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**NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Contributes Opinions to New Online Repository**

**SAN FRANCISCO** – The United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit recently joined other federal courts and government agencies in a new system that provides free access to official documents from all three branches of the U.S. government.

The Government Printing Office's Federal Digital System, or FDsys, is an Internet-based repository of information from Congress, the executive branch and the judiciary. So far, FDsys has collected 695,000 federal court decisions, including more than 2,750 published opinions recently contributed by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Court decisions are available [here](#).

The Ninth Circuit is one of eight appellate courts now enrolled in the FDsys. Nineteen district courts and 24 bankruptcy courts are currently participating with five more courts scheduled to come online later this month after FDsys completes a system upgrade.

Besides being free, FDsys offers advanced search capabilities not available from other federal court online resources. Most notably, users can conduct searches across multiple courts, rather than having to search records from one court at a time. Complex searches can be conducted using metadata attached to the files. Once an opinion is located, associated opinions and published orders also can be quickly obtained. Digital signatures embedded in the files assure that the documents users download are authentic.

The FDsys collection of court records dates back to April 2004, though searchable electronic files for some courts may be incomplete for earlier years. The Ninth Circuit opinions date back to January 2008, shortly before the court migrated to a fully electronic case management and filing system.

“The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has always promoted public access to the courts. We are pleased to join this effort to make the court's published opinions even more readily available and at no cost to the public,” said Clerk of Court Molly C. Dwyer.

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