PACER Quarterly Newsletter

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Coming Soon: New PACER Password Standards

As part of an ongoing effort to secure the PACER service and CM/ECF systems, the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts (AO) will begin enforcing new password standards in August. New passwords must:

- Be 14–45 characters in length.
- Contain at least one lowercase letter, one uppercase letter, and one special character.
- Not contain any part of a first name, last name, username, or email address.

Passwords must also be updated every 180 days. These standards will be enforced on all existing PACER-only (search/view only) accounts on August 25, 2025. Users should consider updating their password as soon as possible.

On August 25, PACER-only users will be prompted upon login to update their password if it was not updated as of May 11. Users can skip this process three times before their account is disabled.

To align with upcoming enforcement of MFA requirements, users with filing and other CM/ECF-level access must update their password on the date they are randomly selected to enroll in MFA. However, these users can update their password any time.

NOTE: If you update your password before enrolling in MFA, you will NOT be required to update it again when you are prompted to enroll in MFA. If using third-party software for filing, check that updating your password does not require additional action on your part to avoid issues with the software.

MFA Now Available

Multifactor authentication (MFA) is now available for PACER and CM/ECF. PACER account users with filing and all other types of CM/ECF-level access are required to enroll in MFA and are encouraged to do so at their earliest convenience. MFA enrollment is optional for users with PACER-only access, but it is strongly recommended.

Users with CM/ECF-level access who do not voluntarily enroll will be randomly selected to enroll starting in August. By the end of 2025, everyone with CM/ECF-level access must use MFA when logging in.

Updated documentation and learning aids are available.

NOTE: If using third-party software for filing, users should ensure their software supports MFA before enrolling, to avoid disruption to their business processes.

If you have any questions, please contact the PACER Service Center at <u>pacer@psc.uscourts.gov</u> or (800) 676-6856.

New Security Feature in PCL Bankruptcy Search

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Users can now search for bankruptcy records using only the SSN/EIN on the PACER Case Locator (PCL) Bankruptcy Search page. As an added layer of security, this page will also require completing a CAPTCHA challenge to proceed. This new User Verification field replaces the last name and business name fields that were formerly on this page.

Note: API users will still need to provide a last name or business name when searching by SSN/EIN. You can test your scripts in the QA environment at https://qa-pcl.uscourts.gov/pcl/pages/search/findBankruptcy.jsf.

PACER Website Pointers and Information

Helpful Resources

- Check out the <u>How to Use PACER</u> page for user manuals on a variety of topics.
- The <u>Frequently Asked Questions</u> page answers dozens of queries in various categories such as user fees, finding a case, and PACER registration.

Enhanced PACER Website Messaging

You can dismiss PACER website alerts. If a message appears on pacer.uscourts.gov, you can click Dismiss, and the message will not reappear—even on subsequent logins for the rest of the day.

Sign Up for PACER Announcements

Go to the PACER website to receive announcements by email. At pacer.uscourts.gov, go to the Email Updates section. Enter your email address and click Sign up to get the latest PACER news delivered to your inbox.

PSC General Information

Hours of Operation and Holidays

The PACER Service Center (PSC) is open from 7 a.m.–6 p.m. CT, M–F. PSC is closed on the following dates:

- Labor Day: September 1
- Columbus Day: October 14
- Veterans Day: November 11
- Thanksgiving Day: November 28
- Christmas Day: December 25

PACER Billing Information

- PSC accepts Discover, MasterCard, Visa, and American Express. Log in to Manage Your Account at pacer.uscourts.gov to pay by card.
- The PSC federal tax ID is: 74-2747938.
- A fee of \$53 will be assessed if your payment is returned. Accounts with a credit card on file will be auto-billed up to 7 days prior to the due date.

NOTE: Charges will appear on your credit card statement as "PACER 800-676-6856 IR." Please call the PSC with any questions.

Helpful PACER Tips & Hints

Get Faster, More Efficient PSC Support Via Email

When you contact the PACER Service Center (PSC), please include the following information in your message to ensure you get the help you need, when you need it:

- Account number and username
- Specific federal court, if applicable
- Your specific issue (e.g., login reset questions)

NOTE: The PSC cannot locate accounts by state bar number.

Resetting a Password

To recover a lost or forgotten PACER password, remember these steps to reset it:

- You must know the answers to your security questions.
- If you are unsure of the answers, update them as soon as possible and keep them in a safe place. You may do this online at pacer.uscourts.gov.
 - Hover over Manage Your Account and select Manage My Account Login.
 - After you log in, click **Set Security Information** under Settings.

Troubleshooting Login Issues

Try these tips for PACER login assistance:

- Confirm you entered your credentials correctly (remember that passwords are case-sensitive).
- Delete your internet browser cookies/clear your cache and then restart your browser.
- Try a different browser.
- Use a different network.
- Call the helpdesk at 800-676-6856.

PACER Fee Remittance Address

U.S. Courts: PACER P.O. Box 5208 Portland, OR 97028-5208

<u>NOTE:</u> When remitting payment, please include the account number.