

USER PLEADINGS

Find under the “Collections” tab of www.sado.org

Definitions

“User” refers to any individual who uses SADO’s website; users do not pay fees to use SADO’s website and may be limited in the areas of the website they can access; users must have a login in order to access the User Pleadings database. If you do not already have login credentials, you can easily obtain complimentary login credentials that will allow you to access User Pleadings. Only defense attorneys will be permitted access to User Pleadings.

“Subscriber” refers to any individual who pays to use certain features of SADO’s website.

Searching Pleadings www.sado.org/userpleadings

The User Pleadings feature of www.sado.org allows users to search pleadings uploaded by other users from Michigan’s circuit courts, Court of Appeals, and Supreme Court. Pleadings are searchable by Court, Pleading Type, the Submitter that uploaded the pleading, and by who filed them—the defender or prosecutor.

To search pleadings, simply select one or more of the Court, Pleading Type, or Submitter dropdowns. The search dropdown lists will only display Court, Pleading Type or Submitter options where a pleading has already been filed. You can also choose to search only defender or prosecutor pleadings by checking the Defender Pleadings or Prosecutor Pleadings checkbox. The results will appear below the search options.

The first line of each search results will display the court, submitter, and upload date for the pleading(s). Circuit courts are highlighted blue and link to the corresponding circuit page found in SADO’s Community section. If the submitter is a defense attorney and current CDRC subscriber, their name will also be highlighted blue and will link to their user information.

The second line of each search result displays the type of pleading that was uploaded. If the pleading type corresponds to a pleading in SADO’s Defender Motion Book it will be highlighted blue and will link to the corresponding chapter of the Defender Motion Book. The Defender Books are only accessible to active subscribers).

The next line(s) display links to the physical pleading documents. Clicking on the links will open the documents.

If the logged in user is a current subscriber, the community page for each circuit court will display a list of pleadings associated with that court.

Uploading Pleadings www.sado.org/userpleadings/upload

The User Pleadings feature of www.sado.org allows users to upload pleadings from Michigan's Circuit Courts, Court of Appeals, and Supreme Court. Pleadings are stored according to pleading type. There is a Pleading Type category that groups pleadings into a more general category that coincides with the chapter headings found in SADO's Defender Motion Book. Under each Pleading Type there are more detailed pleading sub-types that greater specify the pleading type. The sub-types are reflective of the motions found in each of the SADO's Defender Motion Book's chapters.

The user has the option to upload a prosecutor pleading, defender pleading, or both. If a prosecutor and defender pleading are selected for upload at one time, they will be joined together and will share the same court and pleading type reference. The purpose of uploading a prosecutor and defender pleading together would be when one is a direct response to the other.

To Upload a Pleading

Please follow these steps to upload a pleading:

1. Navigate to www.sado.org/userpleadings/upload.
2. Select the 'Court' that the pleading or pleadings were filed.
3. Select the 'Pleading Type' that best reflects the pleading's purpose.
4. Select the 'Pleading' sub-type that best reflects the pleading's purpose.
5. Enter either a defendant and/or prosecutor 'Pleading Title' in their respective fields.
6. Browse to the 'Pleading File' on your computer by selecting 'Browse...' for either a defendant and/or prosecutor pleading.
7. Enter any additional information in the Description text box.
8. Click the Upload Pleading button.

A history of your most recently uploaded pleadings will be displayed in the right hand column under the heading 'Your Past Pleadings.' To view a complete list of pleadings click the 'View All of Your Pleadings' link found at the bottom of the right hand column.

NOTE: Once the Pleading or Pleadings have been uploaded they will be searchable using the User Pleadings search page. It is possible that the newly uploaded pleading(s) don't display immediately in the User Pleadings search results. This may happen if you performed an earlier search using the same search criteria and your web browser caches the search results.

NOTE: A full text Boolean search will be possible while on SADO's website by navigating to 'Search' > 'u F.O.R.U.M.'. This feature is only allowed to those with a paid subscription. To search only User Pleadings, uncheck the u F.O.R.U.M. checkbox and make sure the Defender User Pleadings and or Prosecutor User

Pleadings checkboxes are checked. THE NEWLY UPLOADED PLEADINGS WILL NOT APPEAR IN THE FULL TEXT SEARCH RESULTS UNTIL THE FOLLOWING DAY because the pleadings are only indexed once per day, which occurs every night.

How it's different from u.F.o.r.u.m.

- It's free; all you need is a login.
- It's sortable and searchable by county and by motion type.
- You can see what type of motions are available to you at a glance without performing any Boolean language searches.
- For Subscribers, it conveniently links to SADO's Defender Motions Book for a convenient way to get more information .