UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS



ELECTRONIC CASE FILING CIVIL CASE OPENING MANUAL FOR ATTORNEYS

December 29, 2006

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CIVIL CASE OPENING

New civil cases (complaints, notices of removal, etc.) may be filed by attorneys using the CM/ECF system.

Please note that **SEALED** cases must be filed on paper, in accordance with this Court's Administrative Procedures for CM/ECF.

The Civil Case Opening event is located under **Civil** on the Main Menu Bar.



Click once on **Civil**.

CIVIL EVENTS MENU

Select **Open a Civil Case** from the Civil Events Menu.



CASE OPENING SCREEN

Office: The first step is to select the correct divisional office pursuant to LR 40.1.

The office (division) is determined by:

- All of the parties reside in that division.
- All of the parties reside in this district and the majority of the plaintiff(s) reside(s) in that division.
- The only parties residing in this district in that division; or
- Any of the parties are the United States, the Comm. of MA, or any governmental agency of either the United States or the Comm. of MA and a majority of all other parties resident in this district reside in that division.

SECF	Civil +	Criminal	•	Query	•	Reports	•	Utilities	•	Logout	2
Open Unassigned Civil	Case										
Office Boston Date filed 12/22/2006	Case ty	pe 🔽 💌	Case	number							
Lead case number		Associati	on tyj	pe consol	idateo	∎ L					
Other court name											
Other court number											
🗖 Relat	ted cases										
Next Clear											

CASE OPENING SCREEN (con'td)

Case Type: cv - Civil Case

For court use only:

mc - Miscellaneous Case md - Multi-District Litigation

NOTE: MDL cases to be transferred/assigned to this district are assigned civil action numbers by the Clerk's Office.

Case Number: The system automatically assigns a case number at the conclusion of case opening.

Date filed: The file date is automatically entered by the system.

Lead Case Number: For Court Use Only

Association type: Do not enter/change the association type. You should always leave this as "consolidated".

Other court name: Enter other court name, if the case is a Notice of Removal.

Other court number: Enter other court number, if the case is a Notice of Removal.

Related Cases: Check this box if you are filing this as related to a case previously filed in this District. (See LR 40.1(G)). On the next screen enter the number of the case previously filed. If more than one case applies, enter only the number of the oldest case that is pending or that was closed less than two years ago.

SECF	Civil +	Criminal	•	Query	•	Reports	•	Utilities	•	Logout	- 🤧
Open Unassigned Civil	Case										
Office Boston	Case ty	pe 🔽 💌	Case	number							
Date filed 12/22/2006											
Lead case number		Associati	on tyj	pe conso	lidateo	1 💌					
Other court name											
Other court number											
🗖 Relate	ed cases										
Next Clear											

STATISTICAL SCREEN

Jurisdiction: There are four options. The ECF system defaults to **3** (Federal Question) because it is the most common.

Only if **4 (Diversity)** is the proper Jurisdiction, will you be required to complete the Citizenship fields for both Plaintiff and Defendant.

- - - -

Cause of Action and **Nature of Suit Codes** are located on the Civil Case Cover Sheet, which you have already prepared to be filed with the Complaint.

The **Origin Code** is required. There are two options available to attorneys:

- - - -

1 (Original Proceeding) is to be used when filing an original Complaint.

2 (Removal from State Court) is to be used when filing a Notice of Removal.

All other codes are for Court Use Only.

The **Citizenship** fields are not to be completed unless **#4 (Diversity)** was selected in the Jurisdiction field.

SECF	Civil		Criminal		Query		Reports		Utilities	Logout	- 🤧
Open Civil Case											
Jurisdiction	3 (Federal	Ques	tion)	•]						
Cause of action	0 (No caus	e coc	le entered)						*		
Nature of suit	O (zero)						-	•			
Origin	1 (Original	Proc	eeding)			I					
Citizenship plaintiff							•				
Citizenship defendant							¥				
Jury demand n (N	one) 💌	Cl	ass action	n 💌			Dem	and (\$	(000		
Arbitration code		·	County	Barn	stable		-				
Fee status pd (paid)	1	Fe	e date 12	/20/20	06 1	Date	transfer				
Next Clear											

STATISTICAL SCREEN (cont'd)

Jury Demand:

n (None) if plaintiff does not wish a Jury Trial; or

p (Plaintiff) if plaintiff wishes Jury Trial

If the lead document to be filed is a **Notice of Removal** and the Jury Demand is known from the State Court proceeding:

b (Both) - if all parties wish a Jury; or **d** (Defendant) - if only the defendant wishes a trial by jury

Class Action - 'n'o or 'y'es only

Demand - Enter dollar amount (in thousands of dollars) being demanded. Example: \$100,000 = 100

Arbitration Code - leave blank

County - Select the county corresponding to the Office Code on initial **Case Opening** screen.

Fee Status: please select

pd (Paid) if being paid online with this filing

none - if paying by check. Court staff will change this field to paid upon receipt of your filing fee

pend (IFP pending) if submitting a motion to proceed *in forma pauperis*.

wv (waived) - for US Attorney use only or cases filed with a Seaman's Affidavit

Do not use **fp**

Fee Date and Date Transfer: please disregard

∂ECF	Civil		Criminal		Query		Reports		Utilities		Logout	- 🤧
Open Civil Case												
Jurisdiction	3 (Federal	Ques	tion)	•]							
Cause of action	0 (No caus	e co	de entered)						•			
Nature of suit	0 (zero)							•				
Origin	1 (Original	Proc	eeding)		•							
Citizenship plaintiff	1						•					
Citizenship defendant							*					
Jury demand n (N	lone) 💌	Cl	ass action	n 💌			Dem	and (\$	(000	_		
Arbitration code	•	·	County	Barn	stable		-					
Fee status pd (paid)		· Fe	e date 12	20/20	06 I)ate	transfer					
Next Clear												

PARTY SEARCH SCREEN

Begin adding the parties by first searching for the first Plaintiff. You should follow the party entry requirements listed in the **Party Name Standards.**

You may search for a name by entering as little as the first three letters of the last name.

In this example, the party search located many options for the entry of "Smith."

To select a name from the list highlight the preferred name, and click the 'Select Name from List' button, or 'Create new party' if the name is not found in the database. See page 8 for more information on adding new parties to the database.

When the name is selected from the list, a **Party Information** screen appears. This allows the user to enter pertinent party information.

- Do not add party address, phone or e-mail information. All information added on this screen will be accessible to the public.
- **Role:** The role type defaults to **Defendant**. It is important that the filer selects the appropriate role type on this screen.
- The party text field may be used to describe the party in more detail, such as 'Executor of the Estate of Mary Jones' or 'Individually and in his official capacity'.

δ ECF	Civil	•	Criminal	•	Query	•	Reports	•	Utilities	•	Logout	2
Open Civil Case												
Search for a party												
Last/Business name Smit	h											
Search Clear												

SECF	Civil •	Criminal		Query		Reports	Utilities	Logout
Search for a party								
Last/Business name								
Search Clear								
Party search results Smith, Carlton								
Smith, Carol								
Smith, Carol A. Smith, Caroline Smith, Catherine								
Smith, Cathleen					-			
Select name from list	Cre	eate new part	¥					

SECF	Civil	• Criminal		Query		Reports	Utilities	Logout
Party Information								
Smith & Wesson Co.								
Title								
Role Defendant (dft:pty)		Pro se	no 🔹					
Prisoner Id		Office						
Unit		Address 1						
Address 2		Address 3						
City		State	Zij	P	-			
County		Country						
Phone		Fax						
E-mail								
Party text				1				
Start date 12/26/2006								
Alias Corporate parent	Review	Add all aliases a parents before c	and corpor	ate Robroit bot	lan			
Submit Cancel Clear	- 20		and a second					

PARTY SEARCH SCREEN (cont'd)

NOTE: CM/ECF automatically adds the attorney who is logged in as an attorney of record for the case when filing the complaint (or notice of removal). Any other attorneys wishing to make an appearance must **each** electronically file a notice of appearance **after** the lead event has been docketed. If the attorney is filing a notice of removal, the Clerk's office will add all attorneys or record for the plaintiff(s) as listed on the state court complaint.

ADDING ALIASES

Adding an alias is similar to Searching and Selecting parties.

- Enter the name you wish to search, and click "Search"
- Highlight the name you wish to add, and click "Select name from list" or "Create new alias" if the name is not found in the database. If you select "Create new alias" be sure to complete the name and then click on "Add alias"
- Add a Role Type (alias aka, doing business as - dba, etc.), and click
 "Add alias"

CORPORATE PARENTS

Local Rule 7.3 requires the filing of a **separate statement** by any non-governmental party to a civil action or proceeding.

Please <u>do not add</u> any corporate parents using this screen. Attorneys should continue to file a corporate disclosure statement as required by the Local Rules

SECF	Civil •	Criminal		Query		Reports		Utilities	Logout
Alias Information (Party	Smith & Wess	on Corp.,)							
Last/Business name Smith	n & Wesson Inte	ernational,	First	name]	
Middle name			Gene	ration					
Role dba			Start	date 1	2/21/2	006			
Add alias Clear add	k the Add alias b attomeys or cor	utton to retur porate parent	m to the s, and s	Party sc ubmit all i	reen an informa	d add more a tion for this p	liases, barty.		

REVIEWING YOUR WORK

The **REVIEW** button allows the user to view a quick list of the information already entered as to this party.

After reviewing, click "Return to Party Screen" to continue entering information.

You may make changes by using the **back** button on your browser to return to the appropriate screen.

CREATING NEW PARTIES

What if a party is not found during a Party Search?

The District Court in Massachusetts has 15+ years of data in the database. Many names and businesses may already exist.

Therefore, first search for your party in several ways to avoid duplicate entries.

Check "Search Strategies" in the **Party Name Standards** for further instruction on Search options.

When you have determined that your party does not exist in the database click on **Create a New Party** button. When adding names to the ECF database, there are preferred style practices intended to provide uniform information to all users. Refer to the **Party Name Standards** when entering names and addresses.

As discussed previously, it is important to select the correct Role Type.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL: When filing a Notice of Removal, court staff will add all attorneys listed as counsel for the plaintiff(s) in the state court proceedings.



ECF	Civil •	Criminal	Query	Reports	Utilities	Logout
Search for a party						
Last/Business name						
Search Clear						
Party search results						
No person found.						
Create new party						

SECF	Civil • Crim	inal • Query	• Reports	• Utiliti	es • Li	ogout
James E. Jones						
Title	_					
Role Defendant (df	t:pty)	 Pro s 	e no 💌			
Prisoner Id		Office				
Unit		Address 1				
Address 2		Address 3				
City		State	Zip			
County	•	Country				
Phone		Fax				
E-mail						
Party text						
Start date 12/22/2006	_					
Alias Corporate par	ent Review.	Add all aliases an parents before cli	d corporate cking the Submit bu	tton.		
Submit Cancel Clear						

CREATING NEW PARTIES (cont'd)

- Enter all parties to the case in sequential order as listed in the complaint.
- It is recommended to enter all plaintiffs first, then all defendants.
- DO NOT click "End Party Selection" until ALL parties have been added. Once this button has been selected, the user will not be able to return to enter additional parties.

BECF	Civil	•	Criminal	•	Query	•	Reports	•	Utilities	•	Logo
Open Civil Case Search for a party											
Last/Business name Search Clear											
End party selection											

CASE NUMBER ASSIGNMENT

Once **End Party Selection** has been clicked, the Civil Case is officially entered and a civil case number is automatically assigned by the CM/ECF system.

DOCKETING LEAD EVENT

The final step in opening a new Civil Case is to docket the "Lead Event."

When filing a COMPLAINT: Click on the "Docket Lead Event?" hyperlink. This will allow the filer to electronically submit the complaint to the court.

When filing a NOTICE OF REMOVAL from the state court: the user will need to return to the Civil Event Menu and select "Notices" from the list and then Notice of Removal. (See page 13 for more information on filing Notices of Removal.)



DOCKETING LEAD EVENT (cont'd)

When the "Docket Lead Event?" hyperlink is clicked, CM/ECF takes the user to the Complaints and Other Initiating Documents screen. (The filer can also find this event listing under the main CIVIL event menu.)

Highlight the appropriate option and click Next

∂ECF Civil • Criminal • Query • Reports • Utilities • Logout Complaints and Other Initiating Documents Amended Complaint Application for Writ of Garnishment Bankruptcy Appeal ٠ Complaint Complaint received for filing Counterclaim Crossclaim Intervenor Complaint -Next Clear

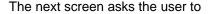
Criminal • Query •

99-12345, 1:99-cv-12345, 1-99-cv-12345, 99cv12345, or 1:99cv12345

Reports •

Utilities • Logout

The case number will default to the number just assigned. Click Next.



"Please select the party that this filing is against"

Again, highlight the appropriate defendants before continuing.

- If a party was missed during the initial case opening, there is an additional opportunity on this screen to add that defendant by clicking on the Add/Create New Party hyperlink.
- If there are many defendants, the filer may simply click ALL DEFENDANTS from the "Select a Group" list on the right side of the party listing. This saves scrolling through a large list of names to identify multiple parties and guarantees all defendants are selected.



6 E (

Case Number

Next Clear

Civil •

Complaints and Other Initiating Documents

DOCKETING LEAD EVENT (con'td)

Then you are asked to **Select the filer.**

Highlight the plaintiff and click Next.

Multiple Plaintiffs? By pressing the control key, and clicking on each plaintiff name, multiple parties will be highlighted. All plaintiffs should be included as filers of this document.

Forgot to add a plaintiff during Case Opening? The filer may Add/Create a New Party (plaintiff) at this time. By clicking on the Add/Create New Party hyperlink, it will allow the user to add an additional party and will loop back to this screen to complete the docketing of the Lead Event.

The next screen requires the filing attorney to associate themselves with the filing party. This ensures that notices of electronic filing will be served on the plaintiff attorney for all parties indicated.

- Check the box by clicking in the box. By doing this the filer is indicating that this party is being represented by the attorney currently logged in and filing this document. If this box is not checked, the attorney will not appear as counsel of record on the front of the docket.
- Lead indicates that this attorney is to be identified as the Lead Counsel.
- Notice is automatically checked.
 NOTE: DO NOT remove the check mark from this box! A check mark in this box will cause the court's electronic filing system to send notice of documents to counsel of record.





DOCKET LEAD EVENT - (cont'd)

Now that all the plaintiffs/defendants identified, the filer may continue uploading the complaint.

The filer **"Browses**" their own computer hard drive or network to locate the PDF file containing the complaint to be filed.

- Click Browse to begin searching.
- Once the complaint is added in this field, the user must attach the completed Civil Case Cover Sheet, and the Summons(es) for each defendant in the case.

The completed Case Cover Sheet (JS44) form and the local Category form are to be included as attachments to the main complaint. These, and other, forms are available on the Court's website in PDF-fillable format.

Instructions on adding attachments are available in our CM/ECF User Guide, found on our web page under the CM/ECF Training Information menu.

The Summons(es) for each defendant will be issued by the Court. The issued summons will then be e-mailed (or mailed using the postal service) to the attorney for service.



NOTICE OF REMOVAL

This page explains the steps that are unique to a notice of removal. The majority of the steps are the same as filing a complaint.

When filing a Notice of Removal, the user must select the **NOTICES** event under the Civil Events List.

Select "**Notice of Removal**" from the drop-down menu.

Continue to select the filer(s) of the document and associate the attorney with that party.

Browse for the document on your hard drive or network containing the **Notice of Removal PDF**.

Attached to the main document are all the State Court pleadings. Each pleading should be added separately.

Example:

Attachment 1 - State Court Complaint Attachment 2 - Service of Summons Attachment 3 - Case Cover Sheet for Notice of Removal

After the filer has attached all the state court documents, the user will continue to the payment screen.

Before the filer may continue to the pay.gov screens, there are two remaining questions:

- 1) The Name of Other Court the case is being transferred from
- Case number in the previous court. Once this information has been provided, the filer may continue with the final steps as those for filing a complaint.

ECF	Civil	•	Criminal	•	Query	•	Reports	•	Utilities	•	Logout
Notices											
Notice of Removal			-	I							
Next Clear											

Notices	
<u>1:06-cv-15015 v. Jones et al</u>	
Select the pdf document (for example: C\199cv501-21.pdf).	
Filename	
Browse	
Attachments to Document: 🔿 No 🥥 Yes	
Next Clear	

SECF	Civil •	Criminal	•	Query	•	Reports	•	Utilities	•	Logout
Notices <u>1:06-cv-15015 v. Jones ∉</u>	et al									
Name of other court		_								
is this filer of this document e	exempt from t	he payment	of th	e fee (IFP	, Gov	ernment, Sea	aman)	Y/1N?	_	
Next Clear										

PAYING THE FILING FEES, EXEMPTION FROM FILING FEE or PROCEEDING *in forma pauperis*

In the initial Case Opening, the user indicates if the filing fee status is "**Paid**", or if the filer is wishing to proceed **In Forma Pauperis**. The filer is asked the question again to initiate (depending on the answer) the pay.gov process.

y = **YES** When the filer indicates that an Application/Motion to Proceed *in forma pauperis* accompanies this transaction or the filer is otherwise exempt from payment of fees, the filing fee payment screens are skipped. The filer is allowed to proceed with the final steps of submitting the initial lead document without entering credit card information.

- If the filer indicates that an application is included, at the completion of this transaction, the filer must return to the Civil Menu and select Motions to file the Motion to proceed in forma pauperis.
- The Application is never an attachment to the lead document.

5 ECF	Civil •	Criminal	•	Query	•	Reports	•	Utilities	•	Logout	- 🤧
Complaints and Other I 1:06-cv-15015 v. Jones e	-	ocuments	•								
Is this filer of this document e	xempt from	the payment	of th	e fee (IF)	?, G∘	vernment, Se	eamar	n) AVIN 5			

PAYING THE FILING FEES, EXEMPTION FROM FILING FEE or PROCEEDING *in forma pauperis* (cont'd)

n = **NO** If the filer indicates no application to proceed *in forma pauperis* is included or if the filer is not exempt from payment of fees, the **pay.gov** screens will load providing the filer an opportunity to pay the filing fees online.

NOTE: Beginning on January 1, 2007, attorneys may pay filing fees for any document that requires a fee (e.g. Complaints, Notice of Appeal, Motion for Leave to Appear *pro hac vice*) by credit card through CM/ECF and pay.gov. If you are not prepared to do this you may answer yes to the question above. If you do not pay by credit card, you must submit payment to the Clerk's Office within 24 hours. The check should be accompanied by a copy of the 'Notice of Electronic Filing.'

All users accessing pay.gov must use a browser that supports 128 bit encryption.

Minimum browser requirements to support 128 bit encryption:

IE 6.0 (Recommended) Mozilla Firefox 1.5 or greater Mozilla 1.7 or greater Netscape 7.x Safari 1.2 (for MAC users)

Not Recommended:

IE 5.5 or lower



PAYING FILING FEES ON-LINE

This is the first screen of the pay.gov process. There are two screens. Note that all fields marked with the asterisk are required to be completed.

Things to remember:

- The Account Holder does not need to be the same as the attorney filer.
 For example: the credit card being used could be that of the law firm.
- This is a secure site. The payment goes directly from this screen to the United States Treasury.
- After payment of the filing fee, you MUST continue with the docket transaction until its completion.
 Failure to continue will result in your credit card being charged, with no record of your entry on the docket.

The final payment screen provides the filer with an opportunity to authorize the payment. Again, all the required fields are indicated with an asterisk. The Authorization Box must be checked to continue. If you fail to check the box, the transaction will not be completed and pay.gov will return to this screen until the authorization is marked.

The e-mail confirmation receipt does not need to be the same e-mail address as the attorney filer. Example: the user may wish the credit card receipt be e-mailed to your finance office.

Note that the e-mail address is not a required field. If it is left blank, no e-mail receipt will be generated from pay.gov.

SECF	Civil •	Criminal	•	Query	•	Reports	•	Utilities	•	Logout	- 2
Online Payment							Return	n to your ori	ginatir	ng application	
Step 1: Enter Payment										1 2	
Pay Via Plastic Card (PC)				iers Club,	Disco	over, Master	card,	VISA)			
Required fields are indica	ated with a	red asterisk	(*								
Account Holder Name: H Payment Amount: \$3 Billing Address 2: Billing Address 2: City: State / Province: Zip / Postal Code: Country: U		*	-								
Country: I≌ Card Type: Card Number: Security Code: Expiration Date:				number valu	mex	ld not contain s	oaces o	r dashes)			
Select the "Continue with F	Plastic Card	Payment" bu	utton f	to continu	e to th	e next step i	n the F	Plastic Card	Paym	nent Process.	
	C	Continue with	Plast	iic Card Pa	aymer	nt 🔤	Cance	1			

Address Information	Account Information	Payment Information
Account Holder Helen Name: Costelloatty	Card Type: ∀isa Card Number: ***********1111	Payment Amount: \$350.00 Transaction Date 12/22/2006 10:02
Billing Address: 123 Main Street	Expiration Date: 4 / 2011	and Time: EST
Billing Address 2:		
City: Boston		
State / Province: MA		
Zip / Postal Code: 02109 Country: USA		
Email Confirmation Receipt		
	completion of this transaction, provide an e	and a data and a set of the balance
· · ·	completion of this transaction, provide an e	email address and commutation below.
Email Address:		
Confirm Email Address:		
CC:		Separate multiple email addresses with a comma
Authorization and Disclosure		
Required fields are indicated with a r	ed asterisk *	
l authorize a charge to my card account f	or the above amount in accordance with m	ny card issuer agreement. 🗖 *
Press the "Submit Payment" Button or	ly once. Pressing the button more than o	nce could result in multiple transactions.

FINAL STEPS

Once the payment screens have been completed, the filer will be provided the last two screens to verify their documents and file them with the court.

On the Docket Text Modification screen the user may add any additional information necessary to the docket text.

The text box will accept up to 250 characters.

omplaints and Othe	er Initiating D	ocuments						
:06-cv-15015 v. Jone	<u>s et al</u>							
ocket Text: Modify as /	Appropriate.							
COMPLAINT		again	st IBM Fili	ng fee	e: \$ 350, rec	eipt 1	umber	
65583 , filed by Jame	s E. Jones. (C	ostelloatty, H	felen)					

Civil • Criminal • Query • Reports • Utilities • Logout

2



The Final Text screen is the last chance for the filer to review. Once the **NEXT** button is clicked, the filing is submitted to the court.

NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

The Notice of Electronic Filing is received by the user which constitutes the filing receipt for this transaction. Notice that the user is also provided a receipt number for the filing fee.

	Jones et al
	United States District Court
	District of Massachusetts
Notice of Electroni	5 Filing
The following trans 12/22/2006 Case Name: Case Number: Filer: Document Numb	action was received from Costelloatty, Helen entered on 12/22/2006 at 10:05 AM EST and filed o v. Jones et al <u>106-cv-15015</u> James E. Jones er: <u>1</u>
Docket Text: COMPLAINT aga	inst IBM Filing fee: \$ 350, receipt number 165583, filed by James E. Jones.(Costelloatty, Helen)
	ment(s) are associated with this transaction:

JUDGE ASSIGNMENT

At this point your case has been opened and the next step is for the Clerk's Office to review the case and assign a presiding Judge. Once the judge has been identified through the random assignment system, you will be notified through a docket entry assigning the judge to the case.

INTERNET PAYMENT HISTORY

You may review your Internet payment history at any time. To do so, click UTILITIES on the Main ECF Menu bar.

From this menu select Internet Payment History

SECF a	vil • Criminal	• Query •	Reports	• Utilit	ies •	Logout	6
Utilities							
Miscellaneous Case Assignment Utility Menu	Miscellaneous Legal Research		Case Opening ril Case (for att		5		
Your Account Maintain Your Account	<u>Mailings</u> Verify a Docum	lent					
View Your Transaction Log Change Client Code Change Your PACER Login		_					
Review Billing History Show PACER Account							
Edit Data							
Miscellaneous Internet Payment History							

ECF will allow the user to select a date range.



The report reflects all the credit card transactions during the specific date range.

The report provides dates, times of day, transaction description, amount and receipt number.

There are no PACER costs charged for this report.

	United States District Court District of Massachusetts Internet Payment History for Costelloatty, Helen 11/22/2006 to 12/22/2006						
Date Paid	Description	Payment Method	Receipt #	Amount			
2006-12-05 11:31:27	Motion for Leave to Appear Pro Hac Vice(1:06-cv-54321-EFH) [motion appear] (100.00)	credit card	165165	\$ 100.00			
2006-12-05 15:37:46	Motion for Leave to Appear Pro Hac Vice(1:05-cv-12052-WGY) [motion appear] (50.00)	credit card	165171	\$ 50.00			
2006-12-06 12:32:36	Motion to Appear Pro Hac Vice (1:03-cr-10275-RCL) [motion cappear] (50.00)	credit card	165230	\$ 50.00			
2006-12-22 10:03:24	Complaint(1:06-cv-15015) [cmp cmp] (350.00)	credit card	165583	\$ 350.00			

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS



ELECTRONIC CASE FILING CIVIL CASE OPENING MANUAL APPENDIX A - CAUSE OF ACTION LIST

December 29, 2006

This appendix contains the current list of allowable Title and Section information to be included on the statistical screen of the civil case opening process.

If the cause of action for your case is not found on this list, please contact the CM/ECF Help Desk at by telephone at 866-239-6233 or by e-mail at <u>ecfhelp@mad.uscourts.gov</u>.

Appendix A

APPENDIX A - CAUSE OF ACTION								
<u>Cause</u>	Description							
0	no cause specified							
02:0431	02:431 Fed. Election Commission: Failure Enforce Compliance							
02:0437	02:437 Federal Election Commission							
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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS



ELECTRONIC CASE FILING CIVIL CASE OPENING MANUAL APPENDIX B - PARTY NAME STANDARDS

December 29, 2006

This appendix contains the standards to be used by attorneys adding parties to the court's CM/ECF database.

If you need additional assistance, please contact the CM/ECF Help Desk at by telephone at 866-239-6233 or by email at <u>ecfhelp@mad.uscourts.gov</u>.

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Introduction

This guide contains the preferred style practices for all users of the CM/ECF application in the District of Massachusetts. The intention of the guide is to make everyone's task easier, whether they are entering data or inquiring into the CM/ECF data base, or uploading a proposed order. The application of a common set of styles when creating docket entries results in information being captured and displayed in more uniform and predictable ways, thus reducing confusion and errors. In addition, style consistency is the key to efficient searches in CM/ECF, since successful queries require very exact matches on search data including punctuation, abbreviations, and upper or lower case characters.

Adding Parties

Much of case opening in CM/ECF consists of adding the names of plaintiffs and defendants to cases. When adding new parties to the CM/ECF database, the names should conform with standard punctuation and spacing conventions listed in the <u>Style Conventions for Names</u> section of this Guide.

Searching For Parties

Before adding any party to a case, search for that party using appropriate "search clues". If the system finds the correct name, select it to help eliminate different versions of the same party name.

Even something as simple as "United States" can cause ambiguity if everyone is entering it differently. For instance, following this style guide can help avoid "United States" being in the database also as "UNITED STATES", "U.S.", "US", "USA", "U.S.A.", or "U.S. of A." **See page 6 for examples.**

Search Strategies

CM/ECF searches are not key word searches but require exact text matches.

- The search is not case sensitive but party names should be entered with initial caps.
- When searching for parties, the more search clues you provide, the more likely you are to find the exact person you are searching for. For example, if you search for a last name of Grant, CM/ECF may return a list of a hundred parties with that last name. However, if you know the first name or initial, you can add that to the first name field to narrow your search. For example if you search for Carol Grant, you will retrieve Carol A. Grant and Carolyn Grant.
- When searching for parties, it may be necessary to conduct multiple searches. First, search for the entire party's name (e.g., World Communications). If that is not successful, you can search for part of the party's name (e.g., World Comm or just World). If there are articles in

the title such as "A" or "The," you may or may not need to include the article in the search. For example, a search request for The Timely Times may not produce a result. But a search request for Timely Times will be successful. Likewise a search for Timely Times may not produce a result; but a search for The Timely Times will be successful.

When searching for a Party **DO NOT** use an asterisk or star at the end of the word. But an asterisk or star may be used before or within search strings as in the following:

⊗ Villa* © *Agriculture*Dep

Use of the asterisk slows down the entire system. When searching for Villareal, the name will be found without using the asterisk as follows:

Villa

- An unsuccessful search for A & A Metals might be successful if you search without spaces (i.e., A&A Metals). On the other hand, an unsuccessful search for A&A Metals might be successful if you search with spaces (i.e., A & A Metals).
- Search by last name "Doe", if you have parties referenced as "Jane Doe, John Doe, Doe, or Does".

Adding Plaintiffs and Defendants

- Add plaintiffs and defendants to cases using names exactly as they appear on the complaint. When you search for plaintiffs and defendants, you may find the name in the database already and you can select the party name form the list in the database.
- If a plaintiff or defendant has a title, add the title in the "party text" box. Any title that you add as party text will show up on the face of the docket report following the name and separated by a comma.

Title Tips							
1. 2. 3.	The name of the plaintiff or defendant without the title will appear in docket text. Titles will not appear on notices. Titles will appear on the face of the docket report in upper and lower case following the plaintiffs or defendants name as shown below:						
	Jose Garza, Administrator of the Estate of Sylvia Garza						
Alamo Limestone, a Texas Corp							
	Catherine V Ruiz, Official Administrator of Lottery Winnings						

Adding Plaintiffs and Defendants

- Add plaintiffs and defendants to cases using names exactly as they appear on the complaint. Or when you search for plaintiffs and defendants, you will probably find them in the database and can use the information in the database.
- Make sure to select the plaintiff or defendant party role. If you find a plaintiff or defendant in CM/ECF with an address, delete the address fields before accepting the Party Information screen.

Style Conventions for Names

These style conventions apply to all names entered in the CM/ECF application.

• Use upper and lower case characters for all names and capitalize the first letter in a proper noun.

Wallace D. Smith United Services Fidelity and Guaranty

• Use single spacing between all names and initials and punctuation if appropriate.

J. J. Jones Smith, Inc. CW Bradford Ltd.

• When typing names that have upper and lower case letters or hyphens, do not insert spaces.

Patrick MacDougal Kathleen O'Brien Mary Smith-Baker

•

- If an individual does not have a middle name, leave that field blank. Do not enter "NMI" (no middle initial).
- If a party has multiple names such as Robert Kramer Johns Martin, add the extra names in the Middle Name box.

Last name:	Martin
Middle name:	Kramer Johns
First name:	Robert

Business names should be entered entirely in the Last Name field. Do not use the First Name or Middle Name field when entering business names.

• Do not use the ampersand sign for "and" unless it is part of a company name on the petition or pleading.

B & D Company Cameron & Associates

• Enter US and USA without any spaces.

USDAUS Attorney

- ⊗ US Department of Agriculture
- ③ United States Attorney

Entering Spanish Surnames

The father's surname, or in the case of a married woman, the husband's surname, is always used as the control name.

Jose Rodolfo Ramirez-Villareal							
First name:		Jose					
Middle name:		Rodolfo					
Father's surna	ame:	Ramirez					
Mother's surr	name:	Villareal					
Enter:	Last n First n Middl		Ramirez-Villareal Jose Rodolfo				

Married Spanish Female

Lucero Villegas de Ramirez

The "de" in lower-case letters indicates that the woman is married. Consequently, the control name is her husband's surname, "Ramirez". **NOTE:** There are some exceptions when the "de" is used to link two first names. See the following example:

First name:		Lucero					
Middle name:							
Father's (her maiden)	name:	Villegas					
Husband's surname:		Ramirez					
Enter:	Last name:	Ramirez-Villegas de					
	First name:	Lucero					

Spanish speaking countries use the "de", "la", "los", "del" to link two first names to make it into

one name, e.g., Maria **de** Jesus, Maria **de** Asencion, Maria **de la** Luz, Maria **de los** Angeles, Maria **de** Rosario, Maria **de** Atoche.

All the names linked with the **de**, **la**, **los**, **del**, mentioned above form one first name. post office address.