

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA
SOUTHERN DIVISION**

IN RE:)
)
PROCEDURES FOR ACCESS AND) **MISC. ACTION NO. 25-1000-JB**
MANAGEMENT OF SEALED)
DOCUMENTS.)

ORDER

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


IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that, effective as of the date of this order and until such time as the court orders otherwise,

1. **Electronic Access to Sealed Documents.** Sealed documents will continue to be filed in CM/ECF under existing procedures (*see* General L.R. 5.2), but will no longer be accessible or viewable by electronic means.
2. **Service of Sealed Documents Filed in CM/ECF.** Because sealed documents filed in CM/ECF are no longer accessible or viewable electronically, service of those documents can no longer be accomplished through CM/ECF. Parties will have to serve sealed documents by other appropriate means as provided by the Federal Rules of Procedure. The court will serve sealed documents in paper by mail.
3. **Additional Copies of Sealed Documents.** Because sealed documents filed in CM/ECF are no longer accessible or viewable electronically, a party with the right to access a sealed document in a case who requires a copy of a sealed document will have to contact the clerk's office to request a paper copy. Applicable copy fees (published at <https://www.alsd.uscourts.gov/sites/alsd/files/forms/ALSFeeSchedule2020-2023Final.pdf>) may apply to such requests.
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 at

<https://www.alsd.uscourts.gov/sites/alsd/files/HSD%20Administrative%20Order%20rev%208-2024.pdf>).

5. **Questions about Sealed Document Procedures.** Any questions about the filing of and access to sealed documents should be directed to the Clerk's Office at (251) 690-2371 or through the contact form on our website (<https://www.alsd.uscourts.gov/content/contact-clerk-court>).

DONE and ORDERED this 29th day of September, 2025.



JEFFREY U. BEAVERSTOCK
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE