

## **Accessing Audio in a PDF File**

Last Updated: February 8, 2024

The Court posts audio from held hearings directly on the ECF case docket. Audio is contained in an embedded PDF file which must be downloaded in order to play. See information below for best results when accessing, downloading and playing audio.

**NOTE: Judges reserve the right to withhold the posting of certain hearings, at their discretion.**

### **NOTES**

- 1) The digital audio of a hearing will appear on the ECF docket as a PDF document with an embedded MP3 file.
- 2) Customers who download the MP3 audio file from the ECF docket will do so through PACER for a fee of \$2.40 per audio file. Customers will be prompted for the fee before proceeding.
- 3) ECF filers will receive a notice of electronic filing (NEF) with the embedded MP3 file when audio is uploaded to the docket. As with other PDFs received via NEF, ECF filers will receive one free listen, which expires after 14 days.
- 4) Digital audio will generally be available on the docket 1-2 business days after the hearing.
- 5) Individual judges retain discretion as to what audio will be posted on the docket.
- 6) Note that the official record of any court hearing remains the written transcript prepared by a court-approved transcriptionist. Instructions for obtaining an official written transcript are located on the court's website:  
<http://www.wawb.uscourts.gov/order-transcript>
- 7) Court staff cannot redact audio files before they are placed on ECF.
- 8) Practitioners are advised that private communications in the courtroom with clients or co-counsel should take place away from the microphone so as to avoid inadvertent recording.
- 9) Additional technical information and step-by-step instructions for downloading and listening to an audio recording are linked below.

### **TECH TIPS & SUGGESTIONS**

- 1) The Court recommends customers set their PDFs to open in Adobe Acrobat or Acrobat Reader, not within Firefox, IE, Safari or Chrome browsers. The Chrome browser in particular has known issues.
- 2) Customers who view PDF docs within their browser may not be able to see the attached .MP3 audio file and may receive error messages.

- 3) It may take several minutes for audio to download after it's been selected from the ECF docket. The longer the hearing, the bigger the file, the longer it will take to download. Please be patient.
- 4) If you cannot hear audio when played, make sure the audio player is not muted or turned down too low.
- 5) If your media player freezes or stops while playing audio, consider using another. The court can confirm that the Windows Media Player works well with audio on the docket.
- 6) If you continue to have difficulty downloading or playing audio, please send email to: [curtis\\_udy@wawb.uscourts.gov](mailto:curtis_udy@wawb.uscourts.gov).

 [Technical Information and Downloading Instructions](#)