

Duplicate Case Filings

Effective June 27, 2012, the court will no longer expunge a case that is inadvertently filed twice. On occasion a case is filed twice as a result of a duplicate submission by an ECF filer or filer's staff. In the past, some filers were accustomed to requesting that the court order the expungement of the duplicate case from the court record. However, because the court docket is available immediately to all PACER users, who can download, print and distribute information, the fact of the duplicate filing is not eliminated as a result of an order of expungement and complications for the debtor resulting from the duplicate filing become more difficult to resolve when the docket is purged.

Under the new procedure, if a duplicate case is filed by an ECF filer, the filer is responsible for paying the filing fee associated with the duplicate case and filing an ex parte motion to dismiss the duplicate case.

Website Announcement - Archived

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Take the following steps as soon as possible:

1. Notify the clerk's office of the duplicate case filed in error, 206-370-5200 or 253-882-3900.
2. The first case filed will be the case that proceeds. Stop all filing in the duplicate case.
3. In the duplicate case, file an ex parte motion to dismiss the duplicate case and upload an order for signature.
4. Pay the filing fee associated with the duplicate case.