

*UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
District of Vermont*

Thomas J. Hart
Clerk of Court

67 Merchants Row
P.O. Box 6648
Rutland, VT 05702-6648
(802) 776-2000 Phone
(802) 776-2020 Fax
www.vtb.uscourts.gov

TO: Court Users
FROM: Thomas J. Hart
DATE: October 31, 2011
RE: Availability of Digital Audio Recordings on
PACER Extended to All Hearings and Trials

**CLERK'S
ANNOUNCEMENT
11-07**

Effective November 1, 2011, digital audio recordings will be available on PACER for all hearings and trials conducted on or after that date.

[Clerk's Announcement 11-03](#), dated April 14, 2011, introducing this court's program to provide digital audio recordings on PACER, stated that the initiative would be phased in, i.e., the court would post to the dockets the digital audio recordings only of those hearings held at motion calendars. Given the success and usefulness of the court's experience to date with this new program and the positive feedback from the bar and internal court users, the court is expanding this service to encompass all hearings, including evidentiary hearings and trials ("hearings").

For the convenience of the reader selected information as stated in Clerk's Announcement 11-03 is repeated here as follows:

1. Parties seeking to restrict public access to the digital audio recording of a hearing shall file an application showing good cause for restriction at least one full day prior to the commencement of the hearing, on notice to all attorneys involved in the hearing, the case trustee, and the Office of the U.S. Trustee. The burden shall be on the moving party to demonstrate grounds for restricting access under 11 U.S.C. § 107.
2. Counsel should avoid introducing personal identifying information into the record when questioning witnesses or making other statements in court. In the event that personal information is disclosed in a hearing, upon oral motion for cause at the conclusion of the hearing, the Court will consider refraining from posting the audio recording to the docket. The Court, in its own discretion, may decide not to post the recording of any hearing.
3. A recording will appear on the docket as a PDF document with an MP3 file embedded and will be available through PACER generally within two hours of the conclusion of that day's hearings, but in any event, no later than one business day after the conclusion of the day's hearings.
4. The digital audio recordings are being made available through PACER for the convenience of the parties and in the interest of broadening access to public court proceedings. The official record of any Court hearing remains the written transcript. Instructions for obtaining a written transcript can be

found on the Court's website at <http://www.vtb.uscourts.gov/issues/transcripts.php>.

Questions regarding digital audio recordings or transcripts should be directed to Kathy Ford at (802) 776-2003.