

**ELECTRONIC PUBLIC ACCESS TO CRIMINAL CASE FILES - MAY 1, 2005**

The U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio will begin providing electronic public access to criminal case files beginning May 1, 2005 pursuant to Judicial Conference Policy. Documents filed in criminal cases on or after that date will be available to the public electronically to the same extent that those documents are available at the Court House.

In addition, modifications to Courts Local Civil and Criminal Rules also become effective May 1, 2005.

Among the changes are modifications to Local Civil Rule 8.1 and Local Criminal Rule 49.1.1 which set forth the Court's General Rules of Pleading, including its Privacy Policy. The modifications elaborate on the pre-existing requirement that parties refrain from including, or partially redact, certain personal identifiers from documents filed with the Court in order to protect the privacy interests of individuals pursuant to the E-Government Act of 2002 and the Judicial Conference Privacy Policy. Among the items that are to be protected are:

- 1) social security numbers
- 2) financial account numbers
- 3) dates of birth
- 4) names of minor children

and in criminal cases only

- 5) current home addresses.

The Court also modified LR 67.2 Disbursements to exclude the requirement that orders of disbursement include tax identification numbers. Instead, the parties seeking disbursement orders will be required to provide the necessary information to the Court on an IRS Form W9, which will not be placed into the electronic filing system.

In addition, technical changes were also made to LCrR 58.2 Forfeiture of Collateral in Lieu of Appearance Before a United States Magistrate Judge.

The full Local Rules, as well as interlineated versions of the rule changes becoming effective May 1, are available on the Court's web site:

Home Page: <http://www.ohnd.uscourts.gov/>

Local Rules:  
[http://www.ohnd.uscourts.gov/Clerk\\_s\\_Office/Local\\_Rules/local\\_rules.html](http://www.ohnd.uscourts.gov/Clerk_s_Office/Local_Rules/local_rules.html)