

United States Court of Appeals  
For the Seventh Circuit  
219 South Dearborn Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

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6/19/06

06-CV-C  
06-CR-E

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Chambers of  
Joel M. Flaum  
Chief Judge

June 13, 2006

Chief District Judge David F. Levi  
Chair of the Judicial Conference Committee  
On Rules of Practice and Procedure  
United States District Court  
Eastern District of California  
2504 Robert T. Matsui  
United States Courthouse  
501 I Street  
Sacramento, California 95814-7300

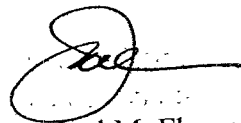
LRM  
CALEE  
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LOWNEY  
MATTOS  
MCCABE  
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Dear David:

In response to recent media accounts of sealed cases in certain federal district courts, I directed that a canvass be made of the seven district court clerks offices in our circuit regarding such cases. Five of the districts reported having sealed cases, however, there appeared to be no uniformity in the manner in which they were docketed. Little if any information is provided concerning the nature of the proceedings. Although the majority of the sealed matters were criminal or *qui tam* cases it appears that there may be other types of cases as well.

At the Seventh Circuit Judicial Council meeting on May 23, 2006, the issue of how sealed cases are handled was discussed. The Council voted to recommend that your committee study this issue with the thought that there may be some benefit to having guidelines and/or specific procedures for the captioning and docketing of sealed cases.

All the best,



Joel M. Flaum

JMF:dml

cc: Director L. Ralph Meehan  
Collins T. Fitzpatrick  
Gino J. Agnello

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES COURTS  
WASHINGTON, DC 20544

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EXHIBIT  
CORRESPONDENCE