# **Digital Audio Files Available over the Internet**

## **Digital Audio in CM/ECF**

The United States District Court for the District of Nebraska makes digital audio files of court proceedings available to the public over the Internet through the Public Access to Court Electronic Records (PACER) system. Audio files of court proceedings may be uploaded to the Case Management/Electronic Case Files (CM/ECF) system at the discretion of the judge. Attorneys of record on a case will receive a Notice of Electronic Filing for the audio file and one free download. Audio files are also available to the public via PACER at a cost of \$2.40 per file, plus the cost of accessing the docket sheet or docket activity report.

#### Limiting personal information

If information subject to the court's privacy policy<sup>1</sup> is stated on the record, it will be available in the audio files this court makes available. Since counsel and the parties are solely responsible for guaranteeing that pleadings and testimony comply with the court's rules requiring redaction of personal data identifiers, the better practice is to avoid introducing personal data identifiers and other sensitive information into the record in the first place, unless absolutely necessary to prove an element of the case. Also, be advised that courtroom deputies cannot redact audio files before they are placed on CM/ECF. Please take this into account when questioning witnesses or making other statements in court. If private information is mentioned during a hearing or trial, counsel may move the court to seal, restrict, or otherwise prohibit placement of the digital audio file of the hearing or trial on the Internet through the PACER system.

## **Privacy policy**

The judiciary's privacy policy restricts the publication of certain personal data in documents filed with the court. The policy requires limiting the disclosure of Social Security and financial account numbers to the last four digits, using only initials for the names of minor children, and limiting dates of birth to the year. [For criminal cases, home addresses are limited to city and state.] However, if such information is elicited during testimony or other court proceedings, it will become available to the public.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For guidance on the privacy policy as applied to documents, exhibits, and transcripts see NECivR 5.3; and NECrimR 49.1.1; Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 5.2; and Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 49.1.

### Accessing audio files

Each individual that receives a NEF for a case receives one free download of the audio file. Non-parties will be charged \$2.40 to download an audio file. Audio files are in MP3 format and can be played on a variety of media players. Follow the steps in the table below to access the audio file.

STEP	RESULT
Audio files can be accessed from the NEF e- mail notification, or from a Docket Sheet.	U.S. District Court District of Nebraska Notice of Electronic Filing
1. Click the Document Number link.	The following transaction was entered on 7/30/2007 at 8:32 AM CDT and filed on 7/30/2007 Case Name: USA v. Cassidy et al Case Number: <u>8:02-cr-103</u> Filer: Document Number: <u>6</u> Docket Text: AUDIO FILE as to defendant(s) Butch Cassidy regarding Initial Appearance [2] held on 07/17/07 before Magistrate Judge F.A. Gossett. (LKP, ) 04/11/2018
<ul> <li>2. Click the Attachments tab or paper clip icon (depending on the version of Acrobat) to display a link to the MP3 file.</li> <li><u>Note:</u> If you do not see the paper clip icon or Attachments pane:</li> <li>Acrobat X, XI, or DC go to ViewShow/HideNavigation PanesAttachments.</li> <li>If the PDF opened within a browser window, use the toolbar at the bottom of the document to show the Acrobat Toolbar.</li> </ul>	nade from the records certified by the reporter or gnated to produce the record."