



# JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20544

THE CHIEF JUSTICE  
OF THE UNITED STATES  
*Presiding*

JAMES C. DUFF  
*Secretary*

June 2, 2008

Alan D. Sugarman  
HyperLaw, Inc.  
17 W. 70<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10023

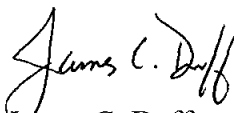
Dear Mr. Sugarman:

I have received your letters dated May 7 and May 9, 2008, regarding public access to opinions of the United States district and bankruptcy courts. You suggest a number of changes to how these opinions are designated, categorized and provided to the public, which I have therefore referred to the Administrative Office's Electronic Public Access (EPA) Working Group. This is a group of judges, clerks and court technology personnel that was formed specifically to address electronic public access issues. The EPA Working Group has begun considering some of the issues you raise, including the access to opinions by Internet search engines such as Microsoft, Google, and Yahoo.

The EPA Working Group could also refer a number of policy issues to the Judicial Conference's Committee on Court Administration and Case Management. That Committee has led the Judiciary's efforts to provide public access to court records as well as the Judiciary's compliance with the requirements under Section 205 of the E-Government Act. It is also responsible for making recommendations regarding electronic public access to the Judicial Conference.

Thank you for your thoughtful suggestions. We are pleased with both the effort and great strides the Judiciary has made in the area of electronic public access. I assure you that both the EPA Working Group as well as the Judicial Conference will give your suggestions serious consideration.

Sincerely,

  
James C. Duff  
Secretary

cc: Honorable Joseph I. Lieberman  
Honorable Susan M. Collins  
Chief, Electronic Public Access Program Office