United States District Court Southern District of Texas ENTERED

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

**September 24, 2025** 

Nathan Ochsner, Clerk of Court

By Deputy Clerk

IN THE MATTER OF ACCESS AND MANAGEMENT OF SEALED DOCUMENTS

GENERAL ORDER NO. 2025-17

**ORDER** 

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.

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 using the available sealed events 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 or other reliable electronic means as approved by the court.
- 3. **Highly Sensitive Documents (HSDs).** Sealed documents that are defined as HSDs will continue to be subject to the court's HSD procedures. <u>General Order No. 2021-3 In Re: Procedures for the Filing, Service, and Management of Highly Sensitive Documents (HSDs).</u>
- 4. **Questions about Sealed Document Procedures.** Any questions about the filing of and access to sealed documents should be directed to the clerk's office. A list of divisional office locations and contact information is attached.

This Order supersedes all inconsistent prior court orders, CM/ECF administrative procedures, and local rules.

DATED: September 24, 2025

RANDY CRÂNE CHIEF JUDGE

#### Southern District of Texas Courthouse Locations and Contact Information

#### **Brownsville Division**

Reynaldo G. Garza-Filemon B. Vela United States Courthouse 600 East Harrison Street Brownsville, Texas 78520 956-548-2500 brownsville operation@txs.uscourts.gov

## **Corpus Christi Division**

United States Courthouse 1133 North Shoreline Boulevard Corpus Christi, Texas 78401 361-888-3142 corpus operation@txs.uscourts.gov

#### **Galveston Division**

United States Post Office and Courthouse 601 Rosenburg, Room 411 Galveston, Texas 77550 409-766-3530 galveston\_operation@txs.uscourts.gov

### Victoria Division

Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Building 312 South Main Street, Room 406 Victoria, Texas 77901 361-788-5000 victoria\_operation@txs.uscourts.gov

#### **Houston Division**

Bob Casey United States Courthouse 515 Rusk Avenue Houston, Texas 77002 713-250-5500 houston operation@txs.uscourts.gov

#### **Laredo Division**

George P. Kazen Federal Building & United States Courthouse 1300 Victoria Street Laredo, Texas 78040 956-723-3542 laredo operation@txs.uscourts.gov

#### **McAllen Division**

United States Courthouse 1701 West Business Highway 83 McAllen, Texas 78501 956-618-8065 mcallen operation@txs.uscourts.gov