



## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE of PENNSYLVANIA COURTS

Feb. 5, 2024

### NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **Pennsylvania Courts' Cyber Attack – UPDATE – 12:57 p.m.**

**Harrisburg** — Chief Justice of Pennsylvania Debra Todd provides the following update on the Pennsylvania Courts' website denial of service cyber attack.

According to the U.S. Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), a denial of service cyber attack occurs when malicious actors flood the targeted host or network with traffic until the target cannot respond or simply crashes, preventing access for legitimate users.

"Our court information technology and executive team continues to work closely with law enforcement including the CISA, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the F.B.I to investigate the incident," Chief Justice of Pennsylvania Debra Todd said.

"There is still no indication that any court data has been compromised, and our courts remain open and accessible to the public."

As of 12:57 p.m. the following update is provided on services impacted by the cyber attack.

#### **PUBLIC APPLICATIONS**

1. **PACFile** – the Pennsylvania Appellate Court (PAC) electronic filing system is used by attorneys and pro se litigants to electronically file documents with the appellate courts and some courts of common pleas (criminal and/or juvenile divisions). While PACFile is not available, filing offices remain open to accept filings in person or by mail.
2. **GTS** – the Guardianship Tracking System (GTS) is a web-based application used by court-appointed guardians, orphans' court clerks, court staff and judges to file, manage, track and submit reports related to the guardianships of incapacitated persons. While the GTS system is not available, filing offices remain open to accept filings in person or by mail.
3. **Web Dockets/court summaries** – These documents are available online for free to anyone with internet access to view information about a case filed in the appellate courts, the criminal division of the courts of common pleas, as well as the magisterial district courts. While these documents are currently unavailable online, filing offices remain open to accept filings in person or by mail.

4. **PAePay** – facilitates the online payments for: cases with outstanding fines, costs, and restitution in criminal and summary matters, bail, fees associated with the annual attorney registration and bar application, probation, and parole fees, and Guardianship Tracking System (GTS) fees. While the PAePay system is not available, payments can still be made by mail, in-person or by contacting the court office to inquire about alternative payment methods.
5. **Some pages on UJS Website** – those interested in court documents and information should contact the Pennsylvania Courts spokesperson Stacey Witalec at (717) 877-2997.
  - a. Appellate Court home page and court opinions
  - b. News and Statistics pages
  - c. Public Interest page

#### **COURT OR LAW ENFORCEMENT APPLICATIONS**

6. **JNET** – Warrant information remains available to law enforcement through NCIC and CLEAN.
7. **Police Forms (complaint and search warrants) and Citations** – Law enforcement forms such as criminal complaint and search warrant applications, remain available at the appropriate court filing office.

More information will be provided as it becomes available.

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Media Contact – Stacey Witalec  
717-877-2997