

3. When I began working for CNS, I was hired as a part-time reporter. In 2005, I became a full-time reporter. In that role, I covered courts in Virginia and Maryland. In 2012, I became the bureau chief for Virginia and Pennsylvania.

4. In May 2013, I was promoted to my current position of Mid-Atlantic and Southeast Regional Bureau Chief. In that role, I currently supervise approximately 30 CNS reporters and four researchers, who cover state and federal courts in the Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern United States, including the reporter who currently covers the Maryland courts: Ed Erickson. I also personally visit many of the courts that I supervise in order to train reporters, stay up to date on the various courts' access procedures, and keep apprised of issues impacting our reporting. As part of that role, I have personally reviewed newly filed civil complaints in many of the Maryland Circuit Courts, and I have personally observed the intake procedures in those courts as well.

5. I have also personally observed CNS reporters as they have accessed and reported on newly filed civil complaints in various Circuit Courts in Maryland, and I regularly communicate with those reporters in order to stay apprised of their procedures for reviewing and reporting on new complaints at each of those courts. I can therefore speak to press and public access provided by the Maryland courts to newly filed civil complaints, and I am familiar with the barriers to that access.

6. For the courts that I supervise, I have also examined and become familiar with the software those courts use to facilitate electronic filing of court documents. For that reason, I am personally familiar with Maryland's transition to mandatory electronic filing through their adoption of a software suite provided by a third-party vendor named Tyler Technologies, Inc. ("Tyler"), branded for the Maryland Circuit Courts as MDEC, which consists of a case

management system called Odyssey and an e-filing portal called Odyssey File and Serve. The transition to MDEC began in October 2014, on a county by county basis, as further discussed below.

7. As Mid-Atlantic and Southeast Regional Bureau Chief, I also assign stories for publication on CNS' website (www.courthousenews.com) to reporters in my bureau who cover a wide variety of political and legal topics, including but not limited to, trial and appellate court pleadings and rulings in state and federal court, including those in Maryland.

8. CNS reporters across the country make regular courthouse visits in their assigned area to report on civil lawsuits, and then publish those reports in daily "New Litigation Reports," which contain original, staff-written summaries of significant new civil complaints and are broken up by region or court. New Litigation Reports focus on general jurisdiction civil complaints against business institutions, public entities, prominent individuals, or other civil actions of interest to CNS subscribers. New Litigation Reports do not cover criminal, juvenile, or family law matters, nor do they include probate filings, name change petitions, or most residential foreclosures. Moreover, CNS does not seek to review or report on the small number of newly filed civil complaints that are statutorily confidential or accompanied by a motion to seal.

9. CNS publishes two New Litigation Reports for courts in Maryland – the *Baltimore Report*, which includes coverage of the District of Maryland, Baltimore County Circuit Court and Baltimore City Circuit Court, and the *Greater Maryland Report*, which covers every other Maryland Circuit Court. A true and correct copy of a recent example of the *Baltimore Report*, published on April 11, 2022, is attached hereto as Exhibit 1, and a true and

correct copy of an example of the *Greater Maryland Report*, published on April 11, 2022, is attached hereto as Exhibit 2.

10. In most large and mid-size cities, CNS reporters visit the courthouse on a daily basis to review newly filed actions. In Maryland, for example, prior to e-filing, a CNS reporter traditionally visited the courthouse for the Circuit Court in Baltimore County once a day, before closing, to report on newly filed civil complaints.

11. In smaller cities and more rural areas, CNS reporters visit the courthouse less frequently, with visits ranging from once or twice a week to once or twice a month. However, as the federal courts and an increasing number of state courts are making court records available online, CNS also covers courts remotely through the Internet. And sometimes a reporter covers all or much of a particular state by going to a single courthouse and seeing the available filings statewide at the court's public access terminals. That is how CNS currently covers the Maryland courts that use the MDEC system.

Access to Newly Filed Civil Complaints in Maryland

12. Timely reporting on new civil actions is a core part of what CNS strives to do for its readers. We routinely report on newly filed civil complaints the same day we receive access to them.

13. In my experience as a journalist covering courts in the Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern parts of the country, civil complaints filed in paper form were traditionally available on receipt right after intake by a counter clerk and prior to the completion of clerical docketing. The pre-docketing intake procedures typically consisted of the clerk taking the filer's check, noting the parties' names, handing the filer a receipt, and sometimes assigning a case number. A newly filed complaint would then be placed into a bin or box near the intake window

for another set of clerks to docket the complaint, usually the next day. Throughout my years as a reporter and bureau chief for CNS, I personally have reviewed and reported on paper-filed civil complaints that clerks placed in bins or boxes after intake and before docketing (or as it is now often called, processing).

14. Some Maryland Circuit Courts, but not all, historically provided traditional on receipt access to civil complaints in the paper environment, and I have first-hand knowledge of this access.

15. In the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County, from at least 2005 until circa 2008, CNS enjoyed access to new paper complaints on the day of filing prior to docketing. I first learned about Anne Arundel's access procedures through the CNS reporter that regularly reported on filings at that court, and I personally observed those procedures on several of my own visits to the courthouse during this time period when I was covering for that CNS reporter. New complaints were filed at the clerk's intake counter; the clerk would stamp the complaints and almost immediately place them in a wire basket that sat on a table with various trays holding mail and other documents behind the intake counter. When I, or another CNS reporter, arrived to the courthouse on a particular day, we were able to retrieve the day's new complaints from the wire basket and reviewed them at the table. These complaints had yet to be docketed. But around 2008, this tradition of access stopped. An adjoining wall with a locked door was constructed next to the intake counter that prevented myself and other CNS reporters from accessing the wire basket behind the counter and, as a result, we were no longer able to see new complaints on the day they were filed. Instead, we could only review post-docketed complaints by using the court's public access computer terminals to search for new case numbers that had been filed since the date of our last visit and then requesting those cases that appeared

newsworthy from a clerk. That practice continued until the court transitioned to MDEC in October 2014, at which time we could review or print complaints filed since our last visit directly from the court's computer terminal.

16. The Circuit Courts in Baltimore City and Prince George's County, which are the only remaining paper filing courts of Maryland's 24 circuit courts, also traditionally provided same day access to newly filed complaints prior to docketing although, like the court in Anne Arundel County, abruptly stopped that practice after years of doing so.

17. In Baltimore City Circuit Court, like in Anne Arundel County, I first learned about the court's access procedures through the CNS reporter that regularly reported on filings at that court, and I then personally observed those procedures on several of my own visits to the courthouse when I was covering for that CNS reporter. From at least 2005 until circa 2010, a CNS reporter was able to review and report on new complaints on the day they were filed, and before they were docketed, by visiting the courthouse on a daily basis, typically towards the end of the day. Complaints that had been filed that day at a cashier's counter, where the cashier took the filer's check for payment, were then stamped and placed in wire baskets that sat on the various clerks' desks in the intake area of the clerks' office. Those complaints had not yet been docketed. I, or another CNS reporter, was able to review those filings and make copies of the newsworthy ones. If a new complaint was filed while we were still at the courthouse, we simply retrieved a stamped copy from the wire basket in which it was placed in the intake area of the clerks' office.

18. Around 2010, the procedure for reviewing newly filed complaints at the Baltimore City courthouse changed, but complaints were still available on the day of filing. Instead of reviewing the complaints at clerks' desks, I, or another CNS reporter, on a daily basis,

was given access to a “docketing room” where we could review and copy same-day complaints before they were sent to a records room. Those complaints were haphazardly shoved into blue file folders with a case number written on the first page of the complaint, and those folders were stacked on push carts that were either waiting for us in the docketing room upon our arrival or rolled into the room soon after our arrival. This practice continued until the pandemic, except that around 2017, a CNS reporter I was supervising was told that the press would no longer be allowed to make copies of the new complaints that we reviewed in the docketing room until they eventually landed in the records room and were attached to file folders with a wire clip, usually a day or so later. Despite the change in policy regarding copies, I, or a CNS reporter that I supervised, continued to review same-day complaints in the docketing room until the pandemic.

19. CNS also enjoyed same-day, pre-docketing access at the courthouse in Prince George’s County from around 2008 until the pandemic. In 2008, I took over as the CNS reporter covering the Prince George’s courthouse, visiting the court approximately twice a week. Soon after I began covering the court, I had a meeting with one of the clerks and the file room supervisor, James, to discuss delays in access to new complaints. Following that meeting, I was permitted to go behind the intake counter to review new complaints that sat in stacks of papers on the clerks’ desks waiting to be picked up by docketing clerks. The complaints had handwritten case numbers on them with filing checks still attached. They were brand new.

20. Each time that I visited, I also reviewed all complaints that had been filed since the date of my last visit. These complaints were stacked either on the desk of an intake clerk named Andrea or on a table against the wall across from her desk, and there was a separate stack of complaints for each day of the week going back about a week, *e.g.*, if I visited on a Thursday, there was typically one stack of complaints for filings that occurred on the preceding Thursday,

one stack for the preceding Friday, one for Monday, one for Tuesday, and one for Wednesday. These complaints no longer had checks attached to them but had not yet been docketed.

21. In or around 2011, the procedure for reviewing new complaints at the Prince George's courthouse changed. I was still able to review complaints on the day they were filed, prior to docketing, except that those complaints, with checks still attached, were now set aside on a table in a back room separate from the clerk's office by the intake clerk, Andrea, immediately after they were filed. That room was located down a hallway, which I accessed through a door by entering an access code that was provided to me by court staff. In that room, I was also able to review all complaints that had been filed since the date of my last visit; those complaints sat in stacks, organized by filing date, on the same table as the same-day complaints.

22. In 2013, when I became bureau chief, I hired and supervised a CNS reporter that covered the Prince George's Circuit Court instead of me. Like me, that reporter, as well as any other CNS reporter to visit the Prince George's courthouse, was able to review complaints on the day they were filed, prior to docketing, on a table in the back room described above, until the pandemic.

23. Thus, in each of the Circuit Courts in Anne Arundel, Baltimore City, and Prince George's counties, at various times, CNS saw all or nearly all of new complaints on the day they were filed before they were docketed until traditional access was taken away in each of those courts by the respective clerks.

Maryland's Transition to Mandatory E-Filing and the Resulting Delays in Access to E-Filed Civil Complaints

24. Beginning with Anne Arundel County in the fall of 2014, the Maryland Circuit Courts, on a county by county basis, started transitioning to mandatory electronic filing through the MDEC system.

25. MDEC consists of Tyler's case management system called Odyssey – which is now the almost exclusive method for accessing non-confidential court records in Maryland's MDEC courts – and its e-filing portal called Odyssey File and Serve.

26. Contrary to the practice of various state courts and most federal courts (including the District of Maryland), only individuals who are party to a case, and their counsel, may access case filings remotely through MDEC's case management system, Odyssey. Those that are not party to a case, including the press and public, can only view limited docket information, *i.e.*, the filing date, party names, and type of case, remotely, and are required to access actual case filings like newly filed complaints at designated computer terminals or kiosks at the courthouses during normal business hours, even though complaints can now be filed 24 hours per day every day of the week through the e-filing portal.

27. As of October 25, 2021, 22 out of 24 of Maryland's Circuit Courts have implemented mandatory electronic filing via the MDEC system: Anne Arundel County commenced electronic filing on October 10, 2014; Caroline, Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's, and Talbot Counties commenced electronic filing on July 18, 2016; Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties commenced electronic filing on December 12, 2016; Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's Counties commenced electronic filing on June 12, 2017; Allegany, Frederick, Garrett, and Washington Counties commenced electronic filing on October 16, 2017; Carroll, Harford, and Howard Counties commenced electronic filing on April 16, 2018; Baltimore County commenced electronic filing on February 19, 2019; and Montgomery County commenced electronic filing on October 25, 2021. E-filing in these courts is mandatory for all parties with the exception of self-represented litigants who are not registered MDEC users.

28. As noted above, the circuit courts in Baltimore City and Prince George's County are still paper filing courts, but I have been told by clerks at both courts that there are plans to transition to electronic filing via MDEC at some point this year. The clerks of those courts are not currently defendants in this action.

29. New filings in any MDEC action can be accessed from a computer terminal or kiosk in any MDEC courthouse, regardless of where the action was filed or is pending. As a result, Mr. Erickson, the CNS reporter currently covering Maryland, covers all MDEC courts on a daily basis by visiting either the Baltimore County or Harford County courthouse, typically around 12:00 p.m. and reviews all new complaints that were made available in each MDEC court since his visit the previous day. After he completes his review of new complaints from all MDEC courts, Mr. Erickson then travels to the Baltimore City court, also on a daily basis, to review new paper complaints that are made available that day.

30. Since the commencement of mandatory e-filing in each of the Maryland Circuit Courts named in this lawsuit, newly filed civil complaints are uniformly not made available to the public and press until after they are reviewed, docketing, and approved by the Circuit Court clerks and their staff. As a result of this practice of withholding complaints until after clerical docketing, newly e-filed civil complaints are not made available in a timely manner. Access delays are on average worse than ever. They typically run between one and three days but are sometimes longer, and vary greatly from court to court, week to week, and day to day.

31. Prior to commencing this action, beginning on October 11, 2021, CNS tracked and compiled data for new civil complaints electronically filed at each of the Maryland Circuit Courts utilizing the MDEC system, noting delays between when each complaint was filed with the court and when the court first made each complaint available to the public at the courthouse.

32. CNS' tracking demonstrates that for cases filed between October 11, 2021 and April 8, 2022, Defendants cumulatively have made on average 46.9% of newly filed complaints available to the press and public on the day of filing, with 28.3% withheld until the next day and 24.8% delayed for two days or more, with many of the Defendants withholding an even greater percentage of newly filed civil complaints on the day of filing and for days thereafter. For a description of CNS' tracking and a breakdown of the access delays in each of Maryland's Circuit Courts, *see* paragraphs 7-16 of the accompanying declaration of Adam Angione.

33. As discussed in Mr. Angione's Declaration, for the majority of the tracking period, Mr. Angione has worked with and supervised CNS reporter Chris Fry to assess access delays in Maryland's MDEC courts. However, since March 15, 2022, I have assisted with that process by supervising Erika Williams, a CNS reporter based in Charlotte, who now assists Chris Fry in his tracking efforts. To do so, Ms. Williams, as per my instruction, visits the MDEC website on a daily basis – <https://mdecportal.courts.state.md.us/MDODYSSEYPORTAL/> – and searches the Odyssey system for case numbers in each MDEC circuit court, except Anne Arundel, Baltimore, and Montgomery counties, which are handled by Chris Fry. Per my instruction, Ms. Williams conducts her searches by starting with the next available case number in the court's sequence, until five case numbers in a row return no results on Odyssey. At that time, Ms. Williams can conclude that she has seen all available cases for a given day. If a particular case number in the sequence does not appear on a given day, I have instructed Ms. Williams to continue searching for that case number each subsequent day for 10 court days or until it appears on Odyssey. If the case number returns no results after 10 court days, we assume it is either sealed or voided, and Erika is instructed to stop searching for it.

Defendants' Justification for Delaying Access Until After Docketing

34. It is my understanding that Defendants and their staff withhold access to new complaints until after docketing as a result of, at least in part, their interpretation of Maryland Rule 16-904(b) and Maryland Rule 20-203(a)(2).

35. Rule 16-904(b) states:

(b) Protection of Records

To protect judicial records and prevent unnecessary interference with the official business and duties of the custodian and other judicial personnel, a clerk is not required to permit public inspection of a case record filed with the clerk for docketing in a judicial action or a notice record filed for recording and indexing until the document has been docketed or recorded and indexed.

36. Rule 20-203(a)(2), which pertains to clerk review in an MDEC court, states, in relevant part:

(a) Time and Scope of Review.

* * *

(2) *Review by Clerk.*

As soon as practicable, the clerk shall review a submission for compliance with Rule 20-201(g) [*i.e.*, certificate of service] and the published policies and procedures for acceptance established by the State Court Administrator.

37. The MDEC Policies and Procedures established by the State Court Administrator are available at <https://www.mdcourts.gov/sites/default/files/import/mdec/pdfs/manualh5.pdf>, and a true and correct copy is attached hereto as Exhibit 3. They state on page 2 that “Rule 20-203(a)(2) requires the clerk to review a submission prior to docketing,” but based on my reading of the Rule, it says no such thing.

38. To my knowledge, Maryland is the only state to have a Rule that purports to grant clerks the right to docket filings before making them public. Yet, nothing in either of the Rules

cited above, or any other Maryland Rule that I am aware of, appears to mandate that court staff review or docket newly filed complaints before they are made public.

39. To the extent Defendants will argue that they must perform pre-access review to look for confidential information, such as a social security, tax identification, or financial account numbers, before being made public, in Maryland, as further detailed below in my discussion of the e-filing process in an MDEC court, the filer is responsible for redacting any confidential data elements that might appear in a non-confidential filing, just as I understand they are required to do in 46 other states, as well as the federal courts. And, in order to proceed with a filing through the MDEC system, the filing party must certify that the filing does not contain any confidential information or, if it does, that the filer has provided a redacted version of the submission that excludes the restricted information from public view.

40. The practical effect of any Rule that requires clerical review and docketing before access is that many newsworthy filings will be yesterday's news by the time they are made public. This is particularly so where filing parties share a newsworthy filed complaint with a preferred media outlet before the complaint is made available by the court to the public and press, thus depriving the public of contemporaneous news coverage from other competing news outlets, like CNS. I have seen this happen at times in Maryland, with news about a filed complaint appearing in the *Baltimore Sun* before the complaint was available to CNS.

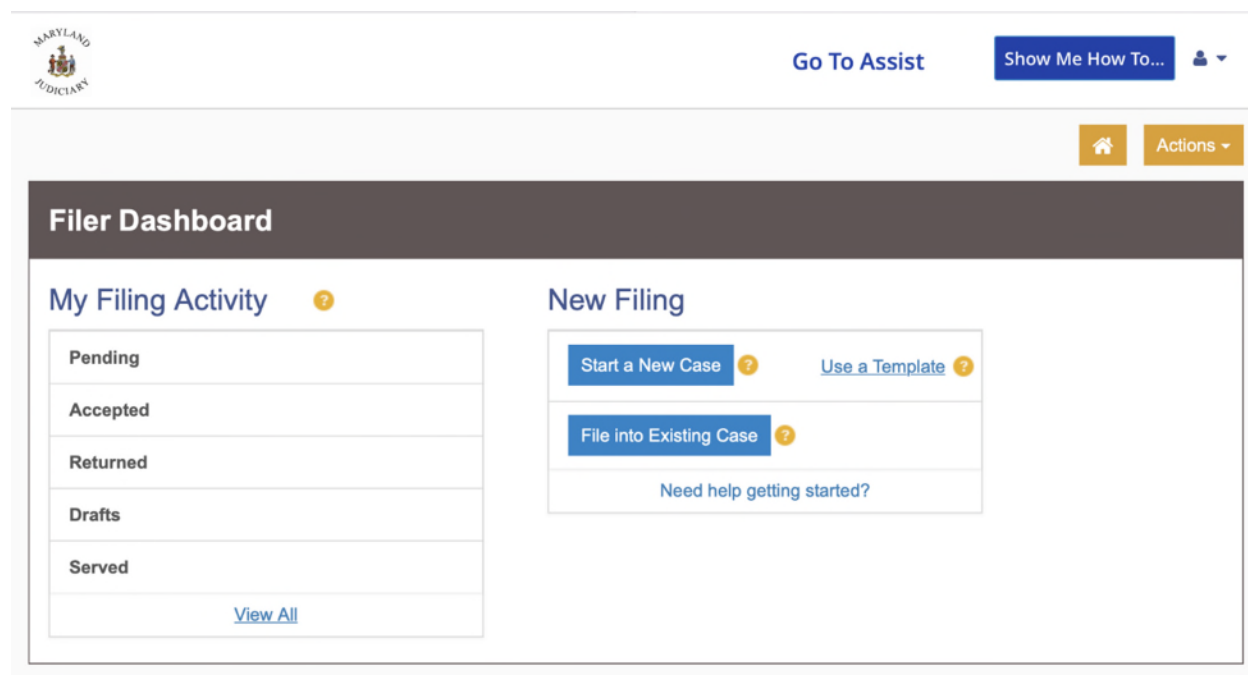
41. That is why many other states' courts provide access to newly e-filed civil complaints before docketing or processing by court staff has been completed through means readily available to Defendants, for example, through an "auto accept" or "press review queue" feature that allows the press and public, at no cost to the court, to view newly filed complaints upon receipt by the court. For a more detailed explanation of the method by which other courts

provide pre-docketing access upon receipt, see the accompanying Declaration of William Girdner, at ¶¶ 33-45.

E-Filing a Complaint in the Maryland Circuit Courts

42. In order to file a new civil complaint through MDEC's Odyssey File & Serve system, filers are required to go through a series of steps to enter information about the case, upload documents, provide a method of payment for filing fees, and, as noted, certify that the filing protects from disclosure any confidential data elements. To complete these steps on my own, I registered as a *pro se* filer and went through the process up to the point of actually submitting the filing, at which point I aborted the process. True and correct screen shots of each step of the e-filing process, and descriptions of each step, are set forth below.

43. On April 13, 2021, I logged in through the Odyssey File & Serve landing page at <https://maryland.tylerhost.net/OfsWeb> and was taken to the Dashboard, where I chose to "Start a New Case":



44. I was then required to choose the “Location,” “Category” and “Case Type.” If the “Location,” “Category” and “Case Type” are not selected, the Save Changes button is grayed out and you cannot move on to the next step:

Start a New Case

Case Information Need Help?

Location
Click to select Location

Category ?
Click to select Category

Case Type
Click to select Case Type

Undo Save Changes

45. I chose Baltimore County Circuit Court for “Location,” Civil for “Category,” and Contract - Breach for “Case Type,” and clicked on the “Save Changes” button to proceed to the next step:

Start a New Case

Case Information Need Help?

Location
Baltimore County Circuit Court

Category ?
Civil

Case Type
Contract - Breach - \$165.00

Undo Save Changes

46. I then went through a set of screens to enter “Party Information.” After entering a plaintiff and defendant, I was required to add a “Filing.” I had to choose the “Filing Type” and “Filing Code,” and “Filing Description” or else the “Save Changes” button at the bottom of the screen would remain grayed out and I was unable to move on to the next step. For “Filing Type,” I selected EFile:

Draft # 9414044

Case Information

Location: Baltimore County Circuit Court

Category: Civil

Case Type: Contract - Breach - \$165.00

Undo Save Changes

Party Information

Party Type	Party Name	Lead Attorney	
Plaintiff	Ryan Abbott	Pro Se	Required Party
Defendant	Ryan Abbott	Pro Se	Required Party

+ Add Another Party

Filings

Need Help?

Enter the details for this filing

Filing Type: EFile

Filing Code: [Empty]

Filing Description: [Empty]

Client Reference Number: [Empty]

Comments to Court: [Empty]

Courtesy Copies: [Empty]

Undo Save Changes

47. There are several options for “Filing Code” and once I selected one, here “Complaint/Petition,” the “Lead Document” box popped up, where I was prompted to upload a document:

Filings [Need Help?](#)

Enter the details for this filing

Filing Type [?](#) Filing Code

EFile Complaint / Petition

Filing Description

Client Reference Number [?](#) Comments to Court [?](#)

Courtesy Copies

Lead Document (Required)

Computer

DO NOT USE

Computer

Optional Services and Fees

Optional Services and Fees	Fee Amount	Quantity	Fee Total
+ Add Optional Services and Fees			

[Undo](#) [Save Changes](#)

48. Once I chose a document to upload from my computer, I wrote in Complaint for the “Filing Description.” I could also include a Comment to Court, which I understand is where I would note whether any actions have been taken by the filer to redact any confidential information within an otherwise public filing (in addition to the required notice of restricted information). I left this field blank and clicked “Save Changes.” The screen I saw before doing so is on the next page.

Filings Need Help?

Enter the details for this filing

Filing Type: EFile Filing Code: Complaint / Petition

Filing Description: Complaint

Client Reference Number: Comments to Court:

Courtesy Copies:

Lead Document (Required)

Complaint.pdf 1.75 MB
Description: Complaint / Petition

DO NOT USE

Computer

Optional Services and Fees

Optional Services and Fees	Fee Amount	Quantity	Fee Total
Add Optional Services and Fees			

[Undo](#) [Save Changes](#)

49. I was then taken to the “Fees” section where I was required to enter payment information. I knew this information was required because the “Save Changes” button at the bottom was grayed out and I could not move on to the next step without submitting payment info:

Service Contacts

Serve	Name	Email	Actions
▶	Party: Ryan Abbott - Plaintiff		Actions ▼
▶	Party: Ryan Abbott - Defendant		Actions ▼
▶	Other Service Contacts		Actions ▼

Fees Need Help?

▼ Complaint / Petition

Description	Amount
Filing Fee	\$0.00
Filing Total:	\$0.00
Total Filing Fee	\$0.00
Court Case Fee	\$165.00
Envelope Total:	\$165.00

Payment Account:

Party Responsible for Fees:

[Undo](#) [Save Changes](#)

50. I added the Payment Account:

The screenshot shows the 'Fees' section of the MJCPS interface. Under the 'Complaint / Petition' tab, the 'Filing Fee' is \$0.00. The 'Total Filing Fee' is \$0.00, the 'Court Case Fee' is \$165.00, and the 'Payment Service Fee' is \$5.78, resulting in an 'Envelope Total' of \$170.78. The 'Payment Account' dropdown is set to 'Ryan Abbott'. The 'Party Responsible for Fees' dropdown is empty, and the 'Save Changes' button is greyed out.

Description	Amount
Filing Fee	\$0.00
Filing Total:	\$0.00
Total Filing Fee	\$0.00
Court Case Fee	\$165.00
Payment Service Fee	\$5.78
Envelope Total:	\$170.78

51. And then I selected a “Party Responsible for Fees.” Once I added the “Party Responsible for Fees,” the “Save Changes” button turned blue, which meant I was able to then click through to the next step.

The screenshot shows the 'Fees' section of the MJCPS interface. Under the 'Complaint / Petition' tab, the 'Filing Fee' is \$0.00. The 'Total Filing Fee' is \$0.00, the 'Court Case Fee' is \$165.00, and the 'Payment Service Fee' is \$5.78, resulting in an 'Envelope Total' of \$170.78. The 'Payment Account' dropdown is set to 'Ryan Abbott'. The 'Party Responsible for Fees' dropdown is now set to 'Ryan Abbott', and the 'Save Changes' button is blue.

Description	Amount
Filing Fee	\$0.00
Filing Total:	\$0.00
Total Filing Fee	\$0.00
Court Case Fee	\$165.00
Payment Service Fee	\$5.78
Envelope Total:	\$170.78

52. In order to proceed with the filing, I was then required to check three “Submission Agreement” boxes: one certifying that all documents requiring a signature have been signed; one certifying, for an initial filing, that the filer has included a request that the clerk issue a writ of summons for service or, for a subsequent filing, that certificates of service are included with the filing; and one certifying that the filing does not contain any restricted information or, if it does, that the filer has provided a notice of restricted information and has provided a redacted version of the filing. Once I checked each box, I was able to click the “Summary” button to proceed to the final step before actually submitting the document for filing.

The screenshot shows a web interface titled "Submission Agreements" with a "Need Help?" link. Below the title, there are three checked boxes, each with a corresponding text description:

- ☒ All documents requiring signature have been signed by Rule 20-107.
- ☒ This is an initial filing and I have included a written request that the Clerk issue a Writ of Summons for service OR this is a subsequent filing and written, signed certificates of service are included in the submission as required by Rules 20-201(g)(1) and 20-205(d).
- ☒ This submission does not contain any restricted information OR, if it does, I have filed (1) a Notice of Restricted Information and, (2) if applicable, a redacted and unredacted version of the submission per Rule 20-201.1(c).

At the bottom of the form, there are two buttons: "Save as Draft" and "Summary".

53. On the “Summary” page, the filer has an opportunity to review the accuracy of all information entered, which is the final step before actually submitting the filing. If satisfied, the filer must click the “Submit” button at the bottom of the screen to successfully file the electronic filing with the court. Below is a screenshot of the “Summary” page:



Go To Assist

Show Me How To...



Actions ▾

Summary - Draft # 9414044

Review and submit your envelope

Case Information

Location Baltimore County Circuit Court	Category Civil	Case Type Contract - Breach
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Party Information

Party Type	Party Name	Lead Attorney
Plaintiff	Ryan Abbott	Pro Se
Defendant	Ryan Abbott	Pro Se

Filings

Filing Code	Client Ref #	Filing Description
Complaint / Petition		Complaint

Service Contacts

Serve	Name	Email
▶	Party: Ryan Abbott - Plaintiff	
▶	Party: Ryan Abbott - Defendant	
▶	Other Service Contacts	

Fees

▼ Complaint / Petition		
Description		Amount
Filing Fee		\$0.00
		Filing Total: \$0.00
<hr/>		
Total Filing Fee		\$0.00
Court Case Fee		\$165.00
Payment Service Fee		\$5.78
		Envelope Total: \$170.78
Party Responsible for Fees	Ryan Abbott	
Payment Account	Ryan Abbott	

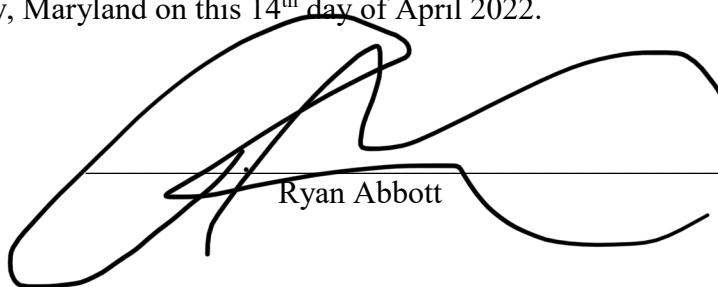
Back

Submit

* * *

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed in Ocean City, Maryland on this 14th day of April 2022.



Ryan Abbott