## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

IN RE PROCEDURES FOR THE STORAGE AND MANAGEMENT OF RESTRICTED AND SEALED DOCUMENTS

GENERAL ORDER NO. 2025-04

Whereas a recent escalation in cyberattacks on the CM/ECF systems of federal courts requires new procedures for the storage and management of restricted and sealed documents;

It is hereby ordered that, effective as of the date of this Order,

- 1. Electronic Access to Restricted Documents.
  - a. Documents that are restricted to case participants (hereinafter referred to as "restricted documents") will continue to be filed in CM/ECF under existing procedures, but they will not be accessible or viewable to the parties by electronic means. Although parties will receive notices of electronic filing when such documents are filed in their cases, the documents themselves will not be accessible or viewable electronically. Note: CM/ECF automatically restricts certain documents in Social Security and immigration cases. These documents will remain accessible and viewable to the parties by electronic means.
  - b. For a complete list of restricted and sealed event types in CM/ECF, see the court's list of *Ex Parte*, *Restricted*, *and Sealed Documents*.
- 2. **Electronic Access to Sealed Documents.** Sealed documents will continue to be filed in CM/ECF under existing procedures but will not be accessible or viewable to the parties by electronic means.

## 3. Service of Restricted and Sealed Documents Filed in CM/ECF.

- a. Because sealed documents and most restricted documents filed in CM/ECF are no longer accessible or viewable electronically, service of those documents cannot be accomplished through CM/ECF. Therefore, parties must serve all restricted and sealed documents by other appropriate means as provided by the Federal Rules of Procedure.
- b. Except for certain orders and judgments served on Nebraska's U.S. Attorney's Office and Federal Public Defender's Office, the Clerk will serve all restricted and sealed orders and judgments in paper by mail. By written agreement, the Clerk will continue to serve certain orders and judgments on Nebraska's U.S Attorney's Office and Federal Public Defender's Office via delivery to their agencies' boxes located in the Lincoln and Omaha Clerk's Offices.
- 4. **Highly Sensitive Documents (HSDs).** Sealed documents that are defined as HSDs will continue to be subject to the court's HSD procedures set forth in <u>General Order</u> 2024-06.
- 5. Questions about Restricted and Sealed Document Procedures. Any questions about the filing of and access to restricted or sealed documents should be directed to the Clerk's Office at clerk@ned.uscourts.gov.

This Order supersedes any and all inconsistent prior court orders and local rules.

DATED this 18th day of September 2025.

BY THE COURT:

Robert F. Rossiter, Jr.

Chief United States District Judge

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