

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

IN RE: CM/ECF NEXTGEN UPGRADE
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Administrative Order No. 19-MS-065

The Case Management/Electronic Case Files (CM/ECF) system is the Federal Judiciary's comprehensive case management system for all bankruptcy, district, and appellate courts. CM/ECF allows courts to accept filings electronically and provides immediate access to filed documents online. A Next Generation (NextGen) Case Management/ Electronic Case Files (CM/ECF) system has been developed, which allows attorneys to use one account and one set of credentials for both Public Access to Court Electronic Records (PACER) and electronic filing access, for the entire federal judiciary. By the end of 2021, it is anticipated that all district and bankruptcy courts will upgrade to NextGen.

The Western District of Michigan will implement the NextGen upgrade on August 26, 2019. The technical aspects of preparation for this upgrade are significant, and will begin on Friday, August 23, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. At that time, CM/ECF will be unavailable to accept electronic filings, until public access is restored on Monday morning.

IT IS ORDERED that the electronic filing and service requirements in Local Civil Rule 5.7 and Local Criminal Rule 49.10 are temporarily suspended while the CM/ECF system is unavailable. Attorneys and other officers of the court may file documents in paper form, with manuscript signatures, at any Clerk's Office in the district between the

hours of 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 23rd. Counsel filing any pleading or other paper at that time must serve attorneys and *pro se* parties by nonelectronic means of service under Rule 5 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and a proof of service must be filed. Arrangements for any emergency filings after 5:00 p.m. on Friday through Monday morning may be made by following the instructions posted on this Court's website. The Clerk will scan and upload into the electronic filing system paper filings properly submitted under authority of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk shall post a copy of this Administrative Order in each divisional office and on the Court's website. In addition, the Clerk shall send electronic notice to all attorneys registered to use the CM/ECF system. Attorneys are advised to check the Court's website for instructions on how to prepare for NextGen and for action to be taken on or after Monday, August 26, 2019. This Court will not favor untimely filings and requests for extension of time because an attorney has failed to prepare for this event.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

FOR THE COURT:



Dated: August 6, 2019

ROBERT J. JONKER

CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE