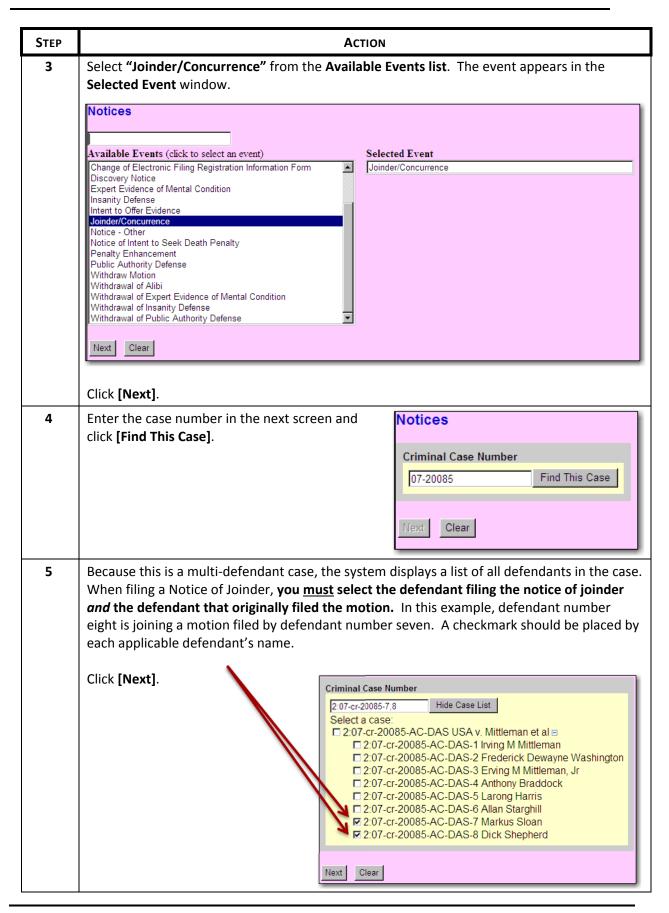


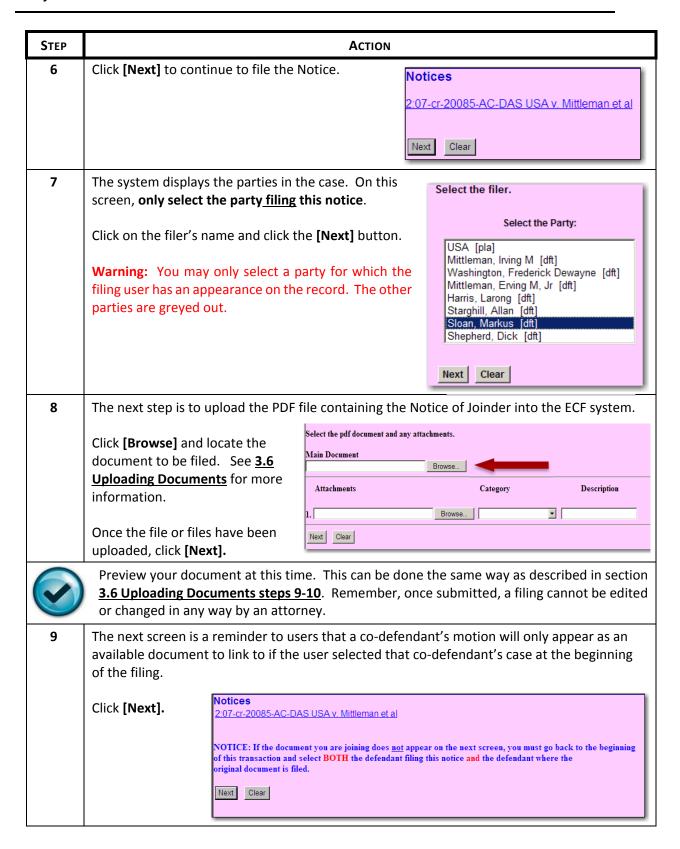
STEP	Action					
10	This screen is the final check before submitting this transaction. Once again, look through docket text to make sure it is correct, and verify the case number at the top of the screen Notice the text in red and blue.  Click [Next].					
	Docket Text: Final Text  MOTION to Suppress <i>Evidence</i> by Markus Sloan. (Morrow, Sandra)					
	Attention!! Pressing the NEXT button on this screen commits this transaction. You will have no further opportunity to modify this transaction if you continue.					
	Source Document Path (for confirmation only): C:\Documents and Settings\Lung\Desktop\07-20085\Motion to Suppress.pdf pages: 2  Next Clear					
11	The Notice of Electronic Filing will display.					

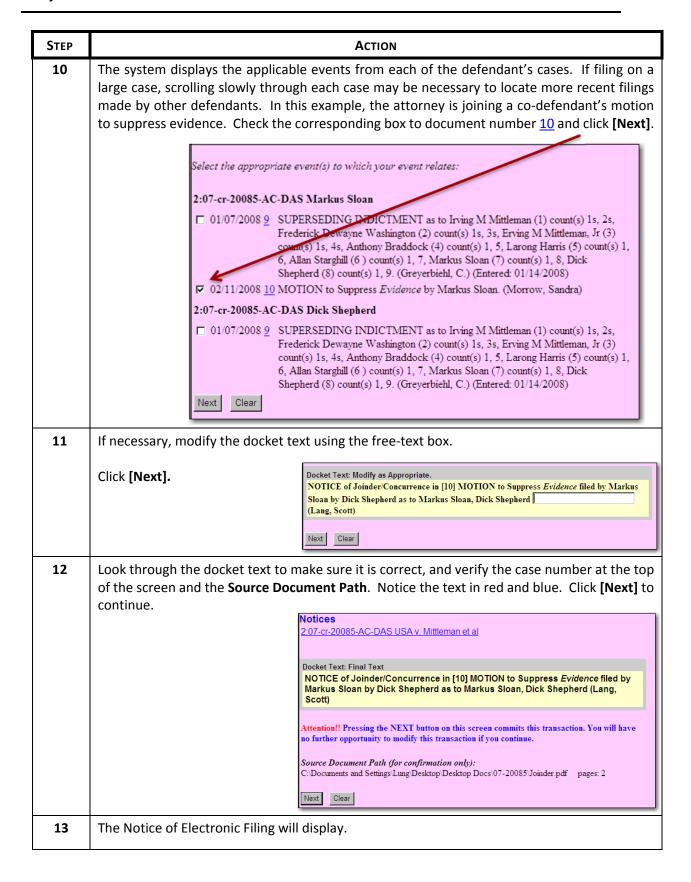
# 6.2 Filing a Notice of Joinder/Concurrence to Motion

In multi-defendant cases, an attorney will sometimes file a notice of joinder to a co-defendant's motion.









## 7 Query

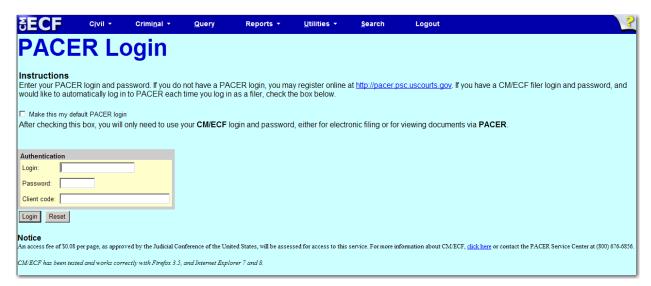
# 7.1 Querying the ECF System

At any time during an ECF session, a filing user can click **Query** on the **Main Menu Bar** to search for case information by case number, date filed, nature of suit, party name or attorney name. See Figure 7.1-1.



**Figure 7.1-1** 

The system displays a PACER login screen. Enter a PACER login and password and a client code if desired. See Figure 7.1.-2.



**Figure 7.1-2** 

If a filing user logs into the system for querying purposes only and not to electronically file documents, there is no need to enter a Court-issued login and password. Enter a PACER login and password instead. See **3.2 Entering the ECF system** for further information.

Once a PACER login and password is entered, the Query Screen displays. See Figure 7.1-3.

Search Clues				
Case Number				
	or search by			
Case Status:	○ Open ○ Closed ○ All			
Filed Date	to			
Last Entry Date	to			
Nature of Suit	0 (zero) 110 (Insurance) 120 (Contract: Marine)			
Cause of Action	0 (No cause code entered) 02:0431 (02:431 Fed. Election Commission: Failure Enforce C) 02:0437 (02:437 Federal Election Commission)			
Last/Business Name	(Examples: Desoto, Des*t)			
First Name	Middle Name			
Туре	Prisoner ID			

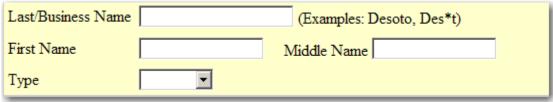
**Figure 7.1-3** 

There are several ways to search, as explained in the table below:

Field	Explanation
Case Number	Search by full or partial case number.
	Examples:
	Full Case Number = 2:10cv12345
	Partial Case Number = 10-12345
Case Status	Use this option to narrow down results when searching other criteria.
Filed Date	This will search for cases that were filed between a given start and end
	date. Use Format: mm/dd/yy.
Last Entry Date	This will search for cases that have a last entry that falls between a
	given start and end date. Use Format: mm/dd/yy.
Nature of Suit	Search by the type of case filed. Example: Social Security, Habeas, Civil
	Rights
Cause of Action	Search by the Federal Cause of Action Code
Name	Search by Business/Last Name, First Name, Middle Name. If searching
	for a company, enter the entire company name in the Business/Last
	Name field.
Туре	Search for either a Party or an Attorney.

#### 7.1.1 Name Search Tips

When using the Name search, there are several ways to search:



**Figure 7.1-4** 

- Enter the full last name or business name if known. See Figure 7.1-4.
- Use an asterisk (\*) if unsure of the spelling.

#### **Examples:**

If the last name is *Johansson*, enter *Joh\*n*. The results will include any case involving someone with a last name starting with "*Joh*" and containing the letter "n" after it. So the results could list *Johnson* as well as *Johansson*.

If the name was *Morrow*, enter \*row. The results could list *RowBoats, Inc.* or *Brown*, as well as *Morrow*.

If the last name is *Haroldson*, but a filing user is not sure if it is *Haroldson* or *Haroldsen*, enter *Harolds*, without the asterisk. The results will bring up cases involving anyone with the last name starting with *Harolds*.

- Two consecutive letters must be entered in one of the name fields.
- If the entity being searched is a business, the search must be performed in the "Last Name/Business" field.
- To narrow the search, select the type of person being searched. The choices are "party" or "attorney".

## 7.1.2 Running Query

Once all of the search criteria is entered, click on the [Run Query] button.

The ECF system will display the search results according to the criteria entered.

If searched by name, the results will list the full name of the parties containing the search criteria and whether they are a party in a case or an attorney. An example of Querying the last name John is shown in Figure 7.1-5.



**Figure 7.1-5** 

If information is entered in the "Filed Date" field, the system will list the results by case number. An example of a Query of cases filed within a date range is shown in Figure 7.1-6.

2:09-cv-10044-SJM-MJH	Kirksey v. Wayne County Badging and Credentials Office et al	filed 07/30/09	closed 05/29/09	0(No cause code entered)
2:09-cv-10048-VAR-MKM	Mickalich et al v. United States of America	filed 07/30/09		0(No cause code entered)
2:09-cv-10051-NGE-RSW	Heard v. Caruso et al	filed 08/11/09	closed 06/25/09	0(No cause code entered)
2:09-cv-10052-GER-MKM	Gordon v. Social Security, Commissioner of	filed 08/11/09		0(No cause code entered)
2:09-cv-10053-PJD-MKM	Miller v. Stovall	filed 08/11/09		0(No cause code entered)
2:09-cv-10059	Lomas v. General Motors Corporation	filed 09/29/09		0(No cause code entered)

**Figure 7.1-6** 

If the party selected is involved in more than one case, the system will list all of the case numbers associated with that party.

After entering the appropriate query criteria and selecting the case number or party name queried, a Query Menu will be displayed. The Query Menu allows a review of specific case information. See Figure 7.1-7.

Perform any of the following tasks:

- Alias: See a list of any aliases for the parties in the case
- Associated Cases: Retrieve case numbers of any associated cases
- **Attorney:** View the names and contact information for all attorneys involved in the case.
- Case File Location: View Case File Location (usually available electronically)
- Case Summary: Retrieve a case summary
- **Deadlines/Hearings:** Review upcoming deadlines and hearings
- Docket Report: Run a docket report listing all entries on the case. See
   7.1 Docket Sheets for more information
- Filers: See a list of filers in the case
- **History/Documents:** View the history of the case with the ability to look at a specific date range or certain docket events
- Party: See a list of all parties of the case
- Related Transactions: Find transactions in the case related to one another
- Status: Look at any pending statuses
- View a Document: View a specific document, if the docket entry number is known



**Figure 7.1-7** 

#### 8 Reports

## 8.1 Docket Sheet

The system allows a filing user to run a number of reports, the most common one is the docket report.

To run a docket report, click on "Reports" in the Main Menu Bar. See Figure 8.1-1.



**Figure 8.1-1** 

The next screen gives a list of reports. Click on **Docket Sheet**. See Figure 8.1-2.



Figure 8.1-2

If logged into the system with a Court-issued login, the system will ask for a PACER login and password before displaying the next screen. See Figure 8.1-3.



**Figure 8.1-3** 

Depending on the options selected when the report is requested, the report shows every party and attorney on a case and the docket text of every event. When creating the docket sheet report, the system displays the following report selection screen. See Figure 8.1-4.

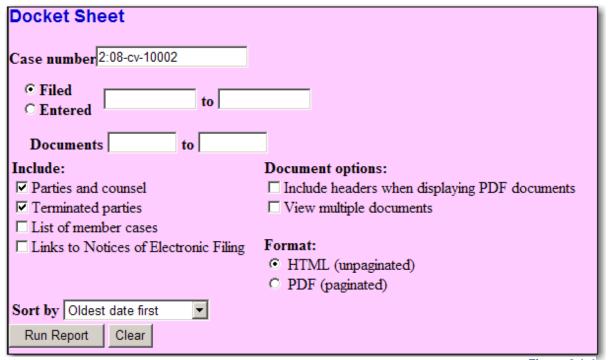
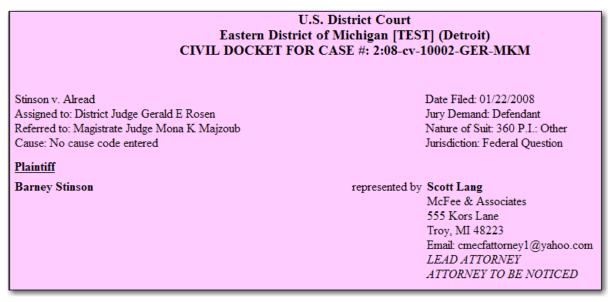


Figure 8.1-4

Explanation	Screen Area
Enter the case number in the "Case number" field and click [Find This Case].	Case number 08-10002 Find This Case
<ul> <li>The next fields are the date range fields. Use these fields to search for events filed or entered between a specified start date and end date, inclusive.</li> <li>If only a start date is entered, the report will include events filed or entered on or after that date.</li> <li>If only an end date is entered, the report will include events filed or entered on or before that date.</li> <li>If the fields are left blank, the report will show all events regardless of filed or entered date, depending on other entries on this screen.</li> </ul>	© Filed © Entered to
<ul> <li>Use the Documents field to display documents that adhere to the criteria entered only.</li> <li>The system will not display unnumbered events, such as minute sheet entries of court proceedings.</li> <li>Enter only a beginning range number and the report will include documents with that number or higher.</li> <li>Enter only an ending range number and the report will include documents with that number or lower.</li> <li>Leave these fields blank and the report will show all documents and events regardless of document number, depending on other entries on this screen.</li> </ul>	Documents to
<ul> <li>Parties and Counsel: If checked will display Case caption with parties, roles and attorneys.</li> <li>Terminated parties: If checked will display parties even if they have been previously terminated from the case.</li> <li>List of member cases: Will list any linked member cases that are associated with this case.</li> <li>Links to Notices of Electronic Filing: The docket sheet will have a silver ball next to the docket number of those items which have a Notice of Electronic Filing. If generating the docket to print it, it is not necessary to include the links.</li> </ul>	Include:  ✓ Parties and counsel  ✓ Terminated parties  ☐ List of member cases  ☐ Links to Notices of Electronic Filing
Checking Include headers when displaying PDF documents will display all PDF documents with a banner on top of each page containing the case number, docket entry number, date filed and page number on it. The option to "View Multiple Documents" allows a user to select multiple docket entries and combine them to be one PDF.  Case 2:08-cv-10002-GER-MKM Document 6 Filed 02/11/2008 Page 1 of 2	Document options:  □ Include headers when displaying PDF documents □ View multiple documents

Explanation	Screen Area
The "Sort by" option allows the user to specify the order in which the events listed in the report will be sorted. Oldest date first is the traditional order. This means that the events will be shown in the order they were filed or entered, with the most recent event at the end of the report. Most recent date first would put the first event last. Since oldest date first is the most common display, that is the default selection.	Sort by Oldest date first  Run Ri Most recent date first
After entering the preferred options for viewing the docket, click [Run Report].  The docket report will generate.  See Figures 8.1-5, 8.1-6, and 8.1-7 for explanations of the screen.	Case number 2.08-cv-10002  Filed Entered  Documents  Include:  Parties and counsel  Terminated parties  List of member cases  Links to Notices of Electronic Filing  Sort by Oldest date first  Run Report  Clear

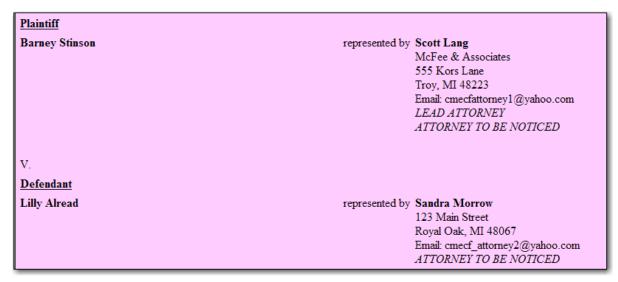
An example of the heading and the case summary of the docket sheet report are shown below. See Figure 8.1-5.



**Figure 8.1-5** 

This part of the docket sheet report contains the court, the case number, and the basic case information, most of which was entered when the case was opened.

Here is an example of the portion of the docket sheet report including the case caption. See Figure 8.1-6.



**Figure 8.1-6** 

The case caption contains the roles and names of the parties and the names and addresses of their attorneys.

An example of the docketed events section of the docket sheet report is below. See Figure 8.1-7.

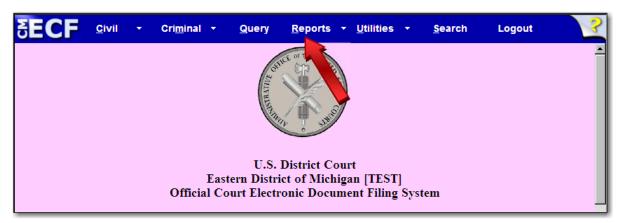
Date Filed	#	Docket Text
01/22/2008	<b>③</b> <u>3</u>	ATTORNEY APPEARANCE: Sandra Morrow appearing on behalf of Lilly Alread (Morrow, Sandra) (Entered: 01/22/2008)
01/23/2008	<b>3</b> <u>4</u>	CERTIFICATE of Service/Summons Returned Executed. Lilly Alread served on 1/23/2008, answer due 2/12/2008. (Lang, Scott) (Entered: 01/23/2008)
02/11/2008	<b>③</b> <u>5</u>	ANSWER to Complaint with Affirmative Defenses with Jury Demand, THIRD PARTY COMPLAINT filed by Lilly Alread against Duncan Kane by Lilly Alread. (Morrow, Sandra) (Entered: 02/11/2008)

**Figure 8.1-7** 

The # column contains the document numbers of the documents. If a number is underlined, it is a hyperlink to the PDF file for that document. The silver balls next to the document numbers are links to the Notices of Electronic Filings. The NEF contains the "timestamp" for the document and records who received notice of this filing electronically and who did not.

#### 8.2 Written Opinions Report

Pursuant to the E-Government Act of 2002 and starting in April 2005, a filing user has the ability to view written opinions free of charge using PACER. To run a report of written opinions by district and magistrate judges in the Eastern District of Michigan, click on "Reports" in the Main Menu Bar. See Figure 8.2-1.



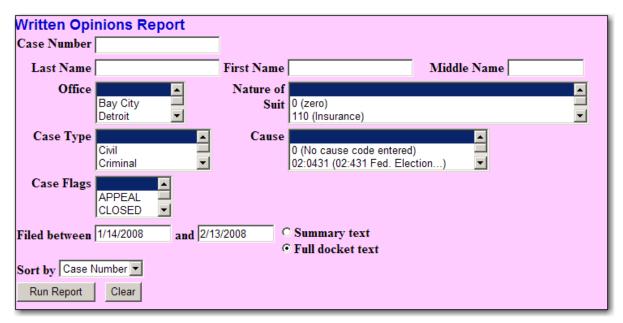
**Figure 8.2-1** 

Click on the link Written Opinions. See Figure 8.2-2.



**Figure 8.2-2** 

There are several search options available. A filed start and end date must be entered. The system will automatically enter dates a month apart. See Figure 8.2-3.



**Figure 8.2-3** 

## **Search Options:**

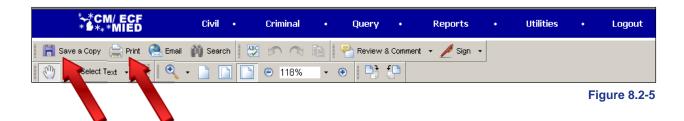
- To search by case number, enter a valid format in the "Case Number" field (e.g. 05-50000).
- To search by party, enter the last name or company name. For valid search options, see <u>7.1</u> <u>Querying the ECF System.</u>
- To search by nature of suit, select one of the codes with its accompanying description. The nature of suit describes the basic issue of the case chosen by the plaintiff in the case from a predetermined list that is part of the civil cover sheet.
- A user can also search by case type, and search according to case flags. Always leave the cause code blank. The Eastern District of Michigan does not use cause codes to identify cases.
- To narrow the search results, use a combination of search options, ex. Last Name, Nature of Suit and date.

The results will show the case number and the date the order was filed. To view the written opinion, click on the document number to open the PDF image, see the arrow in Figure 8.2-4. The case number is an optional link to the docket sheet, but PACER fees apply, if activated.

			1	
Case Number & Name:	Date Filed:	Doc. #	Description:	Notes:
1:07-cv-10951-DML-CEB Dumler v. Social Security, Commissioner of	12/03/2007	9	REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION re <u>8</u> MOTION for Summary Judgment filed by Social Security, Commissioner of, <u>7</u> MOTION for Summary Judgment filed by Joan Dumler Signed by Magistrate Judge Charles E Binder. (Behringer, L.)	Office: Bay City Case Flags: REOPENED NOS: Social Security: DIWC/DIWW Cause: No cause code entered
	12/03/2007	11	ORDER Adopting Report and Recommendation for 9 Report and Recommendation Signed by District Judge David M Lawson. (Behringer, L.)	Office: Bay City Case Flags: REOPENED NOS: Social Security: DIWC/DIWW Cause: No cause code entered
1:07-cv-11010-DML-CEB Dumler v. Social Security, Commissioner of	12/07/2007	9	REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION re 7 GRANTING MOTION for Summary Judgment filed by Joan Dumler, 8 DENYING MOTION for Summary	Office: Bay City Case Flags: CLOSED NOS: Social Security:

**Figure 8.2-4** 

To save the document to the computer's hard drive or to print a copy of the document, click on the icons shown below the ECF System Main Menu Bar. See Figure 8.2-5.



#### 9 Utilities

The Utilities section of the ECF system allows a filing user to update his or her contact information, change login and password, electronically send proposed orders to chambers, change certain PACER information and to determine which attorneys are registered users in a specific case.

To access this information, click on **Utilities** in the Main Menu Bar. See Figure 9.1-1.

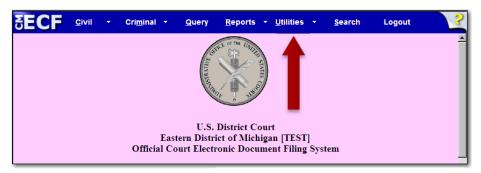


Figure 9.1-1

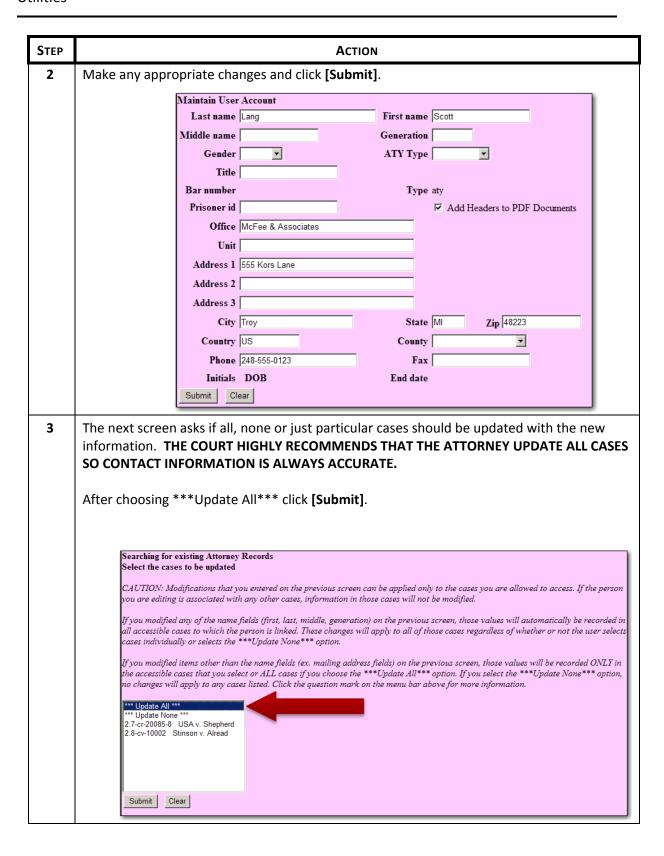
#### 9.1 Updating Address Information

According to LR 11.2, if there is a change in an attorney's contact information, the attorney must file and serve a notice with the new contact information. Failure to file promptly current contact information may subject that person or party to appropriate sanctions, which may include dismissal, default judgment, and costs.

Once the notice has been filed per LR 11.2, the attorney must also update the information in their CM/ECF Profile.

Follow these steps to update the filing user's name, mailing address and phone number:

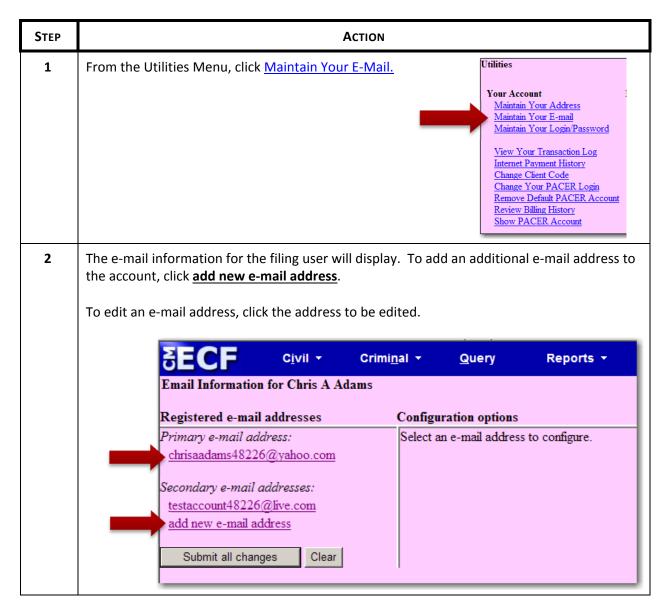




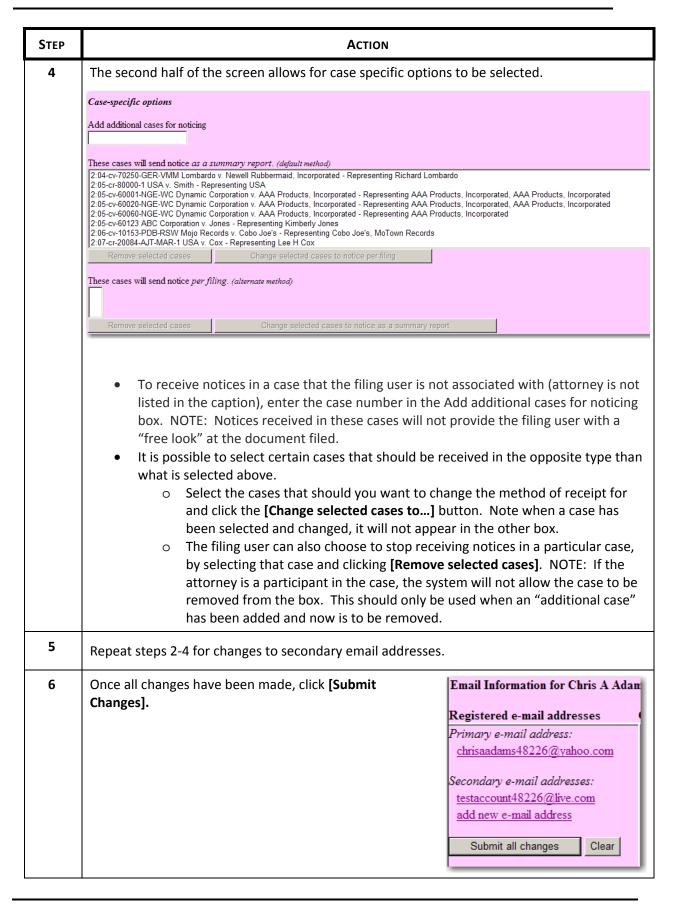
STEP	Action				
4	The system displays a confirmation screen to indicate that the change has been made.	Updating person record Update Person Prid: 1267932  The update was successful prid 1267932 - Scott Lang The update was successful			

# 9.2 Changing Email Information and Preferences

Follow the steps below to change the primary and secondary e-mail addresses and e-mail preferences:

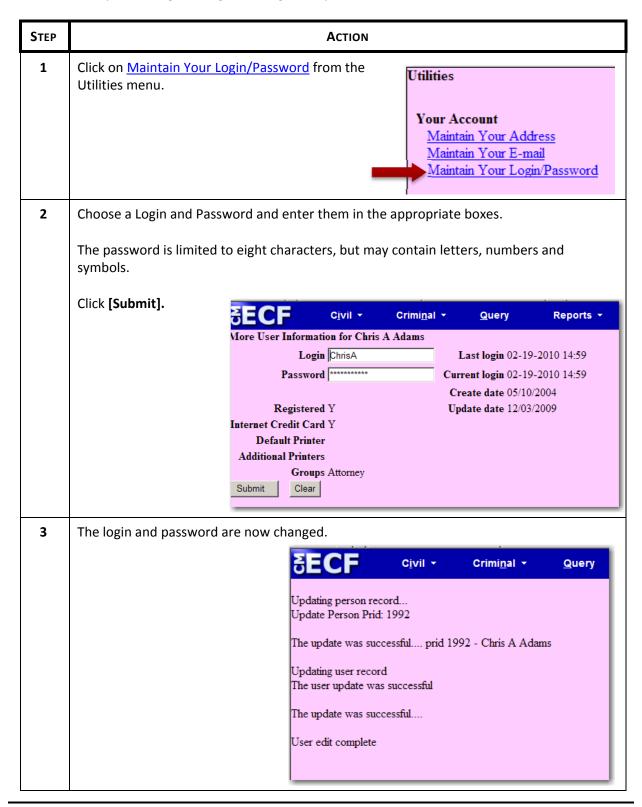


# **STEP** ACTION 3 Make changes as required. Configuration options chrisaadams48226@yahoo.com Should this e-mail address receive notices? • Yes O No How should notices be sent to this e-mail address? O Per Filing © Summary Report Should this e-mail address receive a "no activity" notice when no summary noticing occurs? C Yes © No In what format should notices be sent to this e-mail address? O HTML @ Text Should this e-mail address receive general announcement notices from this court? © Yes O No Show all cases for this e-mail address (Copy case lists from here) "Should this e-mail address receive notices?" This should **ALWAYS** be "Yes." If not, the filing user will not receive notices when documents are filed in all cases the attorney is associated with. How should notices be sent to this e-mail address is a matter of preference: o If Per Filing is selected, the NEF's will be sent to the attorney as each document is filed. o If Summary Report is selected, the filing user will receive one email a day that contains a report of all the filings that occurred the previous day. If Summary Report is selected, the option below that asks if an email should be sent indicating "no activity" when nothing is filed in any of the filing user's case needs to be answered. Format of the emails can be either in HTML or Text: o HTML: Most emails can accept HTML emails and will allow hyperlinks to be included to allow the user to click on the link to view documents filed. o Text: Should only be used when a filing user's email client does not allow for HTML. Should this email receive general announcements from the court can be set to yes or no, however, if it is set to no, the filing user may miss important system outage messages. The [Show all cases for this e-mail address] button will display a list that indicates all the cases this email address is associated with. This is useful when determining which cases a Notice of Change of Address must be filed in.



# 9.3 Changing Login and Password

Follow these steps to change a filing user's login and password.



# 9.4 Determining Appropriate Service of Papers

Use the Mailings Category in the Utility Screen to determine which parties in a particular case require paper service. This information is required to accurately complete a certificate of service.

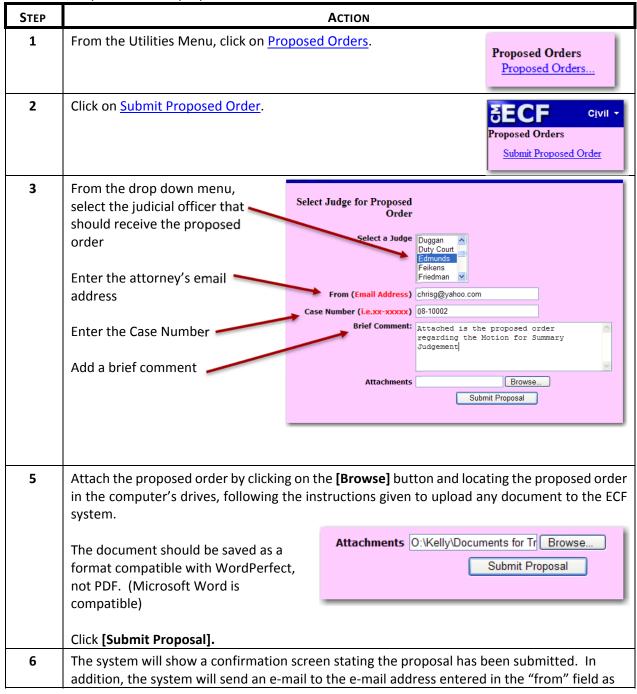
Follow these steps to determine the e-filing status of attorneys in a particular case:

STEP	Action
1	From the Utilities Menu, click on Mailings
	Miscellaneous <u>Mailings</u>
2	Click on Mailing Info for a Case.  Mailing Info for a Case  Mailing Info for a Case  Mailing Labels by Case
3	Enter the case number, find the case and click [Submit].  Mailing Information for a Case  Enter the case number to view the recipient list.  Case Number: 2:05-cv-60001   Submit Clear
4	The system lists all parties in the case and whether or not each party is a filing user.  Mailing Information for a Case 2:05-cv-60001-NGE-WC
	Electronic Mail Notice List  The following are those who are currently on the list to receive e-mail notices for this case.  • Richard J. Amberg, Jr john_purdy@mied.uscourts.gov,jpurdy25@hotmail.com  • Amy Tester kelly_clark@mied.uscourts.gov,attyhelp@mied.uscourts.gov  Manual Notice List
	The following is the list of attorneys who are <b>not</b> on the list to receive e-mail notices for this case (who therefore require manual noticing). You may wish to use your mouse to select and copy this list into your word processing program in order to create notices or labels for these recipients.  Morgan E Davis Attorney Training 111 Main Street Your Town, MI 11111

#### 9.5 Utilities Features – Proposed Orders

The **Proposed Orders** link is used to submit proposed orders, stipulated orders and stipulations and orders combined into one document to judicial officers. If a document requires a signature of the judicial officer, it generally should be submitted using this link, see E.D. Mich. LR 58.1(c). All proposed orders should be saved and submitted in a format compatible with WordPerfect. **Do not convert the proposed order to PDF.** 

Follow these steps to submit a proposed order.



STEP	Action
	confirmation that the proposed order was submitted. <b>No notices of electronic filing are sent.</b>
	A copy of the proposed order should be provided to all other parties by the submitting
	BECF Return To CM/ECF
	Proposal has been submitted!
	Pursuant to ECF Policies & Procedures Rule 11(b), you must provide a copy of this proposed order to all other parties in the case by e-mail or other form. CM/ECF will NOT send a copy for you nor generate an NEF.
	Submit another proposed order
	attorney according to Rule 11 of the ECF Policies & Procedures.
	To return to the ECF System to perform other functions, click on "Return to CM/ECF" in the
	Main Menu Bar.

# 10 Logging Out

# 10.1 Logging Out of the ECF System

Logout of CM/ECF after completing all transactions for a particular session. Simply closing the browser window is not enough. Instead, click on **Logout** in the Main Menu Bar. This will automatically log out of the ECF system and return the filing user to the ECF main login screen. See Figure 10.1-1.



Figure 10.1-1