

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
for the MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA

Remote Electronic Availability of Transcripts Questions and Answers.

1. **Will anyone be able to obtain a copy of the transcript during the initial 90-day period after the certified transcript copy has been filed with the Clerk?** Yes, any counsel, party, or member of the public wanting a copy of a transcript, unless otherwise sealed, during the 90-day period will be able to purchase a copy from the court reporter.
2. **Will counsel, a party, or the public be able to review the transcript during the 90-day period?** Yes, the transcript will be available for review and inspection at the court's public terminal during the initial 90-day period after the transcript is filed. However, the Clerk's Office will not provide copies to counsel, a party or the public during the 90-day period, but rather will refer anyone who wants a copy to the court reporter. In addition, any counsel or parties to a case who have received a transcript from a court reporter will be given access to the transcript through the ECF system. Counsel of record in a case who have not purchased a copy of the transcript from the court reporter will not have access to the transcript through ECF until they purchase it from the court reporter or until the 90-day period has expired. Remote electronic access through PACER/ECF will be charged at the current rate.
3. **Once the certified copy of the transcript is filed with the Clerk, may court reporters sell copies to other parties requesting the transcripts?** Yes, nothing in the new policies restricts counsel, parties, or the public from requesting copies of a transcript from a court reporter – during or after the 90-day period.
4. **How will a court reporter know when to redact a transcript?** The redaction of transcripts will be requested by parties to a case:
 - a. Within seven (7) business days of the transcript being delivered to the Clerk, the party will file a Notice of Intent to Redact
 - b. Within 21 calendar days of initial delivery of the transcript to the Clerk, the party will then follow-up with a specific request for redaction noting the page numbers and line numbers where redaction is required. (Sample forms are posted on our website.)
5. **When a court reporter electronically files a certified copy of the transcript with the Clerk, they also send the transcript to the ordering party. If a transcript is requested to be redacted, the court reporter sends the redacted copy of the transcript to the Clerk for filing. Is the court reporter required to send a redacted copy to the ordering party as well?** No. The redaction of information from the transcript is to remove certain personal information from remote electronic access through PACER and ECF. Therefore, there is no requirement to send a copy of the redacted transcripts to the parties who originally ordered the transcripts.
6. **How are Redaction Requests to be handled?** Redaction Requests are e-filed using the ECF event "Redaction Request – Transcript." Although the docket entry is public, the PDF document is viewable only by case participants and court staff. Attach your proposed redactions to this document. (Sample forms are posted on our website.)

7. **What are the personal identifiers that a party may request be redacted?** The redaction of the following personal identifiers should be requested:
 - a. Minors' names: use the minors' initials;
 - b. Financial account numbers: use only the last four numbers;
 - c. Social Security and Taxpayer Identification numbers: use only the last four numbers;
 - d. Dates of birth: use only the year;
 - e. Home addresses in criminal cases: use only the city and state.
8. **May parties move to redact other information in a transcript other than the specified identifiers?** Yes. While the court reporter is authorized to redact the specified personal identifiers noted in the answer to #7 above, the moving party must receive a ruling of the court before other information in the transcript may be redacted.
9. **Is there a fee that the court reporter can charge for making the redactions?** No. The Judicial Conference has not authorized an additional fee for providing redacted transcripts to the court for the electronic records of the court.