powered by eFlex from Tybera



eFlex Electronic Filing - Filer Interface

### **USER'S GUIDE FOR FILERS**

### **Table of Contents**

EFILING BASICS	4
Requesting an Account	4
Image 1: Selecting an Organization when Requesting an Account	5
Forgotten username or Resetting forgotten password	5
Image 2: Forgot Password or User Name	5
Forgot your Password	5
Image 3: Change Password Page	6
Forgot your Username	6
Document Preparation Prior to eFiling	7
Image 4: Text that Identifies Acceptable Format Type for Document Upload	7
NAVIGATING THE FILER INTERFACE	7
The Home Page	7
Image 5: The Home Page	8
BUTTONS ON THE HOME PAGE	9
New Case Button: Initiating a New Case	9
Image 6: Buttons to add Case Parties	9
Image 7: The Add a Document Page	10
Image 8: Top Portion of the Review and Submit Filing Page	11
Image 9: Make Payment Button on the My Filings Page	12
Existing Case Button: Filing to an Existing Case	12
Image 10: Navigating to the Cases Page	13
Image 11: Action Buttons on the Cases Page	13

Image 12: The Search Button to Find a Case Inside the Case Data Table	13
Image 13: The Case Information Table	14
Image 14: The Case History page displays in a new Browser Tab	14
Image 15: The Service List displays in a New Browser Tab	15
Image16: Radio Buttons on the Cases Page	15
Filing a Notice of Case Association by the Pro Se Filer	16
Image17: Disabled Browse Button on the Add a Document Page	16
My Filings Button: Checking the Status of a Filing	17
Image 18: Navigating to the My Filings Page	17
Image 19: Overview of the My Filings Page	17
Image 20: The + sign expands the section to show the documents in the filing $ \ldots $	18
Resubmitting a Rejected Filing	19
Image 21: The Message returned to the Filer on the Filing Status Page	20
Image 22: The Rejected and Resubmit Buttons	20
Image 23: The Display of the Resubmitted Status	21
Accessing the Stamped Documents & Confirmation of Receipt	21
Image 24: The Hyperlink Status on the Filing Status Page	21
Image 25: The Top Portion of the Filing Status Page	21
Image 26: The Bottom Portion of the Filing Status Page	22
Image 27: The Confirmation of Receipt	22
<b>Draft Filings Button:</b> Incomplete Filings	23
Image 28: Navigating to the Draft Filings Page	23
Image 29: The Move to Draft Button at the Bottom of each Filing Page	23
Image 30: Click the Hyperlink Description to Proceed with the Draft Filing	24
Notifications Button: Notifying the Case Parties	24
Image 31: Navigating to the Notifications Page	24
Overview of the Notifications Page	25
Image 32: The Notifications Page	25
Image 33: The two Search By Fields	25
Image 34: The NEF – Notice of Electronic Filing	26
Image 34: The Notifications Per Page Field	27
Image 36: Manually Deleting Notifications	27
TABS ON THE MENU BAR	28

eFile Tab	28
Image 37: The eFile Tab and its Drop-Down Menu	28
New Case	28
Existing Case	28
My Filings	28
Draft Filings	28
Cases Tab	29
Image 38: The Cases Tab and its Drop-down Menu	29
Cases	29
Notifications	29
Filing Charges	29
Overview of the Filings Charges Page	30
Image 39: Left Side of Filing Charges Data Table	30
Image 40: Right Side of Filing Charges Data Table	30
Image 41: Export to File	31
Image 42: Options for Exporting File	31
My Profile Tab	31
Image 43: The My Profile Tab and its Drop-down Menu	31
My Profile	31
Overview of the User Profile Page	32
Image 44: Modify User Profile Button	32
Change Password	33
Image 45: The Change Password Fields	33
Steps on the Change Password Page	33
Login History	33
Steps on the Login History Page	34
Image 46: The Login History Page	34
Log Out Tab	34
Image 47: The Log Out Tab	34
Image 48: Warning Message to the Filer	34

## **EFILING BASICS**

This user's guide is intended to instruct filers on the features of the eFlex system.

The eFiling system is designed to make the work associated with initiating and processing a case more efficient and convenient for both filers and court personnel. Not only does the Interface allow filers to submit their documents to the court electronically, it also provides means for them to view case histories, check the status of their submissions, send follow up documents and access service lists.

For court staff, the software routes the filings to the appropriate personnel for review, response, generation of additional documents, or further action. For most integrations, when documents are filed in hard copy, once the court personnel have scanned the documents, the filer interface distributes a courtesy notice to electronic participants on the case and those participants may access the documents electronically.

In addition to the fields inside the login box: **Username, Password, Forgot your password, Forgot your user name**, and **Request Account**, the **login page** is also used to post occasional messages from the system administrator to the filers, such as announcing upcoming system maintenance that will make the system unavailable for a set period of time. Links to rules may also be posted for the convenience of the filer.

Located at the bottom of the Login page, and each subsequent page throughout the eFiling process, are informational hyperlinks which, when clicked, will direct the user to more information to assist them: eFiling Quick Reference Guide, Terms of Use, Privacy Policy, Payment Policy, Support, and about Tybera Development Group, Inc.

### **REQUESTING AN ACCOUNT**

- 1. Click the button **Request Account** on the **Login** page.
- 2. Read the **User Agreement.** Select the **radio button** at the bottom of the page that agrees to the contract. Click the **Submit** button.
- 3. Choose the applicable **User Role** and click **Next**.

4. *Pro Se* will be directed to the **Request a User Account Page**. All other roles will be directed to this page as well *after* first visiting the **Select an Organization Page before**. Scroll though the dropdown list in the **Existing** field and click the appropriate organization.

Image 1: Selecting an Organization when Requesting an Account



- 5. If the organization is not listed, click the radio button **New** and type the name in the provided field.
- 6. On the **Request a User Account Page,** create a user profile. Fields marked with an asterisk\* are required. Click **Submit**.
- 7. **Login** is available *after* notification is received that the account request has been approved.

### FORGOTTEN USERNAME OR PASSWORD

Image 2: Forgot Password or User Name

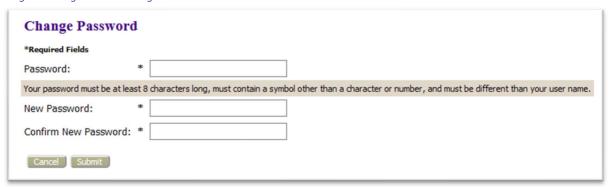


### FORGOT YOUR PASSWORD

1. If you have forgotten your password, click **Forgot Your Password** on the **Login page**. The *Request Password Reset* page will appear.

- 2. Enter your username and click **Submit**.
- 3. An email containing a link will be sent to the account listed on your user profile. Upon clicking the link, you will be directed to a page with a temporary password that you may use to login to the eFlex system.
- 4. After login, hover over the **My Profile Tab** and select **Change Password** from the dropdown menu.
- 5. Enter the temporary password in the **Password field**.

Image 3: Change Password Page



- 6. Create a new password following the password requirements and type it into the **New Password field**. Be sure that the password you select is one you will remember, contains eight characters, including a special character (such as an exclamation point, asterisk, or period), and is different from your username.
- 7. In the **Confirm New Password field**, re-type the password exactly as you entered it in step 6.
- 8. Click **Submit** to save your changes.
- 9. Be sure you notify your legal assistant, or any others who may enter your filings for you, of the change in password.

### **FORGOT YOUR USERNAME**

If you have forgotten your username, click **Forgot Your User Name** on the **Login page**. A page will appear asking you to enter the *primary email address* associated with your account.

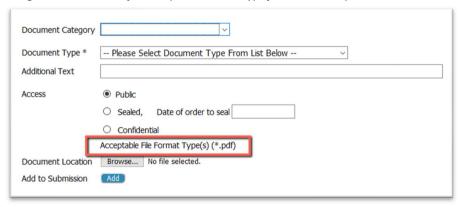
- 1. Fill in your primary email address, and click **Submit**.
- 2. Check your email account for a message sent from the eFlex system. It will contain your username.

### **DOCUMENT PREPARATION PRIOR TO EFILING**

Documents must be submitted in an accepted format. Failure to do so will generate an error message.

 Documents need to be submitted in a PDF format. (The exception to this rule is for Proposed Documents which must be submitted as a word document (doc or docx). This enables court personnel to make appropriate changes to create an order.)

Image 4: Text that Identifies Acceptable Format Type for Document Upload



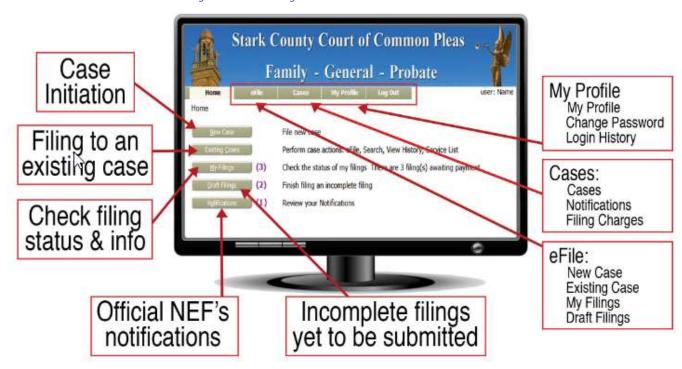
- Using only PDF format also applies to exhibits such as copies of contracts, copies of cancelled checks, etc. Scan and save these items as a PDF instead of jpg or jpeg.
- Individual document size is limited to **10 MB**. Multiple documents can be included in a single submission. The size limitation for an entire submission is **30 MB**.
- To keep the file size down when scanning, use the black and white setting rather than color (unless the loss of the color degrades the value of the evidence.) Color increases the size of a file.
   Another option to reduce file size is to reduce the dpi, as long as the resolution is high enough to make the document readable.

## **NAVIGATING THE FILER INTERFACE**

### **THE HOME PAGE**

The **Home page** of the **Filer Interface** is the first screen upon login. The **Home Buttons** provide quick access links to take the user to the screens most often visited. The user may also navigate the interface using the **Menu Bar** which is conveniently located across the top of every page. Hover over each tab to display page options available for the filer. Many of these menu items are replicated as a Home button.

Image 5: The Home Page



- Any number in parentheses next to the **Buttons** indicates the number that have yet to be acted upon by the filer.
- The **username** appears in the upper right corner of the screen, based on the user's profile information.
- For best results, users are strongly encouraged to use only the navigation buttons that are
  displayed on the eFiling interface, rather than using the internet browser back arrow. These
  navigation buttons will appear at the bottom of each page and will give the user options such a
  Back or Next.
- Another navigation tool is the breadcrumb trail displayed at the top of every page, just under the
  menu bar. The active links show the pages the user has visited to get to the current page. Clicking
  any of these links will take the user back to the page listed.
- This is a web application. The web session will terminate automatically if there is no activity on the webpage for 20 minutes. A session is considered active as long as there is interaction with the web server, such as clicking **Next** or the **Submit** button. Typing in a text field does not count as being "active."

### **Buttons on the Home Page**



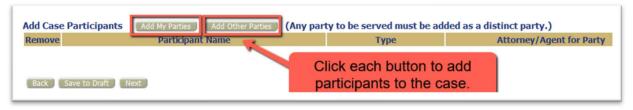
### **INITIATING A NEW CASE**

- 1. On the **Home Page**, click the **New Case** button. Alternately, hover over the eFile Tab and select New Case from the drop-down selections.
- 2. Click the appropriate **Court Division**; click the desired **Case Category**; click the desired **Case Type**. Each page choice filters the available options on the next page.

### 3. On the Case Initiation page:

- a) Enter a number in the optional **Client # field** if your office uses an internal filing system to identify cases. This field is only available as a convenience to filers; it has no meaning for the efiling process.
- b) Select all appropriate radio buttons and fill out all appropriate fields to the case.
- c) Click the Add My Parties button to be directed to the Add a Party Page.

Image 6: Buttons to add Case Parties



### 4. On the Add a Party page:

- a) The **Load Party button** next to the word **Plaintiff** is a feature for high-volume filers. Contact the court for more information otherwise, ignore.
- b) Select the appropriate radio button for **Business** or **Person** and fill out text fields for which you have information, paying attention to those fields with a down arrow to expose additional selections. Fields with an asterisk are required in order to add a party on the case. The case data requested will vary dependent upon which court the filing is for.
- c) Click **Next** at the bottom of the page to return to the **Case Initiation page**.

### 5. On the **Case Initiation page**:

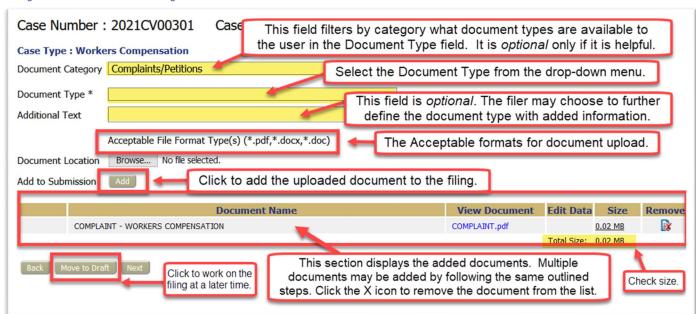
- a) To add additional plaintiffs, click the **Add My Parties button** again and repeat the listed steps above.
- b) Click the Add Other Parties button.

- d) The **Load Party** and **Unknown Party buttons** are for high-volume filers. Contact the court for more information otherwise, ignore.
- c) Create the profile following the steps above. Click **Next.**

**NOTE:** The **Add Other Parties** button *does not associate* you to the parties you are adding.

- 6. View the case participants listed. Click their *hyperlink name* to make edits. Click **X** to remove them. Click **Next** to proceed.
- 7. On the Add a Document Page:

Image 7: The Add a Document Page



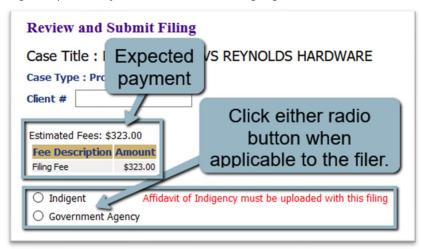
- a) **Document Category** Select a category from the drop-down list in this **Optional Field** to filter the choices that will display in the Document Type field.
- b) Document Type Select the appropriate document type from the drop-down menu. If the document type you need is not listed, try again by first removing your selection from the Document Category field. The filtering perhaps removed the document type you are searching for.
- c) Additional Text Enter text in this *optional field* to give greater detail to the document type, if desired. This description will display as part of the document listing in the Case Summary.
- d) Take note of the system acceptable **File Format Types** when choosing a document to upload. Choosing the wrong type will result in an error message.
- e) **Document Location** Click the **Browse** button to locate the document on your computer.
- f) Add Click to upload the selected document to the filing.

**NOTE:** Some document types require additional information. When applicable, after clicking **Add**, the user will be directed to another screen which will request the additional information. An example would be a *Notice of Case Association* for Pro Se filers. Fill out the requested information and click **Next**.

Add subsequent documents one at a time. (The total submission size must be less than 30 MB.) To view the listed document, click its *hyperlink title*. To delete, click the **Remove icon**.

- g) **Move to Draft** Click if you choose to finish the submission at a later time. All data will be saved. To retrieve the **Draft** later, hover over the **eFile tab** and select **Draft Filings**. Click the **hyperlink Description** to proceed with the filing.
- h) Click Next when all documents have been added.
- 8. **Review and Approve Filing Page** The filer is able to view, edit, add/or remove documents, and select a payment method if applicable to the filing
  - a) **The Client #** This optional field is a convenience for filers with an internal filing system.
  - b) If there are required fees associated to the filing, the amount due will display as *estimated* fees. If applicable to the filing, click the radio button **Indigent** or **Government Agency**.

Image 8: Top Portion of the Review and Submit Filing Page



- c) The **Change Case Data button** enables the filer to return to the **Case Initiation page** to edit case participant information.
- d) View the documents to be submitted. Click the Add/Remove Document button to make changes.
- e) Use the optional **Special Filing Instructions field** as a means to communicate with the court.

- f) Click the button **Submit the Filing.** You may also choose to select **Back** or **Move to Draft** as needed.
- g) After submitting the filing, if there are fees associated with your submission, you will be directed to the secure site of Stark County's third-party payment vendor PayGov.US. There you will be prompted to enter credit card or check payment. Payment of all fees is required before the filing will be submitted to the court. If payment information is not entered at that time, the filing is not lost. On the My Filings page, found by clicking the My Filings button on the Home Page, the filing will be listed inside the data table with a Make Payment button on the line of the Payment Pending filing. Clicking the button will allow the filer to complete the payment and successfully send the filing to the court.

When the Status is
Payment Pending,
Click the Make
Payment Button.

Court Division Status Filer's Name
CIVIL Payment Pending Ryan C Lunt Make Payment
CIVIL Filed Sully S Braccio Attorney
CIVIL Filed Sully S Braccio Attorney

Image 9: Make Payment Button on the My Filings Page

**NOTE**: When you initiate a new case as a case participant, the case number will automatically be added to your "*My Cases*" list. These may be view by hovering over the **Cases Tab** in the menu bar and selecting **Cases** from the drop-down list. The **Cases data table** is a useful tool to easily find case-relevant information.



### **FILING TO AN EXISTING CASE**

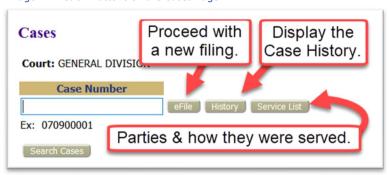
On the **Home Page**, click the **Existing Cases** button. Alternately, hover over the **eFile Tab** on the **Menu Bar** and select **Existing Case** from the drop-down list. This directs the user to the **Cases Page**. The **Cases page** not only allows a filer to efile to an existing case, it also gives the user easy access to cases, documents filed to the cases, and to the service list information associated to a particular case at the time of the query.

Image 10: Navigating to the Cases Page



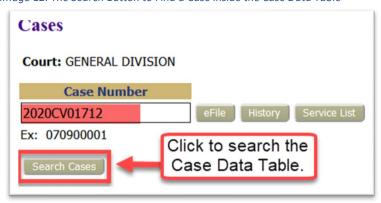
1. The top portion of the **Cases page** displays a Case Number text field. Enter a case number and click one of the three buttons to its right:

Image 11: Action Buttons on the Cases Page



- The eFile button This button directs the user to the Add-a-Document page to proceed with a new filing.
- The History button This opens a new browser tab and displays the Case History.
- The Service List button This opens a new browser tab and identifies those case parties
   who will receive a filing's notification electronically or those who
   will need to be served in the traditional manner. (This list will
   vary moment to moment depending on when new filers request
   an efiling account and gain access to electronic notification.)
- 2. The **Search Cases button** is also used in conjunction with entering a case number in the **Case number field** when the user chooses locate the case within the **Case Data Table**.

Image 12: The Search Button to Find a Case inside the Case Data Table



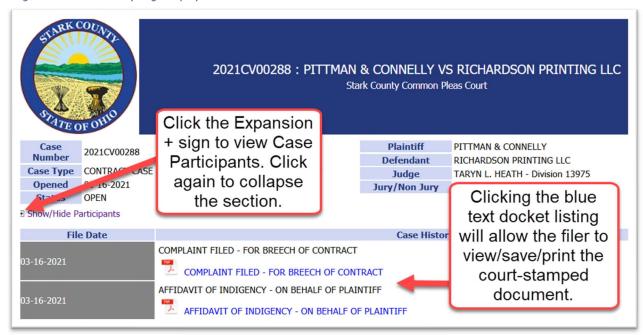
3. The bottom portion of the page displays the Case Information Table.

Image 13: The Case Information Table



- The data in each column has an ascending/descending sort feature that sorts
  alphabetically or numerically. Click the column header of choice to cause the table display
  to be organized according to the header selected. Clicking the column header a second
  time reverses the order of the displayed information.
- Hovering and pausing over any blue text hyperlink will pop-up a help guide for the user explaining what action will happen if you click on it.
- Clicking the +sign next to any listing in the Case Title column will expand the section and display the case documents. Clicking the hyperlink Document Title will open the document for viewing, printing, or saving. Clicking the sign will collapse the section.
- a) Clicking the *hyperlink case number* in the Case Number column on the line of the intended case, will open a new browser tab and display the Case History, which includes case participant information as well as links to open, view, and print court-stamped documents in their final state as they are recorded permanently in the CMS (case management system).

Image 14: The Case History Page Displays in a New Browser Tab



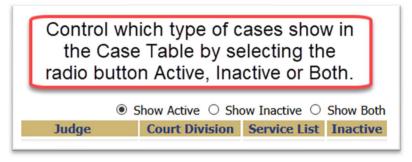
- b) Clicking the *eFile hyperlink* on the Case History page will direct the filer to the Add a Document page to proceed with a new filing to the existing case.
- c) Clicking the *hyperlink Service List* in the Service List Column opens a new browser tab and identifies those case parties who received a filing's notification electronically or by traditional means. (This list will vary moment to moment depending on when new filers request an efiling account and gain access to electronic notification.)

Image 15: The Service List Displays in a New Browser Tab



d) Marking the checkbox in the **Inactive column** gives the user the option to hide the case from view by clicking their choice of radio buttons: **Show Active**, **Show Inactive** and **Show Both**.

Image 16: Radio buttons on the Cases Page



**NOTE:** Any user with a correct case number can efile on a case; however, users will not be to view a case history unless they are a party on the case or counsel of record. Self- Represented filers

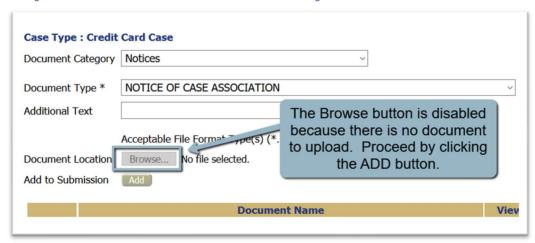
will need to file a **Notice of Association** to be electronically connected to their case. This will permit them to view the case history.

### FILING A NOTICE OF CASE ASSOCIATION BY THE PRO SE FILER

When a case has been initiated by another filer, the self-represented case participant filer (Pro Se) may gain electronic access to all case documents, notifications, orders, and other pertinent case information if they file the document type *Notice of Case Association*. Doing so enables the system to link them to the case. For added ease and convenience, this document type is also configured to be submitted without requiring a document to be uploaded.

- 1. On the Home page click the button **Existing Cases**.
- 2. On the My Cases page, enter the case number in the provided field. Click the button eFile.
- 3. On the **Add a Document page**, in the **Document Category field**, click the down-arrow to select **Notices**.
- In the Document Type field, select Notice of Case Association from the filtered list.
- 5. For this document type, the **Browse button** is purposely disabled because there is no document to upload. Instead, proceed by clicking the **Add button** underneath the **Browse button**. This will direct the filer to the **Pro Se Notice of Case Association page**.

Image 17: Disabled Browse Button on the Add a Document Page



- 6. To the pro se filer who is not yet associated to the case, the case name and case parties will be withheld from view with the label **Sealed**. When the court approves the filing, this information, along with the documents filed to the case, will be available to the pro se. Proceed by clicking **Next**.
- 7. On the Add a Document page, click the Next button.

- 8. On the Review and Submit Filing page, click the Submit the Filing button.
- 9. A message will appear that your filing has been submitted. Click the Filing Status button.
- 10. This directs you to the My Filings page. The status of your submission may be viewed in the Status column. To return to this page later, hover over the eFile tab in the menu bar and click My Filings.

# My Filings

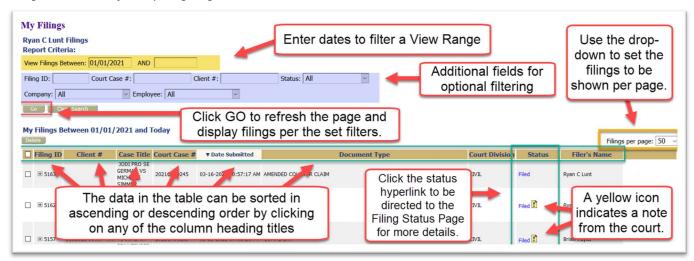
### CHECKING THE STATUS OF A FILING

On the **Home Page**, click the **My Filings button** to be directed to the **My Filings page**. Alternately, hover over the **eFile Tab** on the **Menu Bar** and select **My Filings** from the drop-down list.

Image 18: Navigating to the My Filings Page



Image 19: Overview of the My Filings Page



1. Use the *filtering fields* at the top of the page to narrow your search: Filing ID, Court Case #, Status, or Client # (This number corresponds to the *optional* client # field on the Review and Submit

- **page.** It is offered as a convenience to the filer if they have an internal filing system related to their clients. It is not a number used by the efiling system.) For the fields **View Filings Between**, set the date to include the date of submission. Click **Go** to refresh the page and locate the submission listing.
- 2. **Column headers** in the data table have an ascending/descending sort feature that sorts alphabetically or numerically. Click the **column header** of choice to cause the table display to be organized according to the header selected. Clicking the column header a second time reverses the order of the displayed information.
- 3. The default column for the data table is the **Date Submitted column**, which means the most recent filings will be at the top. This is recognized by the block color difference of the column header that is controlling the data display. If another column is selected for filtering, this will become the new default setting for the session. If you leave the page and return again in the same time session, it will stay as the default setting. However, if you logout or the session terminates because of inactivity, when you log back in, the setting will refresh and the **Date Submitted** will once again resume as the default column header.
- 4. Clicking the **+ sign** in the **Filing ID column** *expands* the section and displays the documents in the filing. Click the  **sign** to *collapse* the section. To view the documents, click their **hyperlink name**.

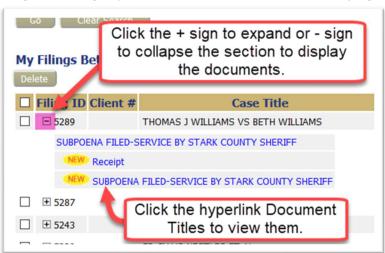


Image 20: The + sign expands the section to view the documents in the filing

5. When viewing the expanded section after clicking the **+ sign**, if **Receipt** is one of the documents displayed, this means the filing has been processed and its status is **Filed**. The Receipt document is the **Confirmation of Receipt** document sent to the filer from the court. Click its *hyperlink* to open a new browser tab to view or print this document.

6. The right column is the **Status column**. This column allows the filer to follow the progress of the filing through its various stages of processing. Some statuses happen so quickly that each stage may not visibly be tracked. Clicking the **Go button** will refresh the page view and post any changes in the status. Once it has been completely processed, the Final state is **Filed**.

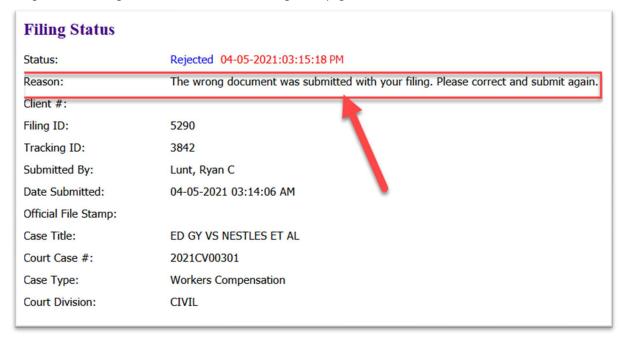
#### Other statuses include:

- Received The submission has received a time stamp and will be placed in a queue for further processing.
- Awaiting Approval The submission is in a queue for further processing.
- Receipt Pending An error occurred in communications. Call the e-Filing administrator.
- **Rejected** Submission was denied. See the note from the clerk for an explanation. To start the resubmission process, click **Resubmit**.
- **Filed** The final status of the filing. No further action. The filer should look at their case history or receipt of the submission to download signed documents and check for notes from the Clerk.
- Accepted-Presented to Judge —Accepted and routed to a Judicial Queue for a judge to review. This means that even though the submission has been filed, the proposed document may not have been reviewed at this time, but it has been presented to a judge.
- **Resubmitted** This submission was "Rejected," and the filer used the old submission to create a new submission. The status of this submission has no future value, and the filer needs to look at the new submission status.
- 7. Click the *status hyperlink* to be directed to the **Filing Status Page**. (see pg X for the section: Accessing the stamped documents and Confirmation of Receipt.)

### **RESUBMITTING A REJECTED FILING**

1. If a clerk rejects a filing, they are instructed to enter a note for the filer to explain the reason why. With these instructions, the filer can correct the filing and resubmit it. The system flags the filer of the note using an exclamation point inside a yellow rectangle. Clicking the hyperlink status of the Rejected, listed under the Status Column, the user will be directed to the Filing Status page where they may read the note written by the clerk or in some instances, the message generated by the system.

Image 21: The Message returned to the Filer on the Filing Status page



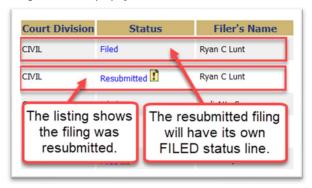
2. The system will also generate a "one-time-use" **Resubmit button** which will display to the right of the status column.

Image 22: The Rejected and Resubmit Buttons



- 3. Click the **Resubmit** button. This will cause the eFlex system to clone the information in the rejected submission for use in a new submission and will route the user to the **Add a Document page**.
- 4. Make the necessary corrections to the filing. Click Next.
- 5. On the Review and Approve Filing page click Submit.
- 6. The **Filing Status page** will now display a **Resubmitted status** for the first filing and will create a new line for the resubmitted filing.

Image 23: The Display of the Resubmitted Status



### **ACCESSING THE STAMPED DOCUMENTS & CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT**

The **Filing Status Page** allows you to access documents that were filed with your case for either viewing or printing purposes.

1. On the My Filings page, click the submission's hyperlink status inside the Status Column.

Image 24: The Hyperlink Status on the Filing Status Page

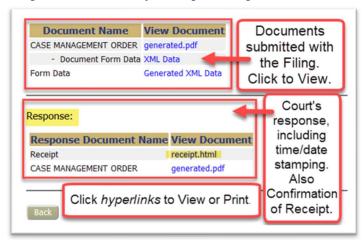


Image 25: Top Portion of the Filing Status Page



2. The Documents, as filed in the original submission, will display in the section with the column headings **Document Name** and **View Document**. These documents do not have the court's time and date stamp.

Image 26: Bottom Portion of the Filing Status Page



- 3. Below the horizontal line is the **Response section**. This section displays the documents after they have been processed with the court's time and date stamp on them. When applicable to the document type, it will also have the court's electronic signature. Click the documents' hyperlink listings to display the document in a newly opened browser tab. Any document that is listed as *generated.pdf* is a system-generated document. Do not open the *form.xml link* as this is simply computer code that the system administrator can use for information should troubleshooting be necessary.
- 4. The **Confirmation of Receipt** is the Court's official notification that the submission was received. Click the **hyperlink receipt.html** to open a new browser tab to display the **Receipt.** It is recommended that you print or save a copy for your records because documents will be removed from your Filer Interface after 90 days. (The time is directed by the court and may be more or less than this default time.)

Image 27: The Confirmation of Receipt



# <u>D</u>raft Filings

### **INCOMPLETE FILINGS**

On the **Home Page**, click the **My Filings button** to be directed to the **My Filings page**. Alternately, hover over the **eFile Tab** on the **Menu Bar** and select **My Filings** from the drop-down list.

Image 28: Navigating to the Draft Filings page



During the process of creating a filing, a filer may need to stop their work, save it, and continue their filing at a later time. The **Save to Draft button**, located at the bottom of each filing page, is used for this purpose. Additionally, eFlex uses the **Draft feature** as a backup should the internet connection unexpectedly go down

Image 29: The Move to Draft Button at the Bottom of each Filing Page



To retrieve the Draft later, click the **Draft Filings Button** or select from the **Menu Bar**. A list of any partially completed submissions will display. To proceed, click the *hyperlink Description* on the line of the filing you intend to complete. Most submissions will default to the **Add a Document page**. If you need to back up to the **Case Initiation page**, press the **Back** button on the **Add a Document** page.

Image 30: Click the Hyperlink to Proceed with the Draft Filing

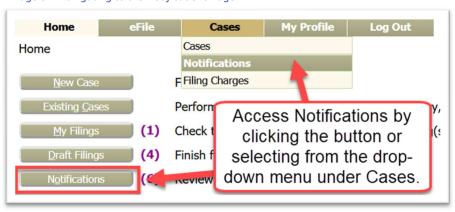


# N<u>o</u>tifications

### **NOTIFYING THE CASE PARTIES**

On the **Home Page**, click the **Notifications Button** to be directed to the **Notifications page**. Alternately, hover over the **Cases Tab** on the **Menu Bar** and select **Notifications** from the drop-down list. If there is a number in parentheses next to the **Notifications** button, this indicates how many "unread" notifications currently exist.

Image 31: Navigating to the Notifications Page



The eFlex system generates emails, or *courtesy notifications*, to communicate with the efiling account user when filings are submitted on their cases. All email addresses entered in their profile will receive the email messages. There are 3 types of email notifications sent:

- Received Notice This states that their submission was received by the court.
- Accepted Notice This states that their submission was accepted, or approved and recorded by the court.
- Courtesy NEF The "NEF," which means Notice of Electronic Filing, identifies document(s)
  that were filed to the court and which case participants received electronic notification
  through the eFiling system and which participants need to be served in the traditional
  manner. Addresses for the latter are included for mailing purposes. A link inside the NEF

email is provided to direct the filer to the login page and then on to the **Notifications page** where the *official notification*, along with the documents, may be viewed.

**NOTE:** Once you have efiled on a case and have been added as a party to that case by the clerk of court, your username will be associated with that case. When someone else sends a follow-up submission on any case on which you have been indexed as a participant, you will receive a *courtesy email* of this action and an *official notification* on your **Notification page.** 

**NOTE:** For participants on the case that *do not* have an efiling account, it is required of the efiling user to continue the practice of service to those participants via paper and to include the **Certificate of Service** as part of the documents in the filings.

### **OVERVIEW OF THE NOTIFICATIONS PAGE**

Image 32: The Notifications Page



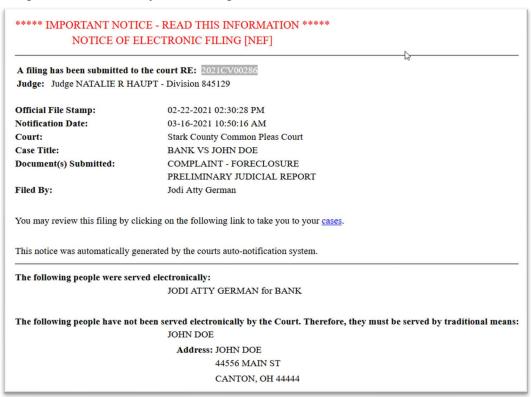
1. Use the two **Search By fields** at the top of the page to filter the display of information in the **Notifications Data Table**. In the left field, select a search category from the drop-down menu: Notification ID, Description, Case Title, Case Number, or Court Division. In the right field, enter the corresponding information. Click **Go** to *initiate the Search*. Clear the filtering fields by clicking the **Clear Search button**.

Image 33: The two Search By fields



- 2. The data in each column has an ascending/descending sort feature that sorts alphabetically or numerically. Click the **column header** of choice to cause the table display to be organized according to the header selected. Clicking the column header a second time reverses the order of the displayed information. This is a useful tool when searching through a lengthy data table.
- 3. Notifications that *have not* been read will have a bolded heading in the **Document(s) filed by** column and a closed envelope to the left of the **Notification ID.**
- 4. Clicking the *hyperlink* Document Title will open a new browser tab to display the *official* NEF, or *Notice of Electronic Filing*.
  - a) The top of the NEF contains case-related information, including **document(s)** filed.
  - b) The bottom portion of the NEF indicates the **service requirements** at the time the listed document was submitted. (Future or past submissions may have different service requirements.)
  - c) Persons with eFiling accounts being served electronically are listed first on the NEF.
  - d) Persons still requiring service by traditional means are listed under the second heading.

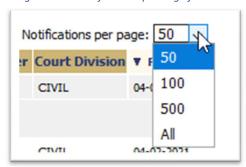
Image 34: The NEF – Notice of Electronic Filing



- 5. Notifications that *have* been read will have an unbolded title with an opened envelope.
- 6. Users may use the buttons **Mark as Read** and **Mark as Unread** to manually change the display of the envelope.

- 7. To view the document(s) within the filing, click the *hyperlink document title* listed under the
- 8. **NEF title** in the **Documents(s) filed by column**. The time-stamped document will display as a pdf. It is recommended that users download hard copies for their records.
- 9. The number of notifications shown per page can be adjusted by selecting another menu option from the **Notifications per page** drop-down field. It is located on the right above the Data Table.

Image 35: The Notifications per Page field



10. The system is coded to auto-clean the notifications after a set period of time as determined by the court. Users can manually clean the page by using the checkbox in combination with the delete button.

Image 36: Manually Deleting Notifications



### Tabs on the Menu Bar



Image 37: The eFile Tab and its Drop-Down Menu



The selections available to the Filer under the **efile Tab** are:

### **NEW CASE** –

Selecting **New Case** from the drop-down menu under the **eFile Tab** takes the user to the same page as if they had clicked the **New Case button** on the **Home Page**. It directs the user through the process of selecting Court, Division, Case Category, Case Type, Case Initiation, Adding Parties, Adding Documents and ending with the Review & Submit Page before sending the case initiation filing to the court. Because the Menu Bar is available on every page, it is not necessary to return to the **Home Page** to click the **New Case Button**.

### **EXISTING CASE -**

Selecting Existing Case from the drop-down menu under the eFile Tab takes the user to the same page as if they had clicked the Existing Cases button on the Home Page. It directs the user to the Cases page, where they can choose to efile, view a Case History, or view the current Service List which identifies which case parties will receive an NEF and which ones must be notified by a traditional method of service.

### **MY FILINGS** -

Selecting My Filings from the drop-down menu under the eFile Tab takes the user to the same page as if they had clicked the MY FILINGS

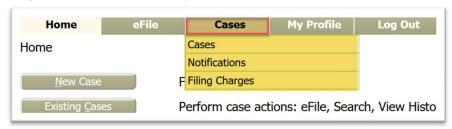
Button on the Home Page. It directs the user to the My Filings page where they can get an overview of all their filings. This includes checking the current status of their filings, viewing and printing the court-stamped documents that were submitted with their filings, and viewing and printing the Confirmation of Receipt.

**DRAFT FILINGS** - Selecting **Draft Filings** from the drop-down menu under the **eFile Tab** 

takes the user to the same page as if they had clicked the Draft Filings Button on the Home Page. It directs the user to the Draft Filings page where a table of partially completed filings may be viewed. To proceed with any one of them, click the hyperlink Description and it will direct you to the Add a Document page. If edits need to be made on the Case Initiation page, press the Back button to be directed there. Continue with the usual steps for filing to a new or existing case and submit the filing to the court.

## Cases

Image 38: The Cases Tab and its Drop-down Menu



The selections available to the Filer under the **Cases Tab** are:

### CASES -

Selecting Cases from the drop-down menu under the Cases Tab takes the user to the same page as if they had clicked the Existing Cases Button on the Home Page. It directs the user to the Case page where a case data table, made up of the user's own cases, can be searched to view individual cases in greater detail. Here they can efile to one of their own cases or any other existing case, view case histories and documents on cases in which they are council of record, or see the service list information associated to one of their cases at the time of the query.

**NOTIFICATIONS** – Selecting **Notifications** from the drop-down menu under the **Cases Tab** takes the user to the same page as if they had clicked the **Notifications Button** on the Home Page. It directs the user to the Notifications page where they can view the official **NEF**'s received from the court as well as see all the court-stamped documents of filings that any party of their cases have made.

FILING CHARGES – Some documents filed to the court require the payment of fees. The total amount owing will show on the final page before submission (Review and Submit Filing page). After submission, the filer is directed to the secure site of PayGov.US, Stark County's third-party payment vendor, to enter their payment information. The eFlex system

records the payments and keeps track of payment information going back twelve months.

**NOTE:** If the filer goes to the court and makes a direct payment to the clerk, these payments will not appear in eFlex.

### **OVERVIEW OF THE FILING CHARGES PAGE**

1. On the **Filing Charges page**, click inside the **date fields** to select a date range from the pop-up calendar. Click **Go.** 

Image 39: Left Side of Filing Charges Data Table

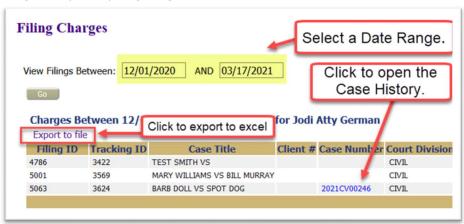
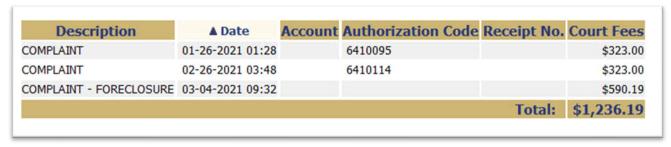


Image 40: Right Side of Filing Charges data table



- 2. The information will display in a data table: Filing ID, Tracking ID, Case Title, Case Number, Court Division, Description, Date, Account, Authorization Code, Receipt No. and Court Fees. Each column in the data table has an **ascending/descending sort feature** by clicking on the column heading and controlling the order of the listings with the up/down arrow. This is a useful tool when searching through a lengthy data table.
- 3. Another useful tool is clicking the *Export to file* hyperlink. The default will allow you to export this to an excel spreadsheet. Other options are available as well.

Image 41: Export to File

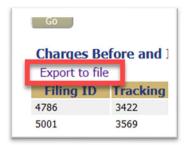
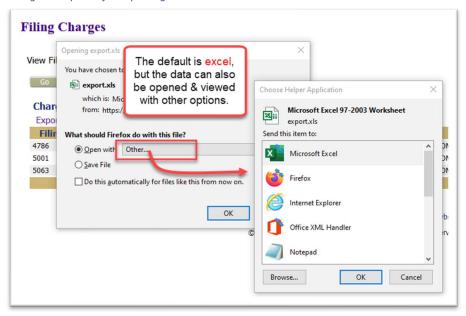


Image 42: Options for Exporting File



# **My Profile**

Image 43: The My Profile Tab and its Drop-down Menu



The selections available to the Filer under the **My Profile Tab** are:

### **MY PROFILE -**

When you register for an account, you are required to provide profile information, which can be edited or updated later as needed. Periodically you might see a pop-up asking you to verify the current profile info. The default for the pop-up reminder may be every 90 days. This is set by the system administrator per the court's instructions, so it may be more or less frequent.

### **OVERVIEW OF THE USER PROFILE PAGE**

- Hover over the My Profile Tab and select My Profile from the drop-down menu. The User Profile
  page will appear and display the information entered when the user account was created or
  modified.
- 2. To change the information in the user profile, click the button **Modify User Profile**. This will direct the user to the **Modify User Profile page**. Fields that display a textbox may be modified.

Image 44: The Modify User Profile Button



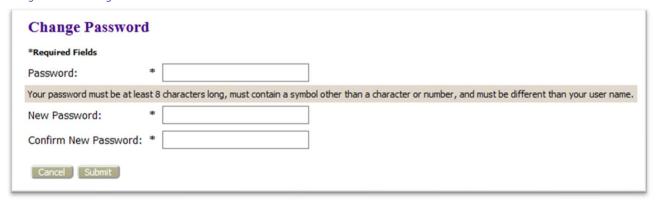
**NOTE:** It is important that the primary email associated with this account is kept up to date as that is the way the eFlex system communicates with you about activity that has taken place on your cases. If you change your email account and do not record the new email on your user profile, you will no longer receive NEF's (Notifications of Electronic Filing) for your cases.

- 3. *Optional:* The alternative email addresses are provided so that someone else can receive email notices when you receive courtesy notices on your cases. This may be used for partners or assistants.
- 4. *Optional:* The eFlex system default is to automatically send users emails notifying them of status updates for action taken on their filings. If you do not wish to receive email updates on status changes for received filings, approved filings, partially approved filings, or rejected filings on all of your cases, select the appropriate radio button to discontinue that service.
- 5. Click Submit to save the changes you have made and be returned to the **User Profile page**.

**NOTE:** If modification needs to be made to information on the **Profile page** that does not appear to be editable, such as the organization to which the user is associated, the user will need to contact the system administrator for assistance.

CHANGE PASSWORD - You may change your password whenever desired. Periodically changing of your account password is a wise security measure. We recommend that your password be something that you can remember, but is difficult for others to figure out. A strong password has symbols, upper and lower case characters, and numbers. Passwords are case sensitive.

Image 45: The Change Password Fields



### **STEPS ON THE CHANGE PASSWORD PAGE**

- 1. Hover over the My Profile Tab and select Change Password from the drop-down menu.
- 2. Enter the temporary password in the **Password field**.
- 3. Create a new password following the password requirements and type it into the **New Password field.**
- 4. In the **Confirm New Password field**, re-type the password exactly as you entered it in step 3.
- 5. Click **Submit** to save your changes.
- 6. Be sure you notify your legal assistant, or any others who may enter your filings for you, of the change to your password.

**NOTE:** When you are changing your password using the **Forgot My Password feature** on the log-in page, make sure in the first password field that you type the *new temporary password* given you in the email. Don't try to remember your old password because that information no longer applies.

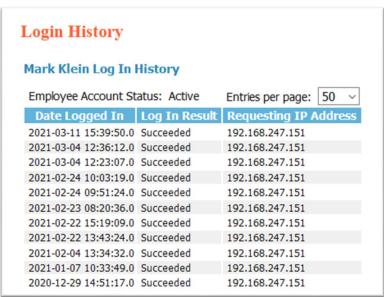
**LOGIN HISTORY** - The **Login History screen** shows your login failures. Its purpose is to help you monitor any unauthorized login attempts. If your account has too many login failures, the system will automatically suspend your account. If this occurs, call

the support helpline to reset your password. Changing your password on a regular basis is one way to help avoid unauthorized access to your account.

### **STEPS ON THE LOGIN HISTORY PAGE**

- 1. Hover over the My Profile Tab and select Change Password from the drop-down menu.
- 2. The **Login History page** appears displaying a list of the login attempts along with the date, login result, and IP address of the requesting machine.

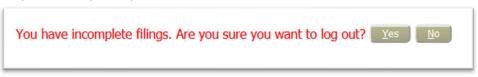
Image 46: The Login History Page





- 1. To log out and terminate the current session to the server, click Log Out on the Menu Bar.
- 2. A red text message will appear if you have incomplete filings and ask if you are sure of this action.

Image 48: Warning Message to the Filer



3. Review the list of incomplete filings that have yet to be submitted to the court. These filings include those the Filer purposely postponed by clicking the Move to Draft button as well as any the system automatically added. (The eFlex system automatically executes a save action on incomplete filings when a user selects Logout.) The information entered will be saved in draft form and accessible for completion on subsequent logins. To retrieve the Draft later, hover over the eFile tab and select Draft Filings. Click the hyperlink Description to proceed with its filing.