



State of Maine

JUDICIAL BRANCH



Maine eCourts

eFiling Kickoff – Region 1

January 20, 2026



Agenda

- I. What is Maine eCourts?**
- II. Where is it Implemented?**
- III. When is Region 1 Going Live?**
- IV. Important Maine Rules of Electronic Court Systems (MRECS) Considerations**
- V. Five Things to Do**
- VI. Accessing Electronic Records**
- VII. Training, Resources & Next Steps**
- VIII. Questions & Answers**

Housekeeping

How can I get my questions answered?

- We will have a brief Q&A session at the end of the presentation.
- Have additional questions after the session? Email us at: ecourtshelp@courts.maine.gov

I. What is Maine eCourts?

We have partnered with Tyler Technologies to implement Maine eCourts, a suite of products that support the electronic processing of court functions and forms.

- Enterprise Justice → Case Management
- eFileMaine → eFiling (*File upload and submission service*)
- re:SearchMAINE → eAccess (*Case record access*)
- Defendant Access → Online Fine Payments

...and more...

Same company with headquarters in Maine, however this suite of products is provided by Tyler's Courts & Justice Division, which is in Plano, Texas.

II. Where is it Implemented?

- Violations Bureau – Statewide
- Bangor District Court and Penobscot County Superior Court – Family and Civil Case Types
- Business and Consumer Docket – Statewide
- Region 3 Courts (Androscoggin, Oxford, Franklin Counties) - All Case Types
- ***Implementation Roadmap → All Court Regions online by end of 2026.***

III. When is Region 1 Going Live?

- *Monday, March 30th, 2026 → Region 1 Courts will go-live with all case types.*
- On this day, clerks and judges will begin to use Enterprise Justice for the management of all case types.
- eFiling will be required for all attorneys and professional filers → email and live phone support will be available.
- Sharefile processes (for criminal and GAL vouchers) will end.
- PA email filing for attorneys (but not for unrepresented parties) will end.

Court Closures Leading up to Go-Live

Court Closures: The York Judicial Center will be open on Monday, March 23rd and closed for the remainder of the week from March 24th through March 27th to allow for equipment installations and staff training.

Location	Monday 3/23/26	Tuesday 3/24/26	Wednesday 3/25/26	Thursday 3/26/26	Friday 3/27/26
York Judicial Center	Open	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed

Processes for emergency filings and other court appearances with statutory timelines (e.g., in-custodies, PPOs, PA Final Hearings, etc.) will be determined and communicated.

IV. Important MRECS Considerations



eFiling

eAccess



Maine Rules of Electronic Court Systems (MRECS)

WHO MUST USE MAINE ECOURTS FOR EFILING?

M.R.E.C.S. 33 Use of the Electronic Filing System

(B) Required Use of the EFS. Except as provided in subdivisions (C) and (D), use of the EFS in all case types is mandatory for required electronic filers. “Required electronic filers” are:

- (1)** Attorneys acting on behalf of a party or themselves in a court case;
- (2)** State, county, and municipal filers, except for:
 - (a)** Maine Law Enforcement, meaning all officers defined in 25 M.R.S. § 2801-A;
 - (b)** Bail Commissioners, as defined in 15 M.R.S. § 1023; and
 - (c)** Representatives of the Maine Department of Health and Human Services filing Requests for Preliminary Protection Orders pursuant to 22 M.R.S. § 4034; and
- (3)** Self-represented litigants filing or intending to file more than six cases that are filed and are not emergency cases in the current calendar year. For purposes of this subdivision, emergency cases are protection from abuse or harassment requests, mental health requests, requests for emergency guardianship of a minor, and three-party child protection petitions.

M.R.E.C.S. Rule Highlights

RULE 4 - Civil Cases

RULE 5 - Criminal Cases

RULE 6 - Juvenile cases

RULE 7 - Family cases (*includes protection orders and child protection matters*)

RULE 35(D) Rejection of Filings

RULE 36 - Service

RULE 37 - Electronic Signatures

**see 37(E)(3) regarding special rule for charging instruments in criminal/juvenile cases*

Not Just M.R.E.C.S. -- see Service Email Requirement in Maine Bar Rules

M. Bar R. 1. Structure

(g) Roster of Lawyers. The Board shall maintain current information relating to all lawyers admitted to the Maine Bar including, but not limited to, the following:

...

(14) an email address to be used by other parties and the courts for electronic service of documents, notices, and any other records through any electronic court systems implemented by the Maine Judicial Branch.

M. Bar R. 4. Registration

(a) Requirement.

...

Every lawyer admitted to active practice in Maine shall provide as part of the annual registration process required by Rule 4(b) an active, current email address for electronic service that will be used by other parties and the courts for electronic service of documents, notices, and any other records through any electronic court systems implemented by the Maine Judicial Branch and shall notify the Board immediately of any change in that address.

M.R.E.C.S. -- Updates

*Filing and service under M.R.E.C.S. will start in each Region on their assigned Go-Live date.

*Existing rules remain in effect, but M.R.E.C.S. supersedes in any case of a rule conflict.

*M.R.E.C.S. is in the process of being updated after review by stakeholders, & a public comment period.

- Expected updates by 2/2/26:

- **CIVIL CASES (Rule 4)**

- Updates to list of non-public information
- Updates to non-public case types
- Updates to non-public documents

- **CRIMINAL CASES (Rule 5)**

- Updates to public or remote access
- Updates to list of non-public information
- Updates to access rules for pardoned or sealed charges
- Updated exception to non-public grand jury records to exclude indictments

- **FAMILY CASES (Rule 7)**

- List of nonpublic documents has been re-ordered to be consistent with the civil and criminal rules

- **FILING & SERVICE (Rule 31)**

- Updates to requirements about use of court forms
- **USE OF ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM (Rule 33)**
- Updates rules regarding mandatory e-filers (specifically that only attorneys licensed in Maine are e-filers)
- **DOCUMENT REQUIREMENTS (Rule 34)**
- Removes requirement for filers to include descriptions with their documents in the “comments to court” section
- **TIME OF FILING, SERVICE, AND RESPONSE (Rule 35)**
- Updates to list of reasons for rejection of filings to be clearer, especially in criminal cases

Not Just M.R.E.C.S. -- see other Rules & Administrative Orders

- Once a Region is Live with Maine eCourts, ShareFile can no longer be used, per [JB-21-06](#).
- Other AOs applicable to Maine eCourts:
 - [JB-20-03](#) (*Application of the MRECS During the Implementation of the Odyssey Case Management System*)
 - [JB-20-04](#) (*Application of the MRECS to Guide & File Users*)
 - [JB-25-02](#) (*Criminal Rule Clarification*)

V. Five Things To Do

Before Using eFileMaine:

1. eFileMaine training (video & in-person).
2. Set up your firm account on [eFileMaine](#).
3. Read [MRECS](#) & other applicable Rules & AOs.
4. Be familiar with the [eCourts web page](#).
5. Learn about elevated access.

VI. Electronic Access

- **eAccess** will be done using [**reSearch**](#) → An online portal to court case and documents. Same login credentials as eFileMaine.
- eAccess requirements and expectations are also defined in the [Maine Rules of Electronic Court Systems \(MRECS\)](#).

VII. Training, Resources & Next Steps

- Check out the Maine eCourts site –
www.courts.maine.gov/ecourts
- Watch the eFileMaine Video -- <https://youtu.be/4KEuLaiuRKw>
- Watch the reSearch demonstration --
<https://vimeo.com/910924327>
- Register to watch a Tyler provided eFiling webinar --
<https://odysseyfileandservecloud.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/8971375644429-National-Live-Webinar-Training-Sessions>

VII. Training, Resources & Next Steps

MJB eFiling Training:

- The MJB will be hosting eFiler Training sessions in early March. Specific dates and other details will be communicated soon.
- Attendance is recommended and should include Administrative Support staff that will be performing electronic filing.



Have additional questions after the session? Email us at
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www.courts.maine.gov/ecourts