

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA**

IN RE: ELECTRONIC SERVICE IN SOCIAL  
SECURITY CASES

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

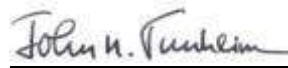
A significant number of cases seeking review of the Commissioner's decision denying an application for Social Security benefits are filed in this District. The court and the US Attorney's Office for the District of Minnesota share an interest in facilitating an efficient resolution of those complaints. To this end, the US Attorney's Office and Regional Counsel for the Social Security Administration have agreed to accept electronic service in Social Security cases in which the plaintiff has been granted *in forma pauperis* status, which will eliminate the US Marshal serving the summons and complaint on behalf of the plaintiff.

1. This Administrative Order shall only apply to complaints instituted by a plaintiff against the Commissioner in which the only claim that is being brought is pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 405(g) and in which the plaintiff has been granted *in forma pauperis* status. It shall not apply to any other complaint. In particular, this Administrative Order does not apply to (a) complaints that include claims against the Commissioner in addition to, or other than, those brought pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 405(g); (b) complaints that include defendants other than the Commissioner; and (c) cases in which the plaintiff is not proceeding *in forma pauperis*.
2. Complaints filed pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 405(g) must be filed with the Clerk of Court. Upon filing, CM/ECF will generate a Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) to the United States Attorney and Regional Counsel for the Social Security Administration. Service of process will be carried out entirely through generation of the NEF, notwithstanding Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
3. The US Attorney's Office and Regional Counsel for the Social Security Administration have agreed not to raise insufficient service of process as a defense in these cases. Those parties have not, however, waived service of process pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 4(d) or forfeited any defense regarding insufficient service of process. This Administrative Order is intended to more

efficiently process Social Security cases, not to alter the substantive or procedural rights of the parties.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED.

Dated in Minneapolis, Minnesota, April 28, 2022, at 11:00 a.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John R. Tunheim". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a solid horizontal line.

JOHN R. TUNHEIM  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court