

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

NOTICE

Changes in Electronic Public Access (EPA) Fee Schedule

At its March 2002 session, the Judicial Conference amended Section 1 of the Electronic Public Access Fee Schedule for the appellate, district, and bankruptcy courts, the United States Court of Federal Claims, and the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation. The amendment places a cap on the seven cents (\$0.07) per page charge for Internet access to data obtained electronically from the public records of individual cases in the courts. This amendment establishes that a user will be charged a maximum of \$2.10, the equivalent of thirty (30) pages, for electronic access to any single document. Note, however, that attachments will be treated as separate documents for this purpose.

The thirty (30) page cap became effective April 1, 2002, for Bankruptcy CM/ECF courts and will become effective July 1, 2002, for District CM/ECF courts in conjunction with the normal billing cycle for the PACER (Public Access to Court Electronic Records) system.

A copy of the new EPA Fee Schedule follows.

James J. Waldron
Clerk, United States Bankruptcy Court

Dated: May 13, 2002

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ELECTRONIC PUBLIC ACCESS FEE SCHEDULE (eff. 3/20/02)

Following are fees to be charged by the courts in connection with electronic public access to court records. These fees shall apply to the United States unless otherwise stated. No fees under this schedule shall be charged to federal agencies or programs which are funded from judiciary appropriations, including, but not limited to, agencies, organizations, and individuals providing services authorized by the Criminal Justice Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3006A, and bankruptcy administrator programs.

- I. For usage of electronic access to court data via dial up service: sixty cents per minute. For public users obtaining information through a federal judiciary Internet site: seven cents per page, with the total for any document not to exceed the fee for thirty pages. The court may, for good cause, exempt persons or classes of persons from the fees, in order to avoid unreasonable burdens and to promote public access to such information. Attorneys of record and parties in a case (including *pro se* litigants) receive one free electronic copy of all documents filed electronically, if receipt is required by law or directed by the filer. No fee is owed under this provision until an account holder accrues charges of more than \$10 in a calendar year.
- II. For printing copies of any record or document accessed electronically at a public terminal in the courthouse: ten cents per page. This fee shall apply to services rendered on behalf of the United States if the record requested is remotely available through electronic access.
- III. For every search of court records conducted by the PACER Service Center, \$20.

JUDICIAL CONFERENCE ADVISORY NOTES

Exemptions should be granted as the exception, not the rule. The exemption language is intended to accommodate those users who might otherwise not have access to the information in this electronic form. It is not intended to provide a means by which a court would exempt all users. Examples of persons and classes of persons who may be exempted from electronic public access fees include, but are not limited to: indigents; bankruptcy case trustees; not-for-profit organizations; and voluntary ADR neutrals.

The electronic public access fee applies to court data obtained electronically from the public records of individual cases in the court, including filed documents and the docket sheet. Courts may provide other local court information at no cost. Examples of information which can be provided at no cost include: local rules, court forms, news items, court calendars, opinions designated by the court for publication, and other information – such as court hours, court location, telephone listings – determined locally to benefit the public and the court.