

Sealed Civil User's Manual

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA

Updated: November 13, 2023

CONTENTS

INT	RODUCTION	1	
MC	TION PRACTICE	2	
	DOCUMENT IN SUPPORT OF A MOTION IS NOT SEALED	2	
	DOCUMENT IN SUPPORT OF A MOTION IS SEALED	4	
	EXHIBIT TO A SUPPORTING DOCUMENT IS SEALED	7	
	REDACTED DOCUMENT (MOTION PRACTICE)	9	
	STATEMENT INSTEAD OF REDACTED DOCUMENT (MOTION PRACTICE)	10	
	PROPOSED REDACTED DOCUMENT	12	
	JOINT MOTION REGARDING CONTINUED SEALING	14	
	MOTION FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION	15	
	OBJECTION TO ORDER ON MOTION FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION	17	
OTHER SEALED DOCUMENTS – NOT RELATED TO MOTION PRACTICE18			
	EX PARTE SUBMISSION/IN CAMERA REVIEW	18	
	SEALED DOCUMENT	20	
	SEALED EXHIBIT (INITIAL PLEADINGS AND OTHER NON-MOTION FILINGS)	22	
	SEALED LETTER	24	
	SEALED STIPULATION	26	
	REDACTED DOCUMENT (INITIAL PLEADINGS AND OTHER NON-MOTIONS FILINGS	29	
	STATEMENT INSTEAD OF REDACTED DOCUMENT (INITIAL PLEADINGS AND OTHER NON-MOTION FILIN	•	
	FILING SEALED CASE INITIATING DOCUMENTS	32	

INTRODUCTION

This document is intended to guide an ECF user through the process of electronically filing restricted documents in a civil case. Under <u>LR 5.6</u> "All documents filed in a civil case – whether sealed or not – must be filed in compliance with the <u>Electronic Case Filing Procedures Guide – Civil Cases."</u>

Under <u>LR 5.6</u> each sealed document must be filed as a SEPARATE document (e.g. ECF No. 15) or as a separate attachment (e.g. ECF No. 15-3 in which several documents are attached to one entry) so parties, nonparties, and the court can refer to it by a unique number. A party seeking to file a document under seal in connection with a motion under <u>LR 7.1</u> must:

- 1. File the temporarily sealed document using the appropriate menu item (i.e. Memorandum in Support of Motion).
- 2. Contemporaneously file a redacted public version of the sealed document OR a statement that the entire document is confidential or redaction is impracticable.
- 3. Within 21 days after the filing of the final memorandum authorized by <u>LR 7.1</u>, file a Joint Motion Regarding Continued Sealing.

ECF is also able to accommodate sealed filings outside of <u>LR 7.1</u> motion practice. Filing events are available for sealed case initiation documents (i.e. complaint, notice of removal), sealed letters, sealed stipulations, and sealed exhibits. A prompt has also been added to certain events, such as an answer, allowing the filer to select if the document being filed is sealed.

Please note, when filing sealed documents outside of motion practice (see <u>Motion Practice</u>) redacted documents or a Statement that Entire Document is Confidential or Impractible to Redact must be filed unless otherwise instructed by the Judge. Additionally, a motion seeking leave of the court to keep the complaint or other initiating documents under seal is required (Use Motion to Seal Document under LR5.6(e) event). This motion should be filed immediate after the redacted document or the Statement that the Entire Document is Confidential or Impractible to redact.

Please call or email the ECF Help Desk at 612-664-5155 or ecfhelpdesk@mnd.uscourts.gov if you have questions concerning how to electronically file a restricted document.

One intent of <u>LR 5.6</u> is to have all sealed documents filed together in one docket entry and all public documents filed together in one docket entry using attachments to the main document. Each sealed and redacted document must be filed as a separate document (e.g. ECF No. 15) or as a separate attachment (e.g. ECF No. 15-3) so parties, non-parties, and the court can refer to it by a unique number. Below please find a sample docket sheet that outlines how sealed, redacted, and public documents should be filed. While this sample docket sheet does not cover every scenario, it is

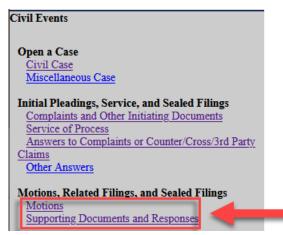
instructive as to how documents can be filed under the rule.

#	Docket Text
1	COMPLAINT against XYZ Corporation (filing fee \$400, receipt number 111111111) filed by ABC Company. Filer requests summons issued. Case assigned to Judge Chief Judge John R. Tunhiem per 3rd, 4th Master list, referred to Magistrate Judge Magistrate Judge Hildy Bowbeer. (Attachments: # 1 Civil Cover Sheet) (LEG) (Entered: 03/28/2019)
2	Summons Issued as to XYZ Corporation. (LEG) (Entered: 03/28/2019)
<u>3</u>	MOTION to Dismiss/General filed by XYZ Corporation. (Smith, Joe) Modified text on 2/27/2020 (LEG). (Entered: 03/28/2019)
4	NOTICE OF HEARING ON MOTION 3 MOTION to Dismiss/General: Motion Hearing set for 5/1/2019 at 09:00 AM in Courtroom 15E (MPLS) before Judge John R. Tunheim. (Smith, Joe) (Entered: 03/28/2019)
<u>5</u>	MEMORANDUM in Support re 3 MOTION to Dismiss/General filed by XYZ Corporation. (Attachments: # 1 LR7.1/LR72.2 Word Count Compliance Certificate) (Smith, Joe) (Entered: 03/28/2019)
<u>6</u>	AFFIDAVIT of Sue Smith in SUPPORT OF 3 MOTION to Dismiss/General filed by XYZ Corporation. (Attachments: # 1 Exhibit 1, # 2 Redacted Exhibit 2, # 3 Redacted Exhibit 3) (Smith, Joe) (Entered: 03/28/2019)
7	SEALED EXHIBIT 2 re 6 Affidavit in Support of Motion filed by XYZ Corporation. (Attachments: # 1 Sealed Exhibit 3) (Smith, Joe) (Entered: 03/28/2019)
8	MEMORANDUM in Opposition re 3 MOTION to Dismiss/General filed by ABC Company. (Attachments: # 1 LR7.1/LR72.2 Word Count Compliance Certificate) (Doe, John) (Entered: 03/28/2019)
9	SEALED AFFIDAVIT of Alex Jones in OPPOSITION TO 3 MOTION to Dismiss/General filed by ABC Company. (Attachments: # 1 Sealed Exhibit A, # 2 Sealed Exhibit B) (Doe, John) (Entered: 03/28/2019)
<u>10</u>	REDACTED DOCUMENT for 9 Sealed Affidavit filed by ABC Company. (Attachments: # 1 Redacted Exhibit A, # 2 Redacted Exhibit B) (Doe, John) (Entered: 03/28/2019)
<u>11</u>	Reply to Response to Motion re <u>3</u> MOTION to Dismiss/General filed by XYZ Corporation. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> LR7.1/LR72.2 Word Count Compliance Certificate) (Smith, Joe) (Entered: 03/28/2019)
<u>12</u>	PROPOSED REDACTED DOCUMENT(S) for - 7 Proposed Redacted Exhibit 2 filed by XYZ Corporation. (Attachments: # 1 [7-1] Proposed Redacted Exhibit 3, # 2 9 Proposed Redacted Affidavit in Opposition to Motion, # 3 [9-1] Proposed Redacted Exhibit A, # 4 [9-2] Proposed Redacted Exhibit B) (Smith, Joe) (Entered: 03/29/2019)
<u>13</u>	JOINT MOTION REGARDING CONTINUED SEALING re 12 Proposed Redacted Document(s), 9 Affidavit in Opposition to Motion, 7 Exhibit filed by XYZ Corporation. (Smith, Joe) (Entered: 03/29/2019)

MOTION PRACTICE

PUBLIC DOCUMENT IN SUPPORT OF A MOTION

- 1. Select **Civil** from the filing menu.
- 2. Under the Motions, Related Filings, and Sealed Filings category, click on **Supporting Documents** and Responses.



- 3. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Click Next.
- 4. Enter the case number. Click Next.
- 5. Confirm the correct case number was entered. Click Next.
- 6. Select the applicable event. Click **Next.**
- 7. Select the filer by clicking the appropriate party. Click Next.

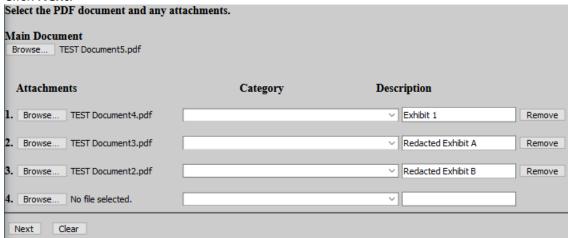


- 8. Click **No** in answer to the question. Click **Next.**
- 9. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Attach the appropriate documents. Click **Next.**

EXAMPLE: Filing a Non-Confidential Affidavit with one or more Sealed Exhibits which should be filed as redacted documents.

- Attach the Non-Confidential Affidavit as the Main Document.
- Attach the Non-Confidential Exhibit.
- Attach the Redacted Exhibit A.
- Attach the Redacted Exhibit B.

Click Next.

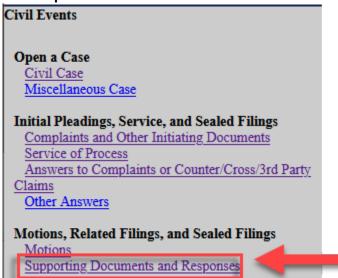


- 10. Enter the name of Affiant. Click Next.
- 11. Click the box next to the appropriate motion. Click Next.
- 12. Modify the docket text if necessary. Click Next.
- 13. Confirm the correct document(s) is attached and the docket text is correct. Clicking next will finalize the filing. Click **Next.**
- 14. The Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) will display confirming the filing.

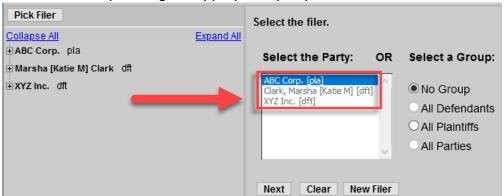
SEALED DOCUMENT IN SUPPORT OF A MOTION

1. Select **Civil** from the filing menu.

2. Under the Motions, Related Filings, and Sealed Filings category, click on **Supporting Documents** and **Responses**.



- 3. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Click Next.
- 4. Enter the case number. Click Next.
- 5. Confirm the correct case number was entered. Click Next.
- 6. Select the applicable event. Click Next.
- 7. Select the filer by clicking the appropriate party. Click **Next.**



- 8. Click Yes to answer the question. Click Next.
- 9. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Click Next.
- 10. Select ONLY the parties who should have access to the document. Click Next.

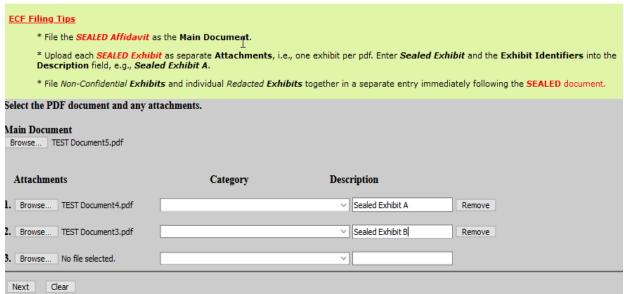
**IMPORTANT: ALL SELECTED PARTIES WILL SEE THE DOCUMENT. Do NOT select Interested Parties (ip) or Movants (mov).



- 11. Enter the filing party. Click Next.
- 12. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Attach the appropriate documents. Click Next.

EXAMPLE: Filing a Sealed Affidavit with Sealed Exhibits.

- ***If there are sealed attachments, file each sealed document separately as an attachment to the main document. **NOTE: Multiple sealed documents can be filed as attachments as long as each document has a unique number (ECF No. 15-3).
- File the Sealed Affidavit as the Main Document.
- Upload each Sealed Exhibit as separate attachments, i.e., one exhibit per pdf. Enter Sealed Exhibit and the Exhibit Identifiers into the description field, e.g., Sealed Exhibit A.
- Click Next.

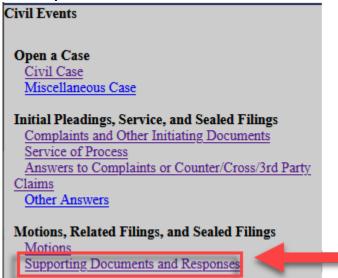


13. Enter the name of Affiant. Click Next.

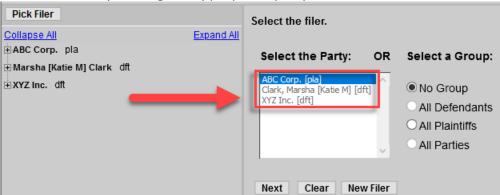
- 14. Check the box next to the appropriate motion. Click **Next.**
- 15. Modify the docket text if necessary. Click Next.
- 16. Confirm the correct document(s) is attached and the docket text is correct. Clicking next will finalize the filing. Click **Next.**
- 17. The Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) will display confirming the filing.

SEALED EXHIBIT TO A SUPPORTING DOCUMENT

- 1. Select **Civil** from the filing menu.
- Under the Motions, Related Filings, and Sealed Filings category, click on Supporting Documents and Responses.

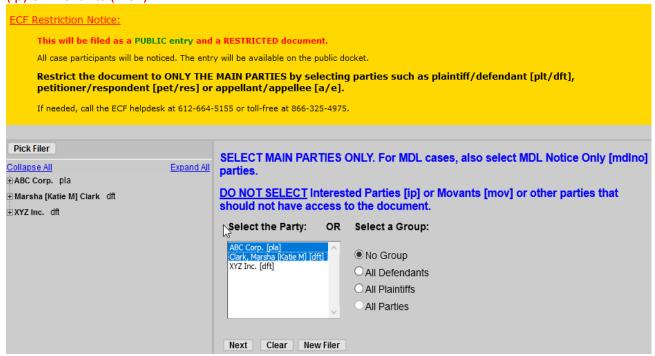


- 3. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Click **Next.**
- 4. Enter the case number. Click Next.
- 5. Confirm the correct case number was entered. Click **Next.**
- Select Exhibit (Motions and Related Filings). Click Next.
- 7. Select the filer by clicking the appropriate party. Click Next.



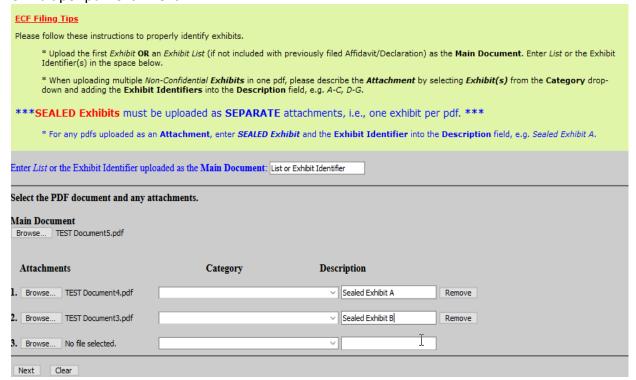
- 8. Click **Yes** to answer the question. Click **Next.**
- 9. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Click Next.
- 10. Select ONLY the parties who should have access to the document. Click Next.

**IMPORTANT: ALL SELECTED PARTIES WILL SEE THE DOCUMENT. Do NOT select Interested Parties (ip) or Movants (mov).



- 11. Enter the filing party. Click Next.
- 12. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Attach the appropriate documents. Click Next.
 - ***If there are sealed attachments, file each sealed document separately as an attachment to the main document. **NOTE: Multiple sealed documents can be filed as attachments as long as each document has a unique number (ECF No. 15-3).
 - Enter List or the Exhibit Identifier uploaded as the Main Document.
 - Attach the document.

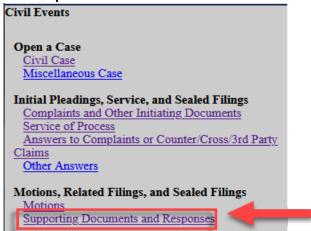
 Attach sealed exhibits. Sealed exhibits must be uploaded as separate attachments, i.e., one exhibit per pdf. Click Next.



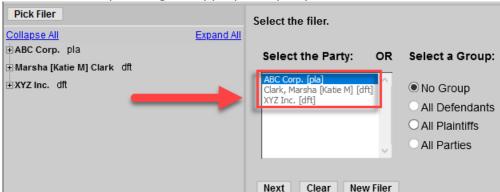
- 13. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Check the box next to the document to which your exhibit should be attached. Click **Next.**
- 14. Modify the docket text if necessary. Click Next.
- 15. Confirm the correct document(s) is attached and the docket text is correct. Clicking next will finalize the filing. Click **Next.**
- 16. The Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) will display confirming the filing.
- 17. Follow the applicable section of this procedure to file the <u>redacted document</u> or the <u>Statement</u> that Entire <u>Document is Confidential or Impracticable to Redact</u>.

REDACTED DOCUMENT (MOTION PRACTICE)

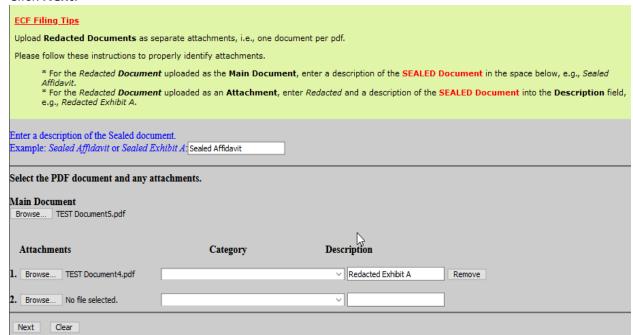
- 1. Select Civil from the filing menu.
- Under the Motions, Related Filings, and Sealed Filings category, click on Supporting Documents and Responses.



- 3. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Click Next.
- 4. Enter the case number. Click Next.
- 5. Confirm the correct case number was entered. Click Next.
- 6. Select Redacted Document (Motions and Related Filings). Click Next.
- 7. Select the filer by clicking the appropriate party. Click **Next.**



- 8. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Attach the appropriate documents. Click Next.
 - Enter a description of the sealed document.
 - For the attachments, enter "Redacted" and a description of the document.
 - Click Next.

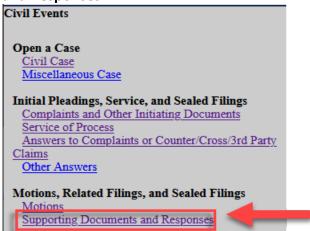


- Read the ECF Filing Tip. Check the box next to the sealed document of the redacted document(s). Click Next.
- 10. Modify the docket text if necessary. Click Next.
- 11. Confirm the correct document(s) is attached and the docket text is correct. Clicking next will finalize the filing. Click **Next.**
- 12. The Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) will display confirming the filing.

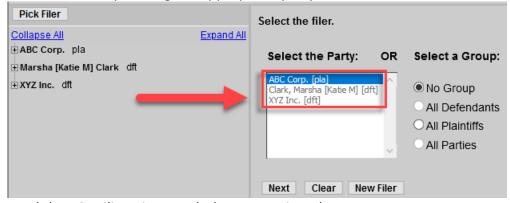
STATEMENT INSTEAD OF REDACTED DOCUMENT (MOTION PRACTICE)

1. Select **Civil** from the filing menu.

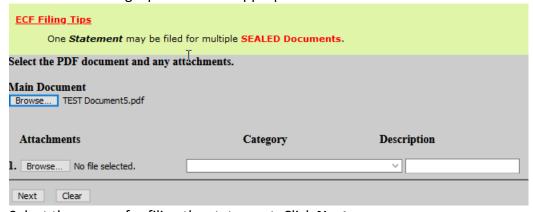
2. Under the Motions, Related Filings, and Sealed Filings category, click on **Supporting Documents** and **Responses**.



- 3. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Click Next.
- 4. Enter the case number. Click Next.
- 5. Confirm the correct case number was entered. Click Next.
- 6. Select Statement Instead of Redacted Document (Motions and Related Filings). Click Next.
- 7. Select the filer by clicking the appropriate party. Click **Next.**



Read the ECF Filing Tip. Attach the appropriate document.



- 9. Select the reason for filing the statement. Click Next.
- 10. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Check the box next to the sealed document of the redacted document(s). Click **Next.**

11. Enter the ECF Docket # in brackets and a description for specific attachments within a sealed entry related to this Statement Instead of Redacted Document. Click **Next.**



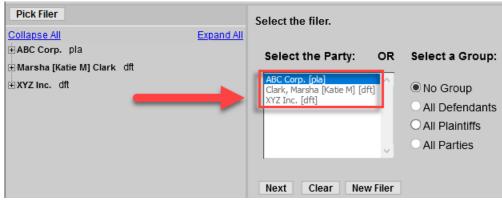
- 12. Modify the docket text if necessary. Click Next.
- 13. Confirm the correct document(s) is attached and the docket text is correct. Clicking next will finalize the filing. Click **Next.**
- 14. The Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) will display confirming the filing.

PROPOSED REDACTED DOCUMENT

- 1. Select **Civil** from the filing menu.
- Under the Motions, Related Filings, and Sealed Filings category, click on Supporting Documents and Responses.

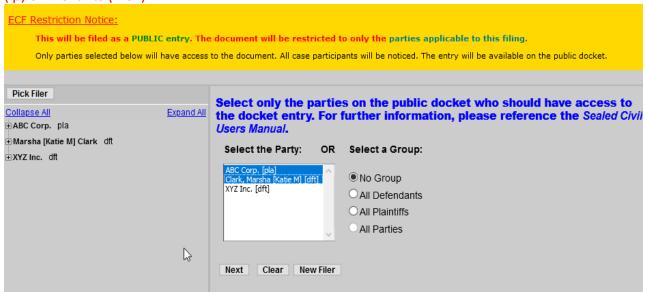


- 3. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Click Next.
- 4. Enter the case number. Click Next.
- 5. Confirm the correct case number was entered. Click Next.
- 6. Select Proposed Redacted Document(s) (Motions and Related Filings). Click Next.
- Select the filer by clicking the appropriate party. Click Next.



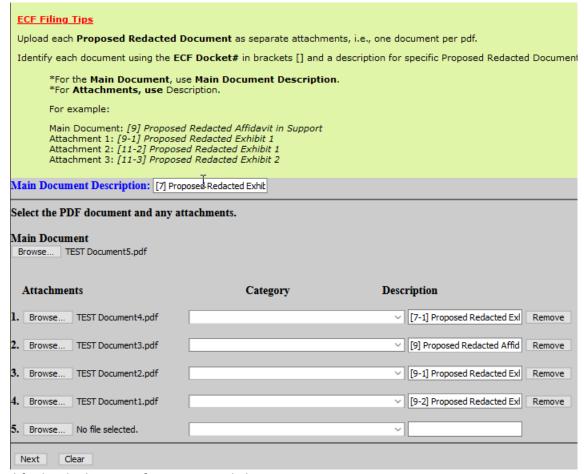
8. Select ONLY the parties who should have access to the document.

**IMPORTANT: ALL SELECTED PARTIES WILL SEE THE DOCUMENT. Do NOT select Interested Parties (ip) or Movants (mov).



- 9. Enter the filing party. Click Next.
- 10. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Attach the appropriate documents. Click Next.
 - Enter the Main Document description. (Proposed Redacted Document. [7] Proposed Redacted Exhibit 2).
 - Enter the description of the proposed redacted document. ([7-1] Proposed Redacted Exhibit 3).
 - Enter the description of the proposed redacted document. ([9] Proposed Redacted Affidavit in Opposition to Motion).
 - Enter the description of the proposed redacted document. ([9-1] Proposed Redacted Exhibit A).
 - Enter the description of the proposed redacted document. ([9-2] Proposed Redacted Exhibit B).

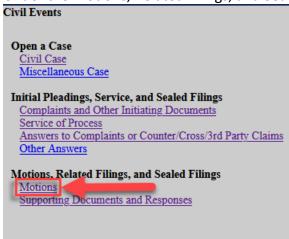
Click Next.



- 11. Modify the docket text if necessary. Click Next.
- 12. Confirm the correct document(s) is attached and the docket text is correct. Clicking next will finalize the filing. Click **Next.**
- 13. The Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) will display confirming the filing.

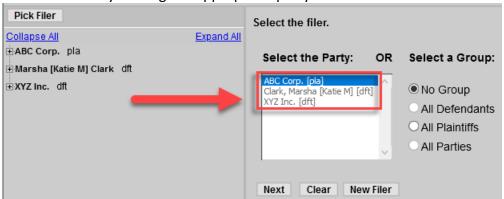
JOINT MOTION REGARDING CONTINUED SEALING

- 1. Select **Civil** from the filing menu.
- 2. Under the Motions, Related Filings, and Sealed Filings category, click on **Motions**.

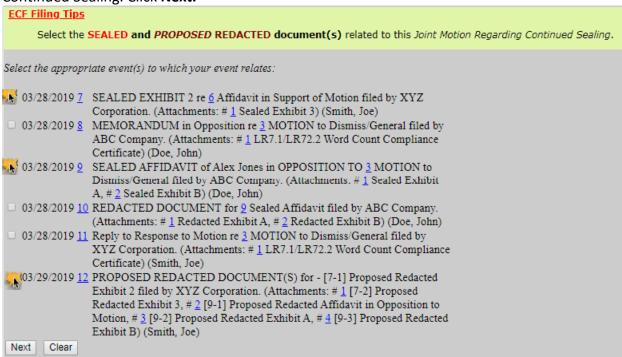


3. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Click Next.

- 4. Enter the case number. Click Next.
- 5. Confirm the correct case number was entered. Click Next.
- 6. Select Joint Motion Regarding Continued Sealing. Click Next.
- 7. Select the filer by clicking the appropriate party. Click **Next.**



- 8. Attach the appropriate document. Click **Next.**
- Select the sealed and proposed redacted document(s) related to this Joint Motion Regarding Continued Sealing. Click Next.

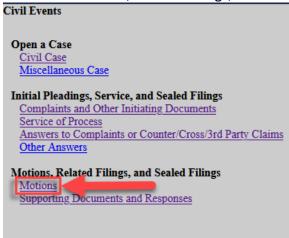


- 10. Modify the docket text if necessary. Click **Next.**
- 11. Confirm the correct document(s) is attached and the docket text is correct. Clicking next will finalize the filing. Click **Next.**
- 12. The Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) will display confirming the filing.

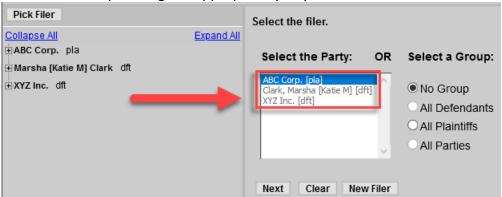
MOTION FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION

1. Select **Civil** from the filing menu.

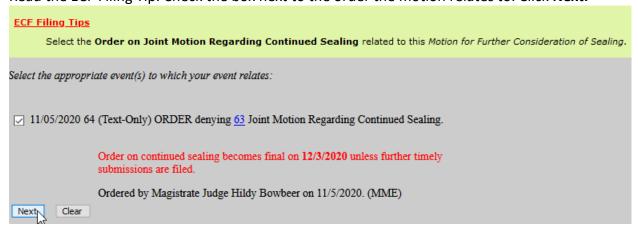
2. Under the Motions, Related Filings, and Sealed Filings category, click on **Motions**.



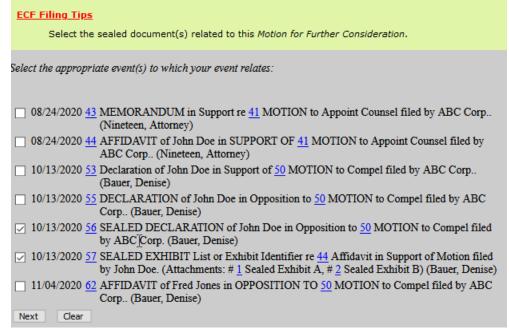
- 3. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Click Next.
- 4. Enter the case number. Click Next.
- 5. Confirm the correct case number was entered. Click Next.
- 6. Select Motion for Further Consideration of Sealing. Click Next.
- 7. Select the filer by clicking the appropriate party. Click **Next.**



- 8. Attach the appropriate document. Click Next.
- 9. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Check the box next to the order the motion relates to. Click Next.



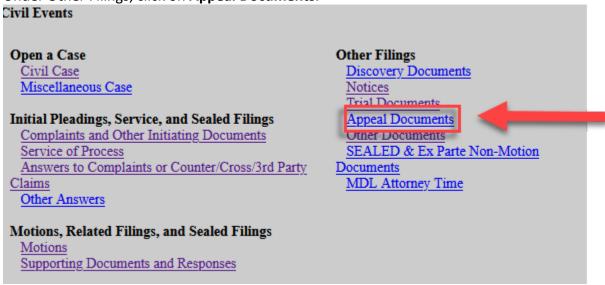
10. Check the boxes next to the sealed document(s) the motion relates to. Click Next.



- 11. Modify the docket text if necessary. Click Next.
- 12. Confirm the correct document(s) is attached and the docket text is correct. Clicking next will finalize the filing. Click **Next.**
- 13. The Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) will display confirming the filing.

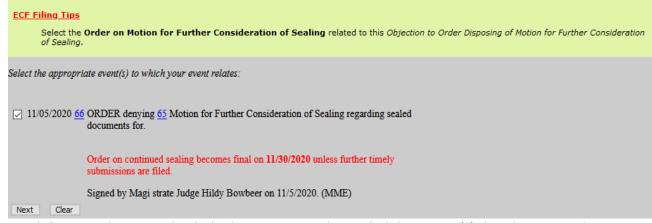
OBJECTION TO ORDER ON MOTION FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION

- 1. Select **Civil** from the filing menu.
- 2. Under Other Filings, click on Appeal Documents.



- 3. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Click Next.
- 4. Enter the case number. Click Next.
- 5. Confirm the correct case number was entered. Click **Next.**
- 6. Select Objection to Order Disposing of Motion for Further Consideration. Click Next.
- 7. Click whether the document should be sealed as allowed by LR 5.6. Click Next.
- 8. Attach the document. Click Next.

9. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Check the box next to the order the motion relates to. Click **Next.**



10. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Check the boxes next to the sealed document(s) the objection relates to. Click **Next.**

ECF Filing Tips Select the sealed document(s) related to this Objection to Order Disposing of Motion for Further Consideration of Sealing.
Select the appropriate event(s) to which your event relates:
☐ 08/24/2020 43 MEMORANDUM in Support re 41 MOTION to Appoint Counsel filed by ABC Corp (Nineteen, Attorney)
08/24/2020 44 AFFIDAVIT of John Doe in SUPPORT OF 41 MOTION to Appoint Counsel filed by ABC Corp (Nineteen, Attorney)
☐ 10/13/2020 53 Declaration of John Doe in Support of 50 MOTION to Compel filed by ABC Corp (Bauer, Denise)
☐ 10/13/2020 55 DECLARATION of John Doe in Opposition to 50 MOTION to Compel filed by ABC Corp (Bauer, Denise)
☐ 11/04/2020 62 AFFIDAVIT of Fred Jones in OPPOSITION TO 50 MOTION to Compel filed by ABC Corp (Bauer, Denise)
Next Clear

- 11. Modify the docket text if necessary. Click Next.
- 12. Confirm the correct document(s) is attached and the docket text is correct. Clicking next will finalize the filing. Click **Next.**
- 13. The Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) will display confirming the filing.

OTHER SEALED DOCUMENTS – NOT RELATED TO MOTION PRACTICE

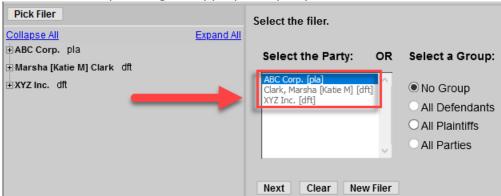
EX PARTE SUBMISSION/IN CAMERA REVIEW

1. Click **Civil** from the filing menu.

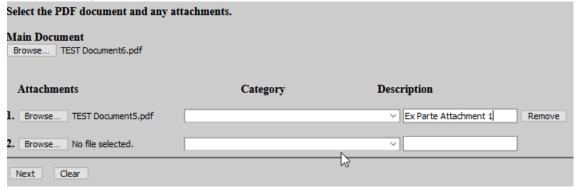
2. Under Other Filings, click on **SEALED & Ex Parte Non-Motion Documents**.



- 3. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Click Next.
- 4. Enter the case number. Click Next.
- 5. Confirm the correct case number was entered. Click Next.
- Select the filer by clicking the appropriate party. Click Next.



- 7. Select Ex Parte Submission/In Camera Review. Click Next.
- 8. Read the ECF Restriction Notice. Click Next.
- 9. Select the type of Ex Parte filing. Click **Next.**
- 10. Attach the appropriate documents. File each attachment separately as an attachment to the main document. Click **Next**.
 - **NOTE: EACH sealed document must be filed separately with its own unique docket number (e.g. ECF No. 15-3).



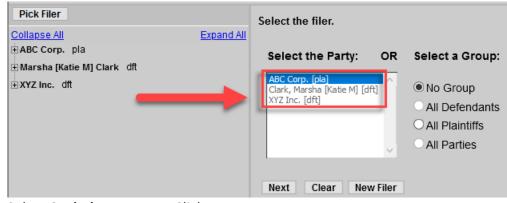
- 11. Select whether the document should be linked to another document in the case.
 - If YES, check the box and click Next. On the next screen, select the document that should be linked. Click Next.
 - If NO, leave the box unchecked. Click Next.
- 12. Modify the docket text if necessary. Click Next.
- 13. Confirm the correct document(s) is attached and the docket text is correct. Clicking next will finalize the filing. Click **Next.**
- 14. The Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) will display confirming the filing.

SEALED DOCUMENT

- 1. Click Civil from the filing menu.
- 2. Under Other Filings, click on **SEALED & Ex Parte Non-Motion Documents**.

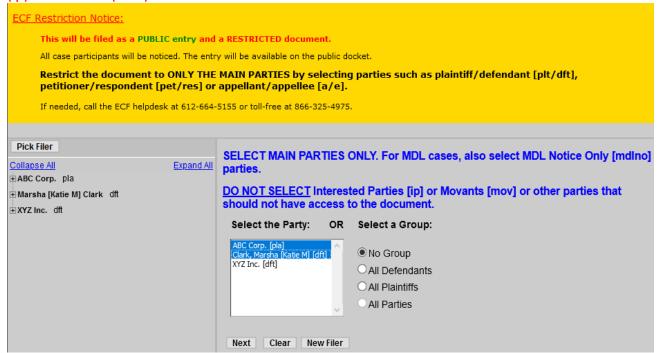


- 3. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Click Next.
- 4. Enter the case number. Click Next.
- 5. Confirm the correct case number was entered. Click Next.
- 6. Select the filer by clicking the appropriate party. Click Next.

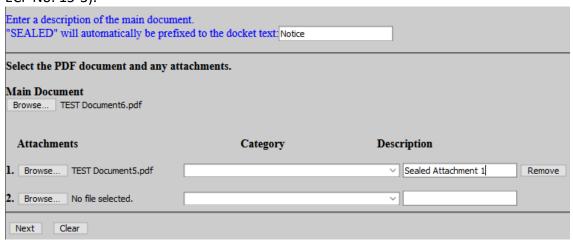


- 7. Select Sealed Document. Click Next.
- 8. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Click Next.
- Read the second ECF Filing Tip. Click Next.
- 10. Select **ONLY** the parties who should have access to the document.

**IMPORTANT: ALL SELECTED PARTIES WILL SEE THE DOCUMENT. Do NOT select Interested Parties (ip) or Movants (mov).



- 11. Enter the filing party. Click Next.
- 12. Label and upload the main document.
 - Enter a description of the document.
 - Click the Browse button to attach the document.
 - Click the Browse button to attach attachment(s).
 - Click Next.
 - **NOTE: EACH sealed document must be filed separately with its own unique docket number (e.g. ECF No. 15-3).

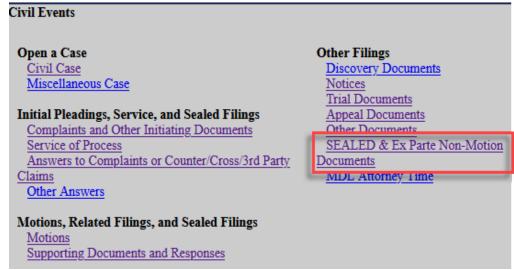


- 13. Select whether the document should be linked to another document in the case.
 - If YES, check the box and click Next. On the next screen, select the document that should be linked. Click Next.
 - If NO, leave the box unchecked. Click Next.
- 14. Click Next.

- 15. Confirm the correct document(s) is attached and the docket text is correct. Clicking next will finalize the filing. Click **Next.**
- 16. The Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) will display confirming the filing.
- 17. Follow the applicable section of this procedure to file <u>redacted documents</u> or the <u>Statement that Entire Document is Confidential or Impracticable to Redact</u>. The redacted document or statement should be filed immediately following the sealed document. No Joint Motion Regarding Continued Sealing is required.

SEALED EXHIBIT (INITIAL PLEADINGS AND OTHER NON-MOTION FILINGS)

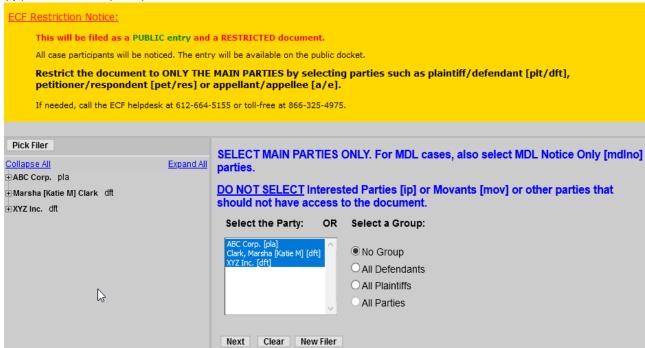
- 1. Select **Civil** from the filing menu.
- 2. Under the Other Filings Category, Select **SEALED & Ex Parte Non-Motion Document**.



- 3. Enter the case number. Click Next.
- 4. Confirm the correct case number was entered. Click Next.
- 5. Select the filer. Click Next.



- Select Sealed Exhibit (Initial Pleadings and Other Non-Motion Filings) from the event list. Click Next.
- 7. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Click Next.
- 8. Read the next ECF Filing Tip. Click Next.
- 9. Select **ONLY** the parties who should have access to the document.
 - **IMPORTANT: <u>ALL SELECTED PARTIES WILL SEE THE DOCUMENT</u>. Do NOT select Interested Parties (ip) or Movants (mov). Click **Next.**



- 10. Enter the filing party. Click Next.
- 11. SEALED EXHIBITS must be uploaded as SEPARATE attachments, i.e., one exhibit per pdf. Please follow the instructions to properly identify exhibits.
 - Enter List or the Exhibit Indentifier uploaded as the Main Document.
 - Upload each Sealed Exhibit(s) as separate Attachments, i.e., one exhibit per pdf. Enter Sealed Exhibit and the Exhibit Identifier into the Description field, e.g., Sealed Exhibit 1, Sealed Exhibit 2, Sealed Exhibit 3.
 - Click Next.

**NOTE: EACH sealed document must be filed separately with its own unique docket number (e.g. ECF No. 15-3).



- 12. Select the appropriate document(s) to which your filing relates. Click Next.
- 13. Modify the docket text if necessary. Click Next.
- 14. Confirm the correct document(s) is attached and the docket text is correct. Clicking next will finalize the filing. Click **Next.**
- 15. The Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) will display confirming the filing.
- 16. Follow the applicable section of this procedure to file <u>redacted documents</u> or the <u>Statement that Entire Document is Confidential or Impracticable to Redact</u>. The redacted document or statement should be filed immediately following the sealed document. No Joint Motion Regarding Continued Sealing is required.

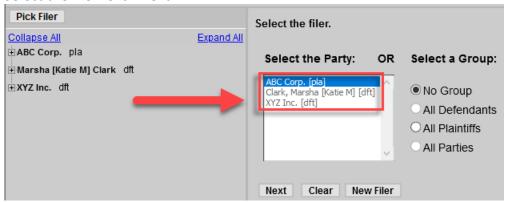
SEALED LETTER

1. Select **Civil** from the filing menu.

2. Under the Other Filings Category, select **SEALED & Ex Parte Non-Motion Documents**.



- 3. Enter the case number. Click Next.
- 4. Confirm the correct case number was entered. Click Next.
- 5. Select the filer. Click Next.

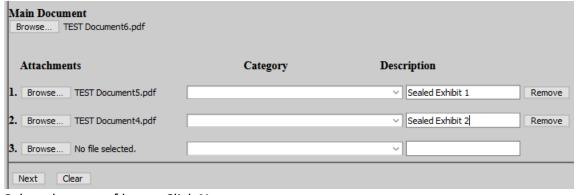


- 6. Select Sealed Letter from the event list. Click Next.
- 7. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Click Next.
- 8. Select **ONLY** the parties who should have access to the document.

IMPORTANT: <u>ALL SELECTED PARTIES WILL SEE THE DOCUMENT</u>. Do NOT select Interested Parties (ip) or Movants (mov). Click **Next.



- 9. Enter the filing party. Click Next.
- 10. Click the Browse button to attach the letter and attachment(s). Click Next.
 - **NOTE: EACH sealed document must be filed separately with its own unique docket number (e.g. ECF No. 15-3).



- 11. Select the type of letter. Click Next.
- 12. Modify the docket text if necessary. Click **Next.**
- 13. Confirm the correct document(s) is attached and the docket text is correct. Clicking next will finalize the filing. Click **Next.**
- 14. The Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) will display confirming the filing.
- 15. Follow the applicable section of this procedure to file <u>redacted documents</u> or the <u>Statement that Entire Document is Confidential or Impracticable to Redact</u>. The redacted document or statement should be filed immediately following the sealed document. No Joint Motion Regarding Continued Sealing is required.

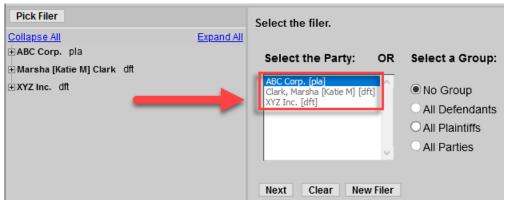
SEALED STIPULATION

1. Select **Civil** from the filing menu.

2. Under the Other Filings Category, select **SEALED & Ex Parte Non-Motion Documents**.



- 3. Enter the case number. Click Next.
- 4. Confirm the correct case number was entered. Click Next.
- 5. Select the filer. Click Next.

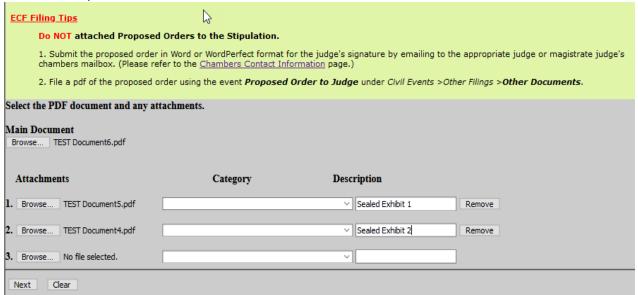


- 6. Select Sealed Stipulation. Click Next.
- 7. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Click Next.
- 8. Read the next ECF Filing Tip. Click Next.
- 9. Select **ONLY** the parties who should have access to the document.

IMPORTANT: <u>ALL SELECTED PARTIES WILL SEE THE DOCUMENT</u>. Do NOT select Interested Parties (ip) or Movants (mov). Click **Next.

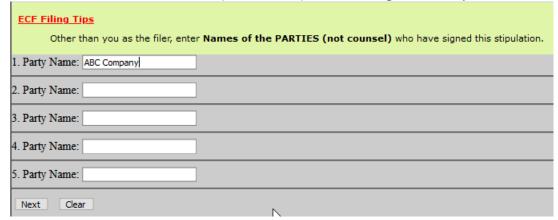


- 10. Enter the filing party. Click Next.
- 11. Click the Browse button to attach the stipulation and attachment(s). Click Next.
 - **NOTE: EACH sealed document must be filed separately with its own unique docket number (e.g. ECF No. 15-3).



- 12. Select whether your document should be linked to another document in the case.
 - If yes, check the box and click Next. On the next screen, select the document to which it should be linked.
 - If no, leave the box unchecked and click Next.

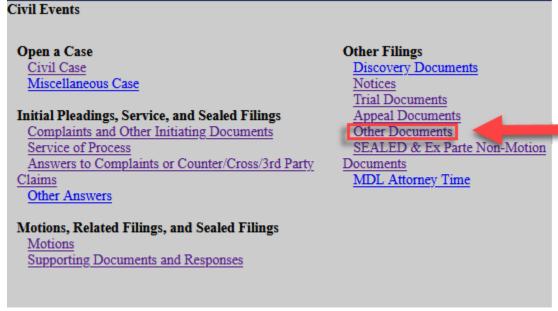
13. Enter the names of the PARTIES (not counsel) who have signed the stipulation. Click Next.



- 14. Modify the docket text if necessary. Click Next.
- 15. Confirm the correct document(s) is attached and the docket text is correct. Clicking next will finalize the filing. Click **Next.**
- 16. The Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) will display confirming the filing.
- 17. Follow the applicable section of this procedure to file <u>redacted documents</u> or the <u>Statement that Entire Document is Confidential or Impracticable to Redact</u>. The redacted document or statement should be filed immediately following the sealed document. No Joint Motion Regarding Continued Sealing is required.

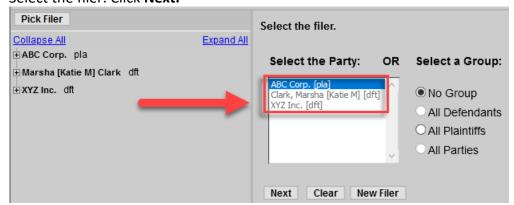
REDACTED DOCUMENT (INITIAL PLEADINGS AND OTHER NON-MOTIONS FILINGS)

- 1. Select **Civil** from the filing menu.
- Under the Other Filings category, select Other Documents.

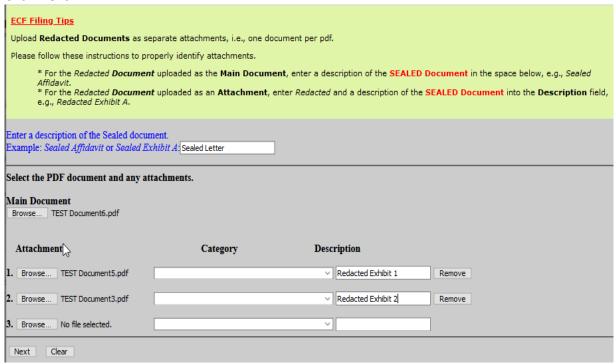


- 3. Enter the case number. Click Next.
- 4. Confirm the correct case number was entered. Click Next.

5. Select the filer. Click Next.



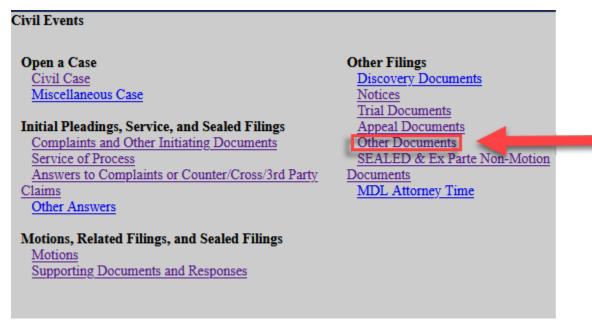
- 6. Select Redacted Document (Initial Pleadings and Other Non-Motion Filings). Click Next.
- 7. Read the ECF Filing Tip.
 - Enter a description of the sealed document.
 - o Click the Browse button to attach the redacted document.
 - For the redacted document uploaded as an attachment, enter "Redacted" and description of the sealed document into the Description field. (e.g., Redacted Exhibit A).
 - Click Next.



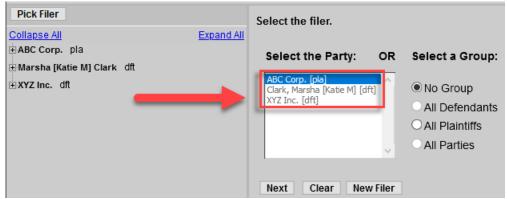
- 8. Select the sealed document that relates to the redacted document. Click Next.
- 9. Modify the docket text if necessary. Click Next.
- 10. Confirm the correct document(s) is attached and the docket text is correct. Clicking next will finalize the filing. Click **Next.**
- 11. The Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) will display confirming the filing.

STATEMENT INSTEAD OF REDACTED DOCUMENT (INITIAL PLEADINGS AND OTHER NON-MOTION FILINGS)

- 1. Select **Civil** from the filing menu.
- 2. Under the Other Filings category, select **Other Documents**.



- Enter the case number. Click Next.
- 4. Confirm the correct case number was entered. Click Next.
- 5. Select the filer. Click Next.



- 6. Select Statement Instead of Redacted Document (Initial Pleadings and Other Non-Motion Filings).

 Click Next.
- 7. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Click the Browse button to attach the document. Click Next.
- 8. Select the reason for the statement. Click Next.
- 9. Select the sealed document for this statement. Click **Next.**
- 10. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Enter the ECF Docket # in brackets and a description for specific attachments within a sealed entry related to this Statement Instead of Redacted Document. Click Next.

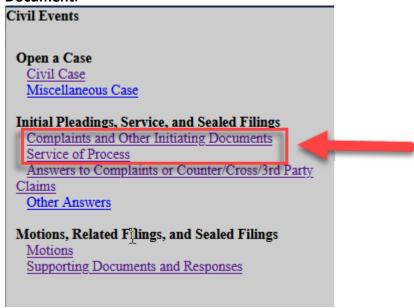


11. Modify the docket text if necessary. Click Next.

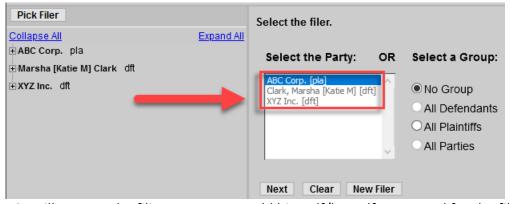
- 12. Confirm the correct document(s) is attached and the docket text is correct. Clicking next will finalize the filing. Click **Next.**
- 13. The Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) will display confirming the filing.

FILING SEALED INITIATING DOCUMENTS

- 1. At this stage you have already opened the case and you are docketing the initiating document. Please note the case will not be sealed only the initiating documents.
- 2. Under the Initial Pleadings, Service, and Sealed Filings, select **Complaints and Other Initiating Document**.



- 3. Enter the case number. Click Next.
- 4. Confirm the correct case number was entered. Click Next.
- 5. Select the applicable event (i.e. Complaint or Notice of Removal) from the even list. Click Next.
- 6. Select the filer. Click Next.

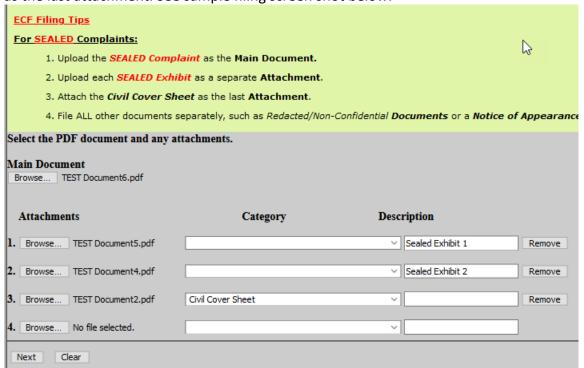


- 7. ECF will prompt the filing attorney to add himself/herself as counsel for the filing party. Place a check in the box(es) to the left of the party name(s) to create attorney/party association. Click **Next.**
- 8. Select the party that the filing is against. Click Next.
- 9. Click Yes to file a sealed document. Click Next.
- 10. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Click Next.
- 11. Select **ONLY** the parties who should have access to the document.

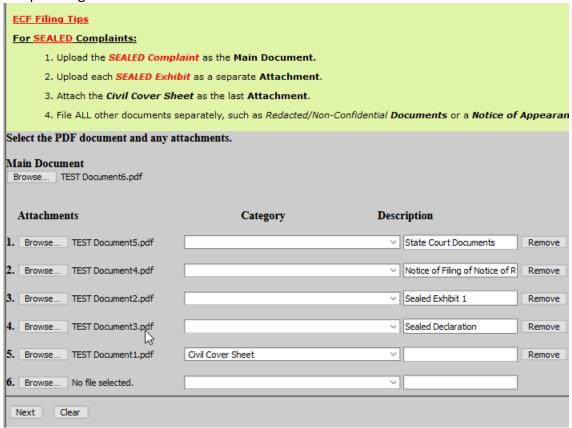
IMPORTANT: <u>ALL SELECTED PARTIES WILL SEE THE DOCUMENT</u>. Do NOT select Interested Parties (ip) or Movants (mov). Click **Next.



- 12. Enter the filing party. Click Next.
- 13. Read the ECF Filing Tip. Upload the documents.
 - For Sealed Complaints: Click the Browse button to attach the Sealed Complaint as the Main Document. Upload each sealed exhibit as a separate attachment. Attach the Civil Cover Sheet as the last attachment. See sample filing screen shot below.



 For Sealed Notices of Removal: Click the Browse button to the attach the Sealed Notice of Removal, attach the Summons/Complaint and other applicable state court documents. Upload each sealed exhibit as a separate attachment. Attach the Civil Cover Sheet. Click **Next**. See sample filing screen shot below.



- **NOTE: EACH sealed document must be filed separately with its own unique docket number (e.g. ECF No. 15-3).
- 14. Indicate whether you would like a summons issued. Click **Next.**
- 15. Answer the payment question. Click **Next.** If your answer is Yes, proceed to step 25.
- 16. Read the fee payment information. Click **Next**.
- 17. Enter your PACER Credentials if requested.
- 18. Select a payment method. Click **Next**. You may select an account on file in your PACER account, a credit card account, or an ACH account. If a new account is selected, enter all required information.
- 19. Review the information entered. Check the box at the bottom of the screen to authorize payment of the filing fee. Click **Submit.**
- 20. You will be brought back to ECF. Click Next.
- 21. Modify the docket text if necessary. Click **Next.**
- 22. Confirm the correct document(s) is attached and the docket text is correct. Clicking next will finalize the filing. Click **Next.**
- 23. The Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) will display confirming the filing.
- 24. Follow the applicable section of this procedure to file <u>redacted documents</u> or the <u>Statement that</u> <u>Entire Document is Confidential or Impracticable to Redact</u>. The redacted document or statement should be filed immediately following the sealed document. No Joint Motion Regarding Continued Sealing is required.
- 25. A motion seeking leave of the court to keep the complaint or other initiating document under seal is required (use Motion to Seal Document under LR 5.6(e) event). This motion should be filed

immediately after the redacted document or the Statement that the Entire Document is Confidential or Impracticable to Redact.