

1.4.08 | MOTIONS TO SEAL

A certificate of confidentiality may be used to request sealing of information protected by the Privacy Policy for Electronic Case Files, or by statute, rule, regulation, or order. To request sealing of other materials, or to request sealing of an entire brief or motion due to inability to create a public, redacted version, counsel must file a motion to seal.

The motion to seal must appear on the public docket for five days. The motion must identify the document or portions thereof for which sealing is requested, the reasons why sealing is necessary, the reasons a less drastic alternative will not afford adequate protection, and the period of time for which sealing is required. If it is necessary to reference sealed material in the motion, a sealed, highlighted version and a public, redacted version of the motion must be filed.

(4th Circuit Court of Appeals // December 2023)

