ACMS

Portal Instructions

The U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Second and Ninth Circuits have partnered to bring the public a new case filing system, ACMS or **A**ppellate **C**ase **M**anagement **S**ystem, that is supported by the latest technology. The system will greatly enhance public access to the courts because filers will have an easy-to-use portal interface that will guide them through the process of submitting a filing to the court. The system is also designed to adapt quickly to changes in the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure and each court's Local Rules as they come up.

The system currently accepts new petitions for review (PFRs) on appeal from a Board of Immigration Appeals decision and new Second or Successive habeas applications. The process will change slightly, as filers are now requested to enter some of a petitioner's/applicant's information up front. Once the information is entered and filings uploaded, the system will re-direct those paying by credit card to pay.gov, at which point the filing may be submitted to the court. There is also an option to submit initiating filings to the court without paying the fee on submission. Filers can, however, pay the fee after case opening; see Part IV below. One tremendous improvement filers will notice is that they will not have to start a new filing from scratch should something interrupt the submission process.

ACMS will send notice of docket activity (NDA) e-mails with links to case filings. The links will re-direct the filer to PACER where a party can view the filing(s) using PACER's one-free-look. Once a case is opened, filers will also see a direct link to the case in PACER.

Filers paying by check should submit their filings through the portal by selecting "Submit to Court Without Fee Payment", as should those who intend to file a Motion to proceed *in forma pauperis*.

Optimal browsers for ACMS are Chrome, Edge, and Firefox. Avoid Internet Explorer.

Make sure your PACER account is upgraded to NextGen before logging for the first time.

These instructions are divided into four parts: (I) Submitting a Petition for Review or Second or Successive Application, (II) Submitting a Notice of Appearance, (III) Submitting a New Filing, and (IV) Paying the Fee After Filing. Review them before submitting your initial filing.

Follow this link to the new case management system, ACMS. It will take you to the PACER sign-on screen.



Click Sign In and the system will redirect you to PACER.



Enter your PACER credentials in the normal course and click <u>Login</u>. You will be taken to the new ACMS portal.



A few trouble-shooting tips in case you encounter first-time login issues:

- Clean your browser cache. Sometimes there are older cached versions of PACER that could lead to an error. After you clear your cache, close your browser and re-open. Restart your computer if necessary.
- Try opening a second circuit CM/ECF/PACER instance by going to the website and clicking on "File a Document CM/ECF". Once you are logged in, open a new tab in the same browser and navigate to the ACMS link.
- Double check your PACER registration with the Second Circuit NextGen is active.
- Try another browser. ACMS works optimally in Chrome, Firefox, and Edge.
 Make sure you have the latest version of the browser you are using.
- Wait and try again later.

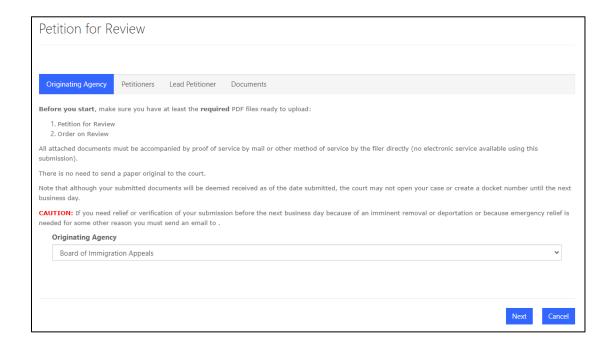
If you successfully log in and are wondering why you have not received a notice of docket activity (NDA) even though your case is open in PACER, check your junk mail in case the NDA was inadvertently routed there. Add the new ACMS email address, ACMS@ca2.fedcourts.us to your contacts or mark it as "not junk".

I. FILING A NEW PETITION FOR REVIEW OR SECOND or SUCCESIVE APPLICATION

To file a new Petition for Review or Second or Succesive habeas application, select the appropriate filing under <u>Create a New Filing</u>



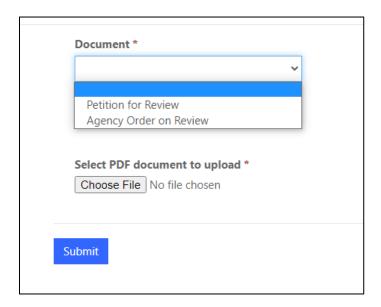
A new screen will open at which you start the process. Follow the instructional materials and make sure you have the proper documentation. If you select "Petition for Review", the immigration filing process will begin. If you select "Second or Successive Habeas Application", the Original Proceeding process will begin.





Depending on which process you use, the system will present you with the next steps for submitting your filing. **Immigration Petitions for Review** will see the following screens:

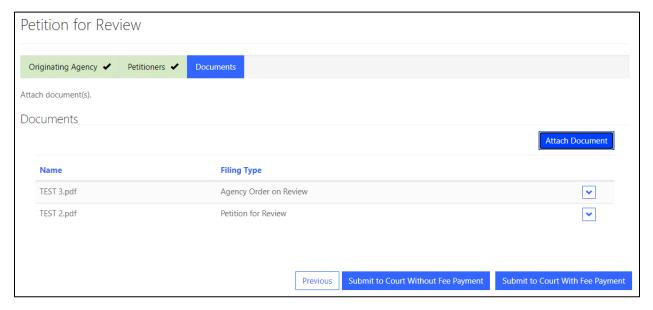
- The petitioner's information. Click <u>Add Petitioner</u>. A new window will open.
 Enter the petitioner details and click <u>Submit</u>. If there are multiple petitioners, repeat this step. When all petitioners are entered, click Next.
- Attach Documents. Attach the Petition for Review and Agency Order on Review. Click <u>Attach Document</u>. From here, you will be prompted to select the document you wish to upload.



Be sure to upload both the Petition for Review and Agency Order on Review as separate documents. To upload, select <u>Choose File</u> and upload the appropriate document. For the Agency Order on Review, you will be prompted to enter the decision date before uploading the document. Once your document is uploaded, click Submit.



• Fee Payment. The system will take you back to the Documents grid, at which point you will be presented with the option of Submitting to the Court With Fee Payment or Submitting to the Court Without Fee Payment.



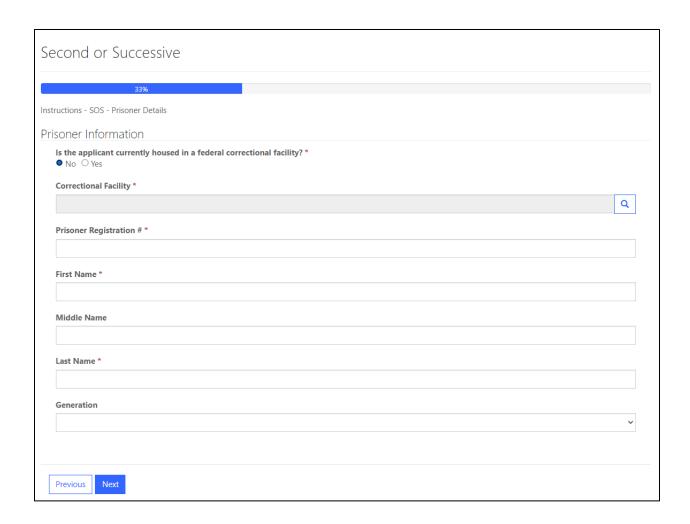
If you selected <u>Submit to Court With Fee Payment</u>, the system will re-direct you to pay.gov before it is submitted to the court. If you select <u>Submit to Court Without Fee Payment</u>, the petition will be submitted to the court. Once the Petition is submitted, the system will return you to your home screen. You will now see your submitted petition under the "My Submitted Cases" grid. Once the court opens the case, it will be assigned a number, and the next time you sign in via PACER, the petition will appear under a grid called "My Cases".



Once a case has been opened, click on the case number and the system will bring you to the Case Details screen. Here, you will see general information about the case, any relevant deadlines, case participants, and the docket sheet.

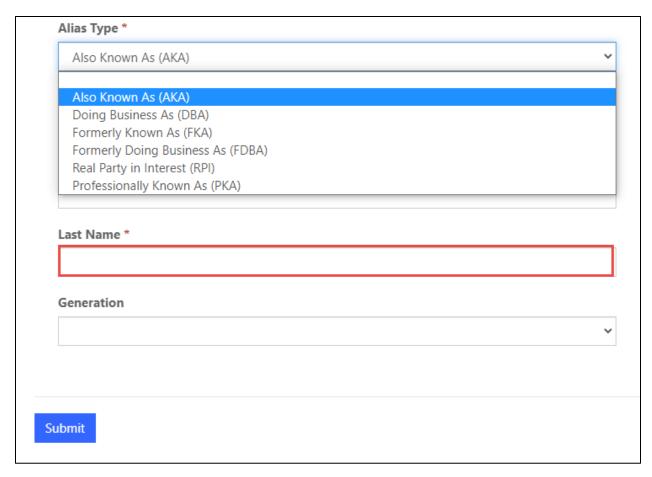
Filers submitting **Second or Successive Applications** will be presented with the following screens:

- Conviction Type. Select State or Federal from the drop-down menu
- Origin. Select the U.S. District Court from which the case emanates. Enter the originating case number as well.
- Applicant/Prisoner Information. Enter the applicant's information. Be sure to indicate whether the applicant is in a federal or state facility. There is a search box in which you can search all prisons within the circuit and select ones outside of it. If a prison is not listed, contact the help desk.



The next screen will prompt you to enter an alias, if any. Click <u>Add Alias</u>. When entering alias information, be sure to include the type of alias. If there is only a one-name alias, enter it in the last name field.





- Attach Document. The attach document screen functions the same regardless of case type. The difference is that the documents you select are different. Select <u>Second or Successive Application Filed</u>. Upload the document and click <u>submit</u>. The click <u>Next</u>.
- Review screen. Review the information is correct and click Submit to Court.

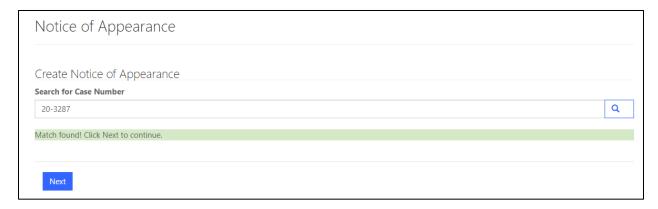
II. SUBMITTING A NOTICE OF APPEARANCE (NON-PARTY)

Within 14 days after receiving a docketing notice from the circuit clerk assigning a docket number and enclosing a copy of the appellate docket sheet, all parties must file the Acknowledgment and Notice of Appearance Form. Counsel of record listed on the form must be admitted in this court or have pending an application for admission under LR 46.1(a) or (d). 2d. Cir. L.R. 12.3(a).

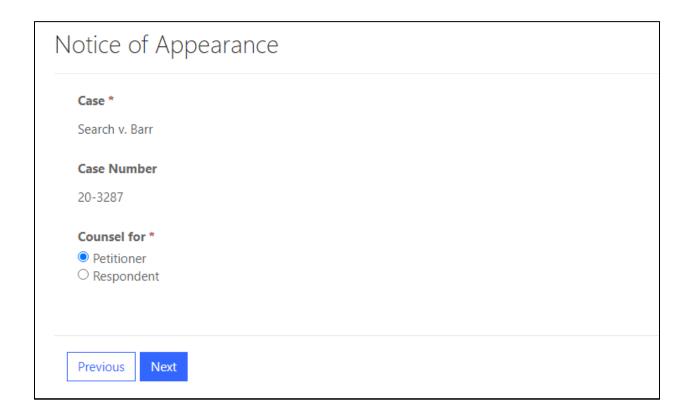
A <u>non-party</u> wishing to submit his or her appearance should file Notice of Appearance for Substitute, Additional or Amicus Counsel Form by clicking on <u>Notice of Appearance</u> on the portal home page. An attorney who files a Petition for Review is not considered a non-party for purposes of filing his or her appearance. <u>See Part III for filing as a party.</u>



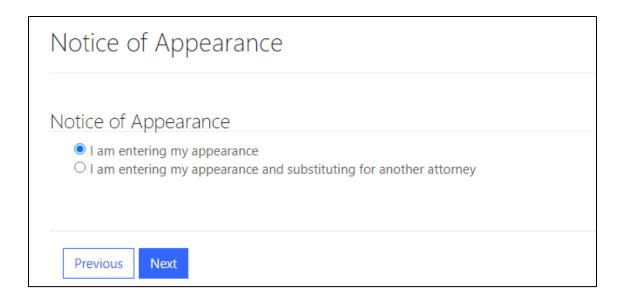
On the opening screen, type in the case number for the case in which you are seeking to appear. Then click the magnifying glass. If the case exists, a message will appear. Click Next.



Select the party on whose behalf you are appearing. Click Next.



Select the purpose of the appearance. Click Next.



If you are **<u>substituting</u>** for another attorney, the next screen will prompt you to select the attorney you are replacing. If there is only one attorney, you will see that attorney's name on the screen, in which case you can click Next.

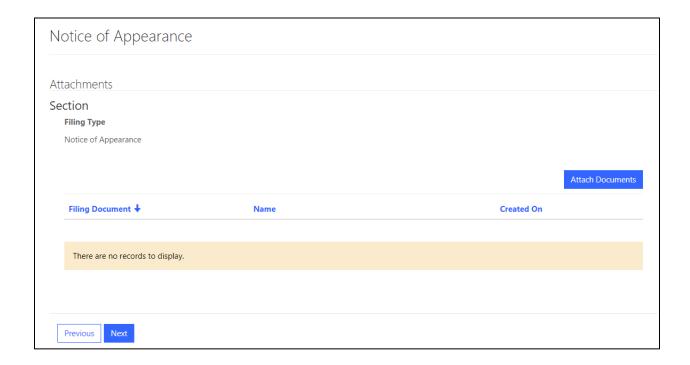
Where there are <u>multiple attorneys</u>, you must de-select the attorneys you are <u>not</u> replacing. To do so, click the down arrow on the right-hand side of the party and select "remove".



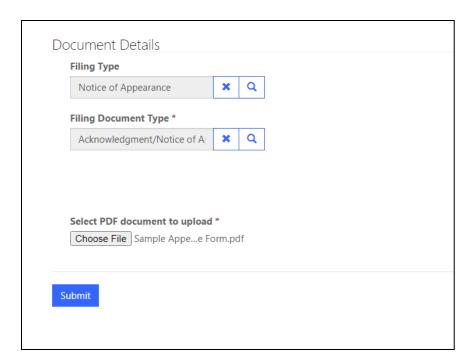
Once the attorney you are <u>not</u> replacing has been removed, you will see the name of the attorney you are replacing. Click <u>Next</u>.



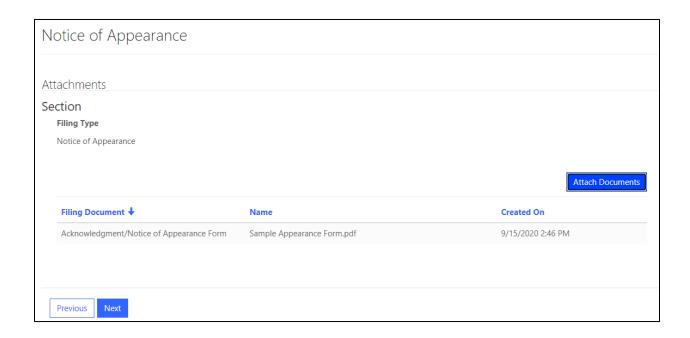
Attach the Notice of Appearance for Substitute, Additional or Amicus Counsel Form by clicking <u>Attach Documents</u>.



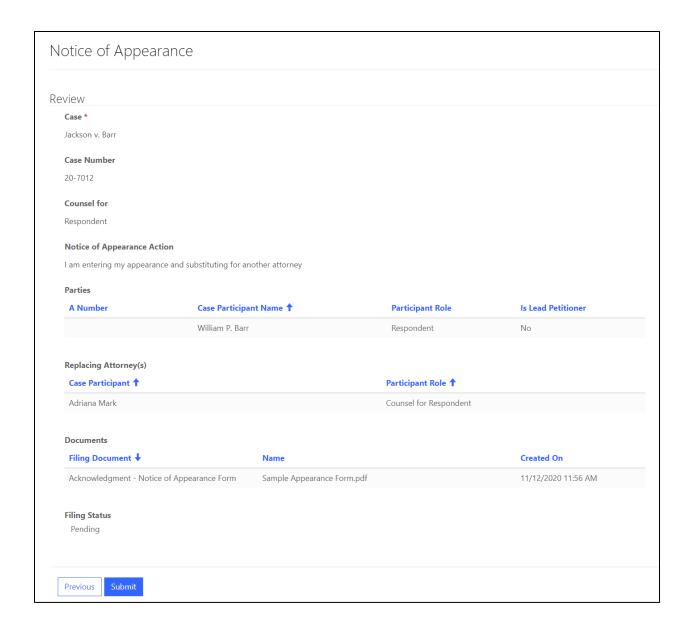
A new window will open with a Filing Type and Filing Document Type pre-populated. Select the PDF form and click <u>Submit</u>.



The system will return to the attach documents screen. Verify the correct document is being filed and click <u>Next.</u>



Review the filing information. The filing status will be pending until the court adds the party to the case. If you are replacing an attorney, that attorney's name will appear as well.



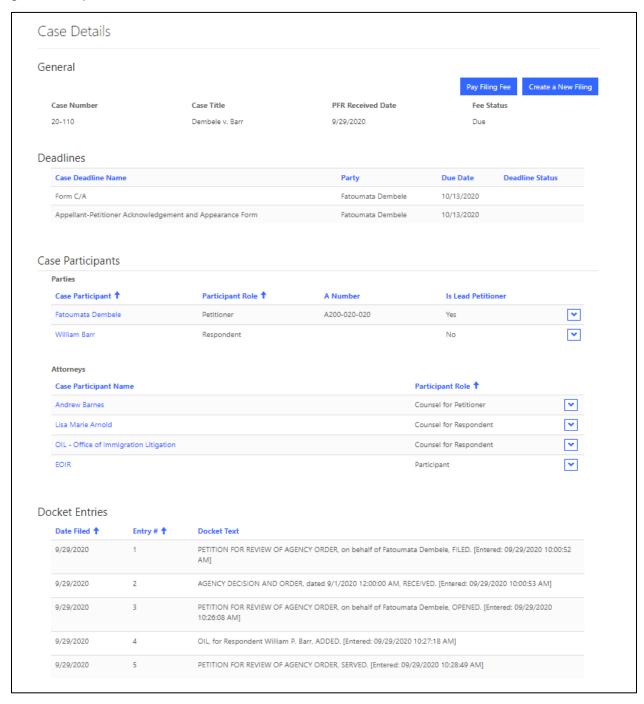
Click <u>Submit</u>. The system will return to the e-filer portal. The case will not appear until the party is added.

If the party submitting the Notice of Appearance for Substitute, Additional or Amicus Counsel Form is the same as the party who submitted the original petition, the Form will be defected as an incorrect filing type. As noted above, the submitting attorney should use the filing process outlined in Part III.

The docket will update to reflect the new filing, but you will not see it in the portal until the Clerk's Office processes the submission. Existing parties will receive a notice of docket activity ("NDA") that will link to the filing.

III. SUBMITTING A NEW FILING

Cases that are opened and have activity in them will appear under your "My Cases" grid. To open one and view the case details form, click on the case number.



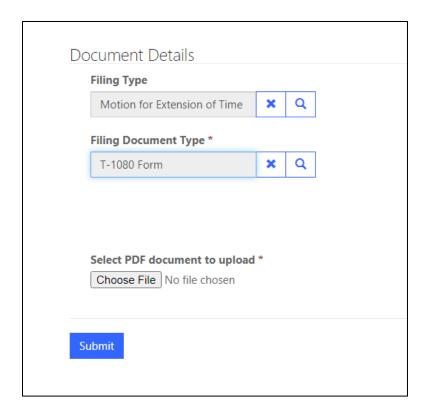
To submit a new filing, open a case by clicking on the case number and select <u>Create a New Filing</u>. The system will prompt the filer to select a Filing Category and Filing Type. Once the selection is made, click <u>Next</u>. Because counsel that files initiating documents

is automatically added to the case, this is the process you follow to submit you appearance form.

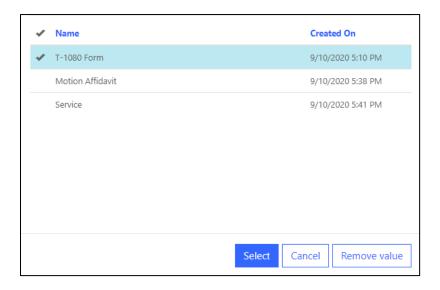


The filer will then be prompted to attach any necessary documents. Select <u>Attach Documents</u> and a new window will open.

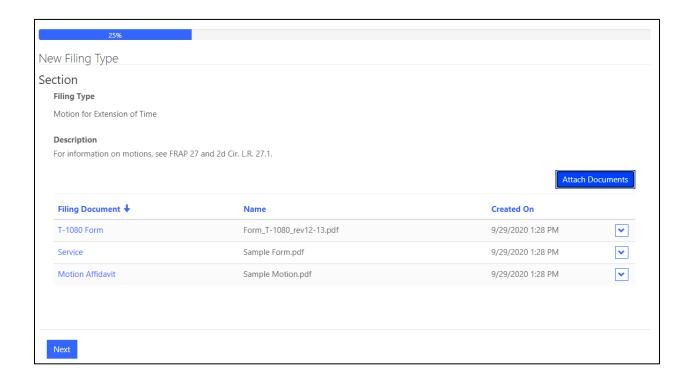




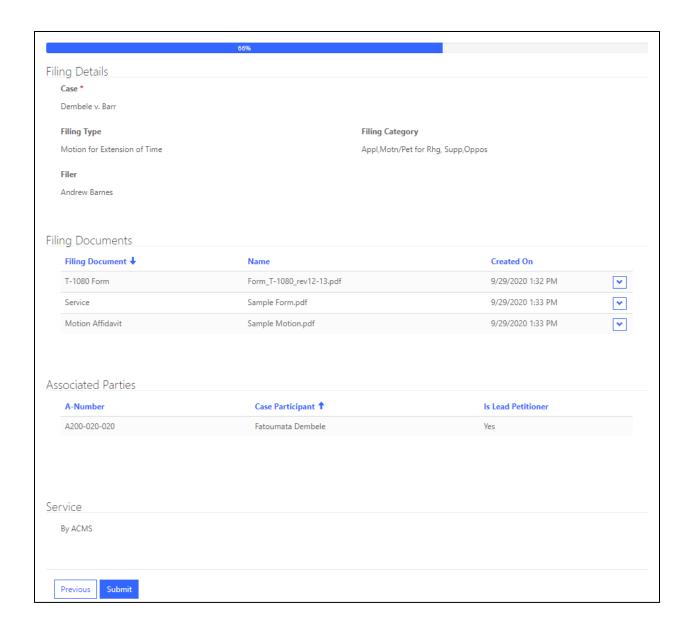
There will always be a default Filing Document Type pre-selected. However, if a filing requires multiple documents, those Filing Document Types will be provided. Select the magnifying glass and a new window will open providing the necessary document types for the particular filing.



Select the Filing Document Type you wish to upload and click <u>Submit</u>. Repeat these steps for the remaining Filing Document Types. Once all the requisite forms are made part of the filing, click <u>Next</u>.



Review the filing and made sure it is associated with the correct party(ies). Review the service method. Once everything is verified, click <u>Submit</u> to submit the filing to the court.



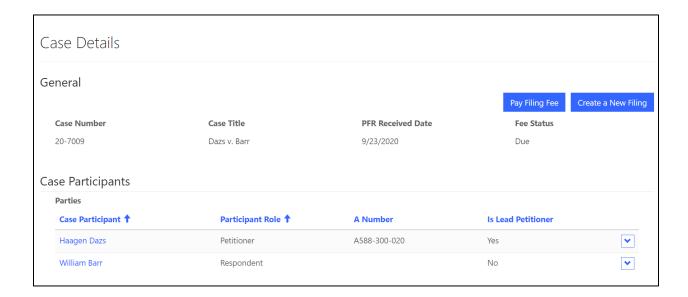
The system will take you back to the Case Details page. Notice the docket has been updated to reflect the most recent filing.

| Date Filed 🕇 | Entry # 🕇 | Docket Text |
|--------------|-----------|---|
| 9/29/2020 | 1 | PETITION FOR REVIEW OF AGENCY ORDER, on behalf of Fatoumata Dembele, FILED. [Entered: 09/29/2020 10:00:52 AM] |
| 9/29/2020 | 2 | AGENCY DECISION AND ORDER, dated 9/1/2020 12:00:00 AM, RECEIVED. [Entered: 09/29/2020 10:00:53 AM] |
| 9/29/2020 | 3 | PETITION FOR REVIEW OF AGENCY ORDER, on behalf of Fatoumata Dembele, OPENED. [Entered: 09/29/2020 10:26:0 AM] |
| 9/29/2020 | 4 | OIL, for Respondent William P. Barr, ADDED. [Entered: 09/29/2020 10:27:18 AM] |
| 9/29/2020 | 5 | PETITION FOR REVIEW OF AGENCY ORDER, SERVED. [Entered: 09/29/2020 10:28:49 AM] |
| 9/29/2020 | 6 | MOTION, for extension of time, on behalf of Petitioner Fatoumata Dembele, FILED. [Entered: 09/29/2020 01:32:39 PM |

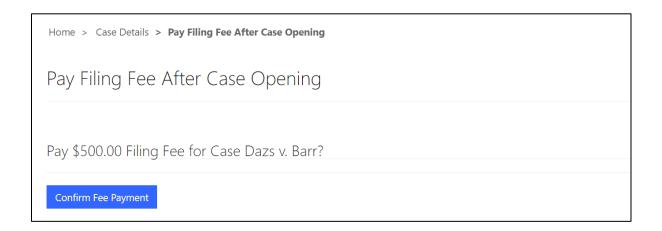
The system will also offer filers the opportunity to respond to a filing if one is required. For example, if the court issues and Order to Show Cause on all parties, the filer will see the option to "Respond to a Filing" or "Create a New Filing". If there is a filing that could generate a response, the filer will be prompted to select it.

IV. PAYING THE FEE AFTER FILING

Filers now have the option of paying the filing fee after a case is opened by the Clerk's Office. Once a filer receives a NDA that the case has been opened, the case will appear on the filer's portal homepage. Open the case in which the filing fee is due by clicking on the case number and select <u>Pay Filing Fee</u>.



Confirm you wish to pay the filing fee after case opening.



The system will route you to PACER and pay.gov, where you can submit the filing fee in the normal course.

