

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA**

In Re: ENCRYPTION OF ELECTRONIC
MATERIALS AND LINKS TO CLOUD-
BASED STORAGE SYSTEMS PROVIDED
TO THE U.S. DISTRICT COURT, DISTRICT
OF MINNESOTA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

The proliferation of encryption technologies has resulted in the utilization of wide-ranging software programs designed to encrypt and de-encrypt electronic media. As those software programs are not always compatible with one another, this Court cannot be reasonably assured that it or those litigants appearing before it will possess the appropriate software necessary to view and review encrypted materials.

Similarly, the proliferation of cloud-based storage systems has resulted in the utilization of wide-ranging software programs that are designed to store and share documents through the cloud. These programs allow users to send a link to documents, rather than attaching the document in an email. Accessing documents from a link, however, exposes the Court to significant security and confidentiality risks.

To assure that the Court and those who appear before it has access to all electronic materials to which they are entitled and to reduce the Court's exposure to the increased security and confidentiality risks that links to cloud-based storage systems pose, it is hereby **ORDERED** that:

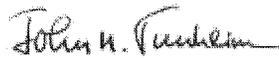
1. All discovery, documents, pleadings, and other electronic materials contained on removable media which are filed with or presented to the Court, the Clerk's Office, or the U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services Office must not be encrypted;
2. Any email messages sent to the Court, the Clerk's Office, or the U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services Office, must not be encrypted, unless the sender obtained permission in advance from the intended recipient of the encrypted message;
3. All electronic materials presented to the Court, the Clerk's Office, or the U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services Office in an email must not be done using a link to a cloud-based storage system but must be provided as an attachment to the email, unless the sender obtained permission in advance from the intended recipient; and

FILED 05/05/20
KATE M. FOGARTY

JUDGMENT ENTD
DEPUTY CLERK D. Bell

4. The administrative order signed on June 29, 2018, regarding Encryption of Electronic Materials and Links to Cloud-Based Storage Systems Provided to the U.S. District Court, District of Minnesota is hereby vacated and superseded by this order.

Dated in Minneapolis, Minnesota, May 5, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.



JOHN R. TUNHEIM
Chief Judge
United States District Court