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UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE FIRST CIRCUIT

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Dear First Circuit District Court and Appellate CJA Panel Members:

This letter is to update you with information about the new electronic voucher processing system ("eCJA VPS"). As you may know, the First Circuit Court of Appeals and the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts are among the pilot courts that will test this new system. See October 1, 2012 Notice re: eCJA-VPS on the First Circuit's CJA Announcements webpage. We have been informed by the Office of Defender Services that testing needs require that the start of the pilot be postponed until **May, 2013**. Attorneys who attended the November 19, 2012 Federal Criminal Appellate Practice Seminar in Boston were advised that paper vouchers in completed *appeals* might have to be submitted January 4, 2013 to facilitate the First Circuit's transition to eCJA-VPS. We now know that this is not the case and that the transition will not begin until well after the first of the year.

We continue to look forward to working with you in the development and implementation of this new electronic vouchering program. In the meantime, we encourage you to continue the timely submission of your paper vouchers. We will keep you apprised of key eCJA-VPS pilot dates as information becomes available. We also encourage you to continue to monitor the First Circuit's CJA Announcements webpage. See <http://www.ca1.uscourts.gov/?content=cjapanelannounce.htm>. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Margaret Carter, Clerk