

Launching Appellate CM/ECF on an Apple Macintosh

Prerequisites

With the newest release of Appellate CM/ECF, some Apple Macintosh computers can be used to run all parts of the Appellate case management system with no extra software. Both the hardware and the operating system (OS X) must be 64 bits. The current version of OS X, Leopard (10.5) is the first version for which Apple has provided the current version of Java. If you are running Snow Leopard, you should utilize the “standard” CM/ECF login. Snow Leopard users will not be prompted to load the Java plug-in.§

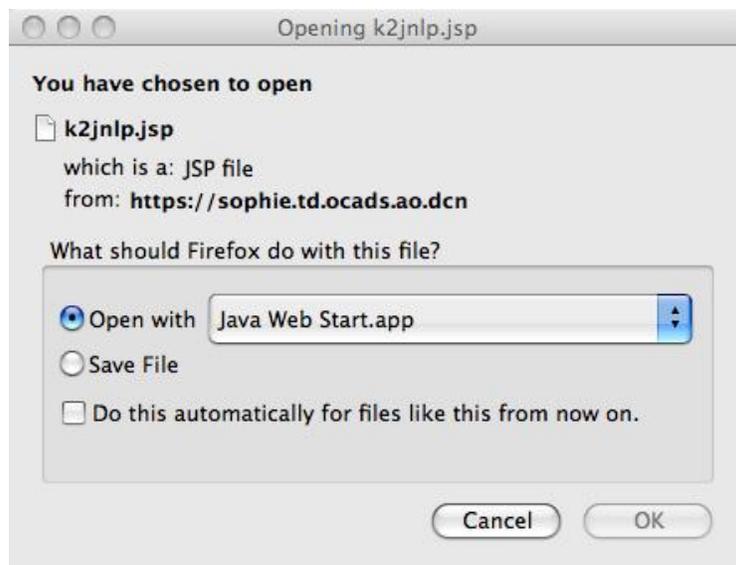
So in summary you need:

- ✓ 64-bit capable Macintosh
- ✓ OS X 10.5 (or higher)

If you have a Mac that does not meet these requirements, there are two options: (1) obtain a waiver of electronic filing from the clerk’s office or (2) run your Mac as a virtual Windows PC using software such as Vmware Fusion for Mac. Please note that software such as Fusion only works on Intel-based Macs. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, but it is beyond the court’s control. This problem does not affect the court’s ability to send you electronic notices, and Mac users should still register for CM/ECF so that they can receive notices.

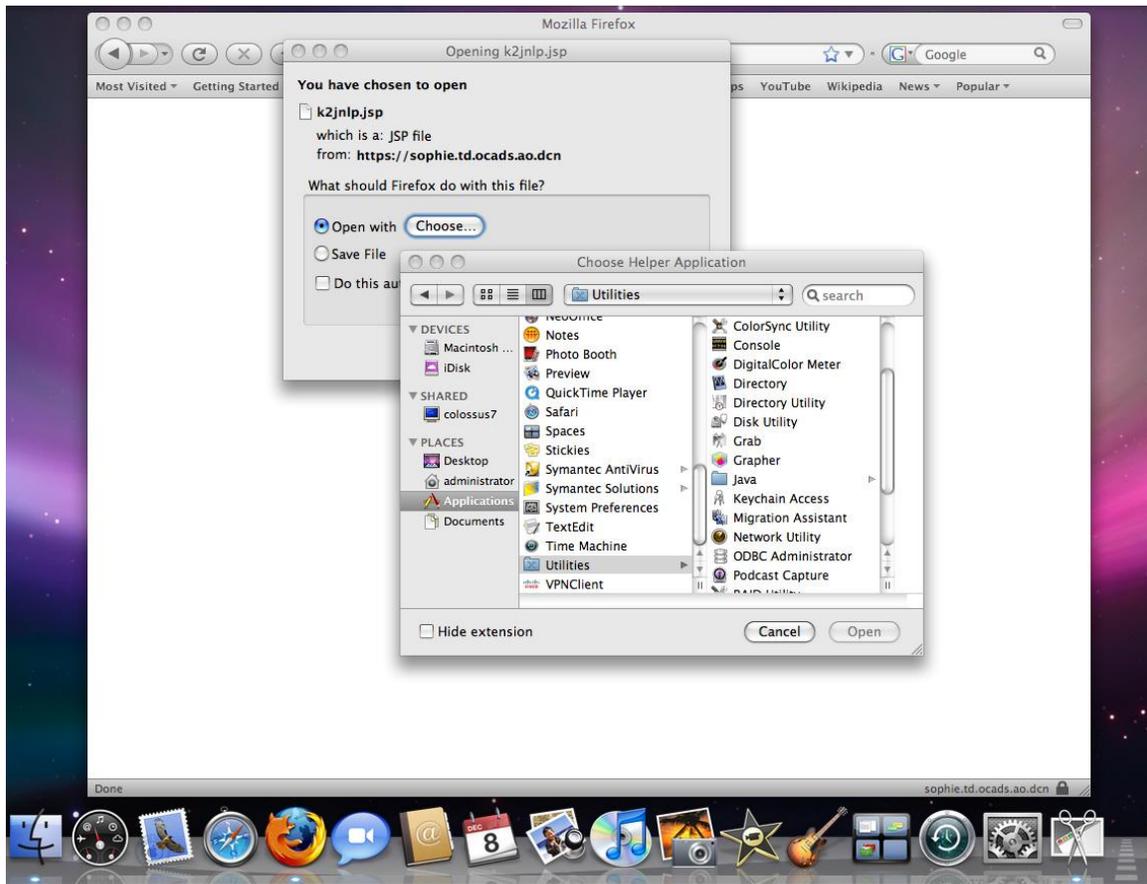
Launching Appellate CM/ECF

After the ID and password are provided and you press the Login button, the browser may ask what to do next. This one-time setup is to associate the Java Network Launching Protocol (JNLP) file with Java Web Start. The following dialog is shown:

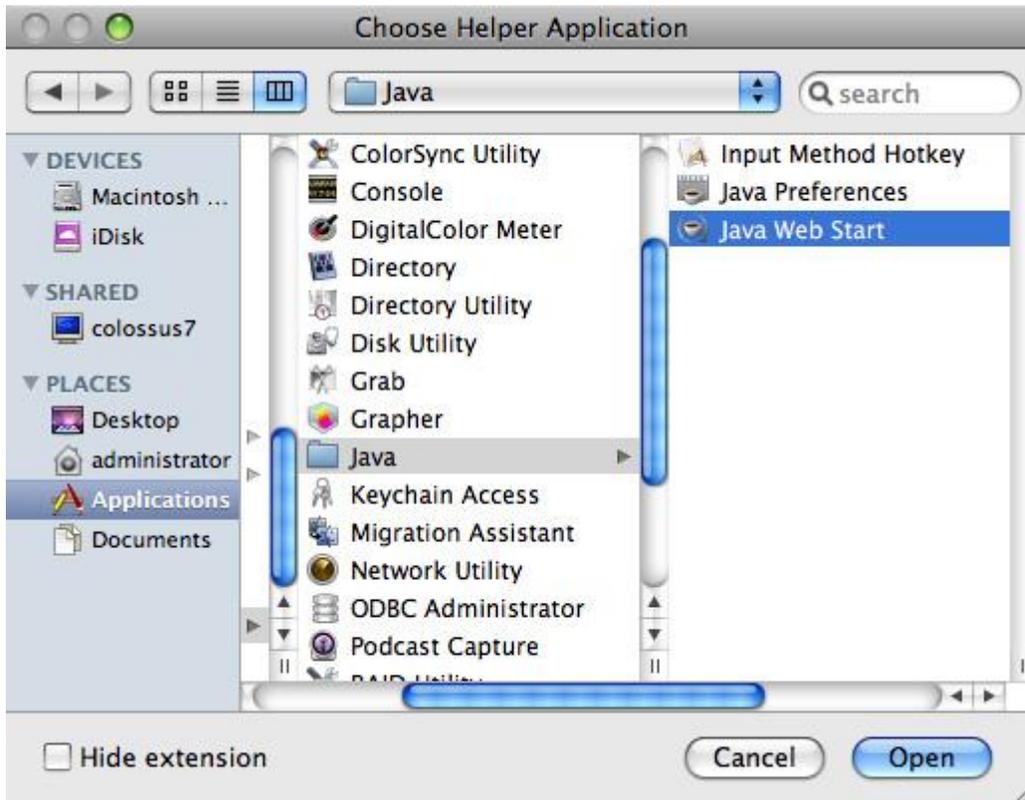


Click the option “Do this automatically for files like this from now on” so that you don’t have to do this twice. If it has the option “Open with Java Web Start” as shown above, just pick this and click OK. It may also say “Open with” with just a Choose button. If so,

press Choose, and you'll see something like this, including a "Choose Helper Application" dialog:



Click on Utilities in the left-hand list (you'll probably have to scroll down as shown above), then on Java in the right-hand list. This will bring up a final list:



Here, pick “Java Web Start” and press the Open button. This will bring you back to the first dialog, and here press OK to go on. This will show “Java Starting” and then may ask you to authenticate the web server (Apache) certificate:



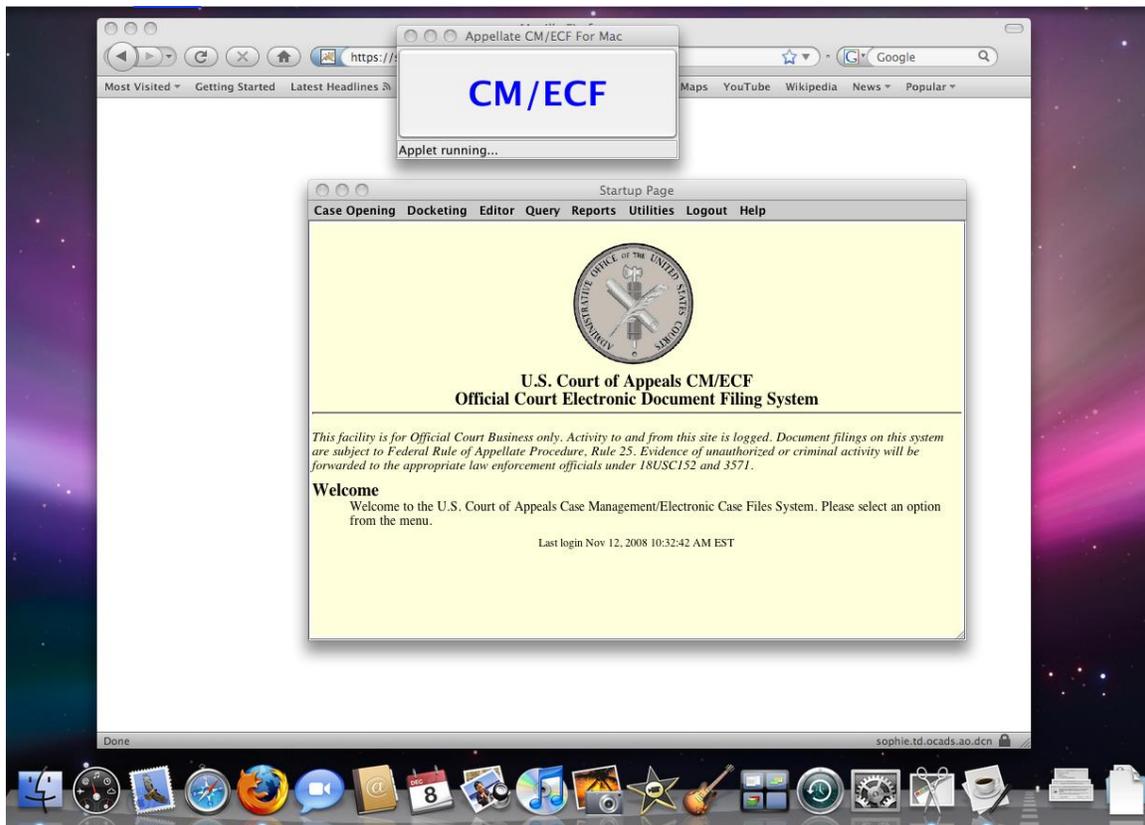
If you have a “real” certificate, you won’t see this dialog. If you do see it, click Trust.

Next, you will be asked to trust the applet with the dialog below. This is necessary so that Appellate CM/ECF can read PDF files from the Macintosh in docketing. Again, click Trust.



After that, the application should launch just as it would on a PC. The box with the blue “CM/ECF” label is the program itself, so if you close this it will log you out and discard any work you have in progress.

This launching process has been tested using the Safari and the Firefox browsers. Other browsers may work, but these two are the most popular.

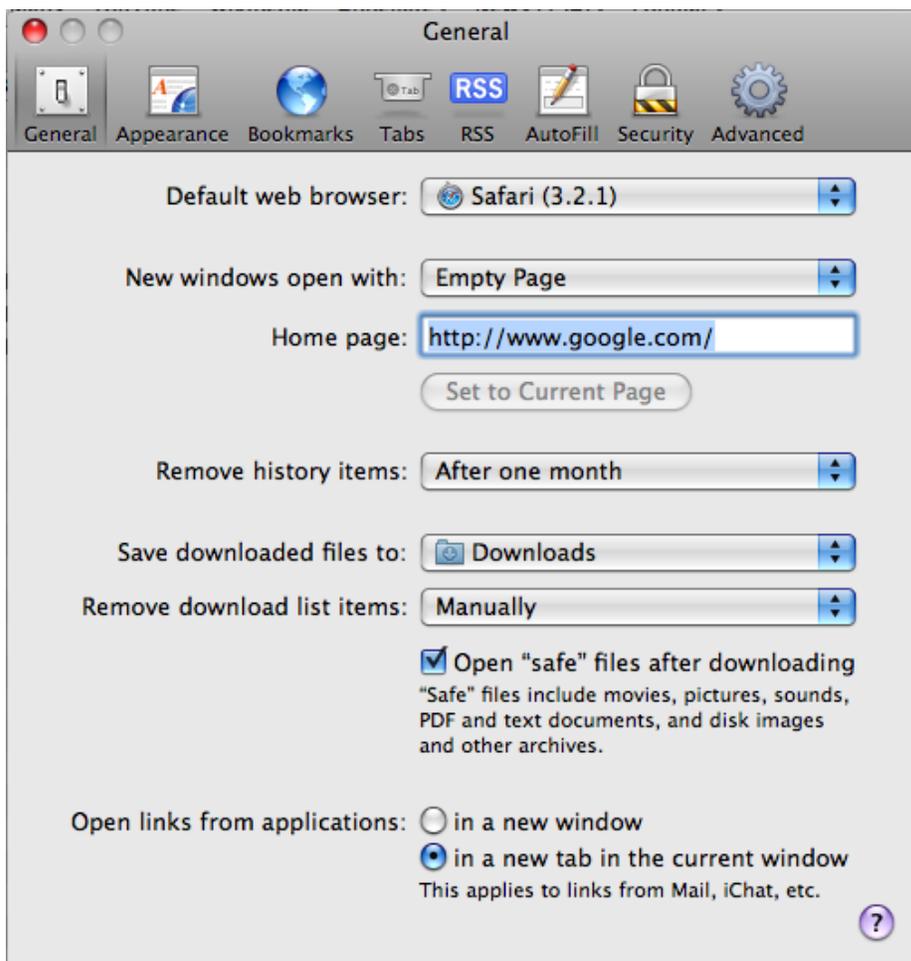


Known Differences for Mac Users

Automatic login as a PACER user when an attorney logs in as a filing user is not supported on the Mac.

If the inside server software is restarted while people are working, any Mac users logged in will not be able to run docket report and other browser-based parts of the system without logging in to CM/ECF again.

The default Mac browser must be used to log in to CM/ECF. If a secondary browser is used, it will not “know” that the user has logged in when running browser-based portions of the system. To change the default browser, go to Safari > Preferences > General. Use the Default web browser to indicate the default web browser.



In order to maintain the same security for the CM/ECF application for all users, the URL used behind the scenes for downloading the program to the Mac is different each time. This will make the startup process take longer, as it won't be cached as it is on PCs.

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