U.S. DISTRICT COURT W.D.N.Y. BUFFALO

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

2004 SEP 24 AM II: 49

In Re: Implementation of the August 2, 2004
Amendments to the E-Government Act of 2002

ORDER AMENDING STANDING ORDER OF JUNE 23, 2004

In compliance with the policy of the Judicial Conference of the United States, and the E-Government Act of 2002, and in order to promote electronic access to case files while also protecting personal privacy and other legitimate interests, it is

ORDERED that, effective immediately, the Standing Order of this Court filed June 23, 2004 is amended to reflect the August 2, 2004 Amendments to the E-Government Act of 2002, as follows:

Parties shall refrain from including, or shall partially redact where inclusion is necessary, the following personal data identifiers from all pleadings filed with the Court, including exhibits thereto, whether filed electronically or in paper, unless otherwise ordered by the Court:

- Social Security numbers. If an individual's Social Security number must be included in a pleading, only the last four digits of that number should be used.
- Names of minor children. If the involvement of a minor child must be mentioned, only the initials of that child should be used.
- Dates of birth. If an individual's date of birth must be included in a pleading, only the year should be used.
- Financial account numbers. If financial account numbers are relevant, only the last four digits of these numbers should be used.
- Home address. If a home address must be included, only the city and state should be used.

Any party wishing to file a document containing the personal data identifiers listed above may

- a. file an unredacted version of the document under seal, or
- b. file a reference list under seal. The reference list shall contain the complete personal data identifier(s) and the redacted identifier(s) used in its(their) place in the filing. All references in the case to the redacted identifiers included in the

reference list will be construed to refer to the corresponding complete personal data identifier. The reference list must be filed under seal, and may be amended as of right.

The unredacted version of the document or the reference list shall be retained by the Court as part of the record. The Court may, however, still require the party to file a redacted copy for the public file.

Counsel are urged to notify all clients of this order and the provisions of the E-Government Act of 2002, so that an informed decision about the inclusion of personal identifying information in pleadings and documents may be made. The responsibility for redacting these personal identifiers rests solely with counsel and the parties. The Clerk of the court will not review pleadings for compliance with this order.

Buffalo and Rochester, New York September 24, 2004

Richard J. Arcara

Chief United States District Judge

David G. Larimer

United States District Judge

William M. Skretny

United States District Judge

Charles J. Siragusa

United States District Judge

John T. Curtin

Senior United States District Judge

John T. Elfvin

Senior United States District Judge

Michael A. Telesca

Senior United States District Judge