



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT *District of Rhode Island*

NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC AVAILABILITY OF CASE INFORMATION

The United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island has implemented the Federal Judiciary's Case Management/Electronic Case Files System ("CM/ECF") which permits documents to be filed electronically. In addition, most documents filed in paper are scanned and attached to the docket. In social security and immigration cases, members of the general public have remote electronic access through PACER only to opinions, orders, judgments or other dispositions of the court. Otherwise, public filings on the court's docket are remotely available to the general public through PACER. Accordingly, parties should not include in their public filings (including attachments, memoranda, or exhibits) information that is too private or sensitive to be posted on the internet.

Specifically, Fed. R. Civ. P. 5.2, Fed. R. Cr. P. 49.1 Fed. R. App. P. 25(a)(5), and Fed. R. Bank. P. 9037 require that parties not include, or partially redact where inclusion is necessary, the following personal data identifiers from documents filed with the court unless an exemption applies:

- **Social Security or Taxpayer Identification Numbers.** If an individual's social security or taxpayer identification number must be included, only the last four digits of that number should be used.
- **Names of Minor Children.** If a minor child must be included, only the initials of that child should be used.
- **Dates of Birth.** If an individual's date of birth must be included, only the year should be used.
- **Financial Account Numbers.** If financial account numbers must be included, only the last four digits of these numbers should be used.
- **Home Addresses in Criminal Cases.** If a home address must be included, only the city and state should be listed.

If the caption of the case contains any of the personal data identifiers listed above, the parties should file a motion to amend the caption to redact the identifier.

Parties should exercise caution in including other sensitive personal data in their filings, such as personal identifying numbers, medical records, employment history, individual financial information, proprietary or trade secret information, information regarding an individual's cooperation with the government, information regarding the victim of any criminal activity, national security information, and sensitive security information as described in 49 U.S.C. § 114.

Attorneys are urged to share this notice with their clients so that an informed decision can be made about inclusion of sensitive information. The clerk will not review any documents for redaction.

Filers are advised that it is the experience of this Court that failure to comply with redaction requirements is most apt to occur in attachments, memoranda, or exhibits, and, thus, special attention should be given to them.

For further information, including a list of exemptions from the redaction requirement, see the above-cited federal rules and <http://www.privacy.uscourts.gov/>.

March 7, 2014

DAVID A. DIMARZIO
Clerk of Court