UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA
320 6TH STREET
P.O. BOX 3857
SIOUX CITY, IOWA 51101
www.ianb.uscourts.gov

WILLIAM L. EDMONDS
CHIEF BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

PAUL J. KILBURG
BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

(712) 233-3949
FAX (712) 233-3952

March 12, 2008

A letter to the Bankruptcy Community:

Re: Documents Containing Advertisements and/or Embedded Links

Recently, a PDF document was filed with the Northern District of Iowa's CM/ECF system that contained an "advertisement" in the upper left hand corner for a PDF servicing company. This advertisement contained an embedded link which redirected the viewer's browser to the servicing agency's web site. The potential vulnerabilities and negative ramifications of such an advertisement/embedded link have now received national attention. The undersigned judges of the Northern District have reviewed these circumstances and have determined that:

1. The presence of any type of advertisement on a pleading/paper filed with the court is inappropriate.

2. Any type of embedded link which redirects the viewer away from the court's web site poses a potential security threat not only to the court's CM/ECF system, but to the end user/viewer's personal computer.

Therefore, all registered users of the Northern District of Iowa's CM/ECF system are directed to review each document prior to filing it with the court to ensure that no advertisements or embedded links/hyperlinks are contained within the PDF.

Effective immediately, and in order to protect the system from potential damage, any PDF document electronically filed with the court that contains an advertisement and/or an embedded link may be immediately stricken/deleted from the court record. Attorneys who violate the court's prohibition against filing such documents may also be at risk of losing electronic filing privileges within the district.

Thank you for your attention in this matter. Please feel free to call the Northern District's Clerk of Court should you have any questions pertaining to this process.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM L. EDMONDS
CHIEF BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

PAUL J. KILBURG
BANKRUPTCY JUDGE