



MICHAEL J. CORDONNIER
Presiding Judge

STATE OF MISSOURI
CIRCUIT COURT, 31ST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GREENE COUNTY JUDICIAL FACILITY
1010 Boonville Ave
Springfield, Missouri 65802
Phone (417) 868-4127
Fax (417) 829-6366

KYLIE YOUNG
Court Administrator

Lorree Allen
Secretary to Presiding Judge

February 23, 2023

Springfield Metropolitan Bar Association
Attorneys filing in the 31st Judicial Circuit

Re: Remote Public Access, Missouri *Case.net*

To all attorneys:

I am confident by now you are aware there are significant changes coming to *Case.net* this summer. The changes are designed to expand public access to public case documents from personal electronic devices. This will fulfill a long-term goal set by the Supreme Court of Missouri.

Since its inception, *Case.net* has allowed the public to retrieve real-time public information about pending and closed cases, such as party and attorney information, detailed docket entries, and scheduled hearings and trials. Over the years, while information available to the public via *Case.net* expanded, it has provided links only to civil and criminal judgments.

With the implementation of Missouri's electronic filing system in 2011, registered e-filing users have been able to access "secure *Case.net*" to view documents remotely. Non-registered users, such as the general public, could view public case documents only by using designated computer terminals in local courthouses. Beginning July 1, this distinction will begin terminating, and the public will gain remote access to public case documents.

What does this mean for you?

While your obligation to redact confidential information as required by law is not new, the increased public access to court documents underscores the need for diligence and care in carrying out this redaction responsibility. Links to revised rules regarding redaction, and information about CLEs and other resources available to help you meet this obligation, are available from the Missouri Bar's website (use the QR code at the end of this message).

Beginning July 1, for every document you file, you will be required to certify that you have complied with your redaction obligation as to that document. If you make a mistake - either by failing to redact information that should have been redacted or by redacting too much information – the judiciary is working on a mechanism to allow filers to correct mistakes while protecting potentially confidential information from public view.

Your best protection is to use your best efforts to determine how to protect your clients' confidential information in your area of practice. Please take the time to do so, and let us know if you have particular questions or concerns.

What other specifics should you know?

July 1 is a statewide deadline for when filers will be required to certify all documents meet redaction requirements. However, not all public case documents will be available remotely to the public on that date. Instead, there will be a schedule for when a particular court's public documents will become accessible remotely.

Please note – once remote access is granted for a particular court, that court's public case documents **will be available retroactively to July 1, 2023**. The public will continue to use the designated computer terminals in local courthouses to see public case documents filed prior to that date.

When will public case documents become accessible remotely?

To help balance the expansion of remote public access to *Case.net* with the anticipated resulting demand on the judiciary's information technology systems, the Missouri Court Automation Committee – the statutory committee overseeing the state's case management system – has set the following implementation schedule for 2023:

Remote access date	Courts (including all districts or divisions)
On July 1	Supreme Court of Missouri, Missouri Court of Appeals
No later than August 1	Circuits 1 through 9
No later than September 1	Circuits 10 through 19
No later than October 1	Circuits 20 through 29
No later than November 1	Circuits 30 through 46

Remember:

Although public case documents filed in the 31st Judicial Circuit will not become available remotely to the public until no later than November 1, 2023, that expanded access will be retroactive to public case documents filed on or after July 1, 2023.

We appreciate your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Cordonnier,
Presiding Judge
31st Judicial Circuit Court

