

RUNNING CM/ECF WITH JAVA™ WEB START AT THE US COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS

Background

Historically, the CM/ECF application has been run as a Java Applet as part of the web browser on your system. However, most browsers either no longer support running Java Applets or do so only in a limited way. As of the publication of this document, current versions of Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox and Microsoft Edge will not run Java Applets, and only some versions of Microsoft Internet Explorer do so consistently.

To work around these limitations, CM/ECF was modified to take advantage of a feature of Java called Web Start, which is a component of the Java software already installed on your system if you are a CM/ECF user. Essentially, it allows the CM/ECF application to be run outside of a web browser's environment, directly by the Java software on your computer.

You will still access CM/ECF by navigating to <http://efiling.uscourts.cavc.gov> and following the appropriate link there to log in, but the process after that will be slightly different if using Web Start.

This document describes the necessary steps you will need to perform first to ensure your Windows computer can use Java Web Start for CM/ECF at the US Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

Configuring Windows 10 for Java Web Start

Download and install the latest Java

It is recommended that you both install the latest version of Java and remove all older versions from your system. To do so, open your web browser (Internet Explorer, Firefox, etc.) and open the following link to Oracle's Java update & removal tool and follow the instructions there:

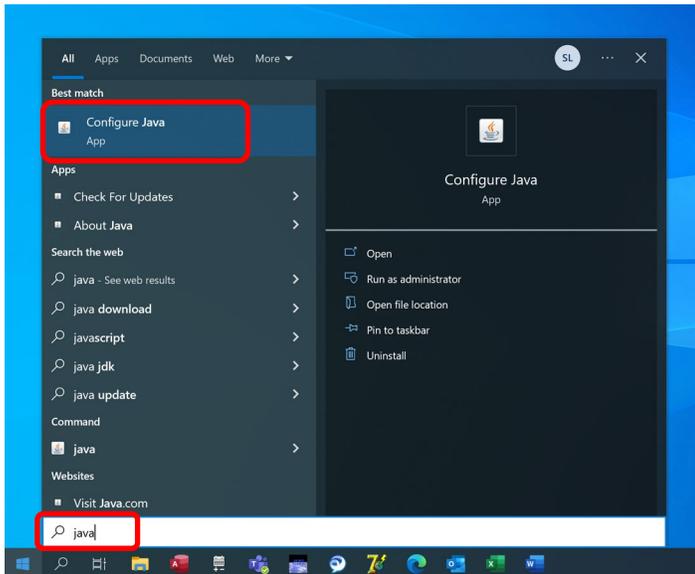
<https://www.java.com/en/download/uninstallapplet.jsp>



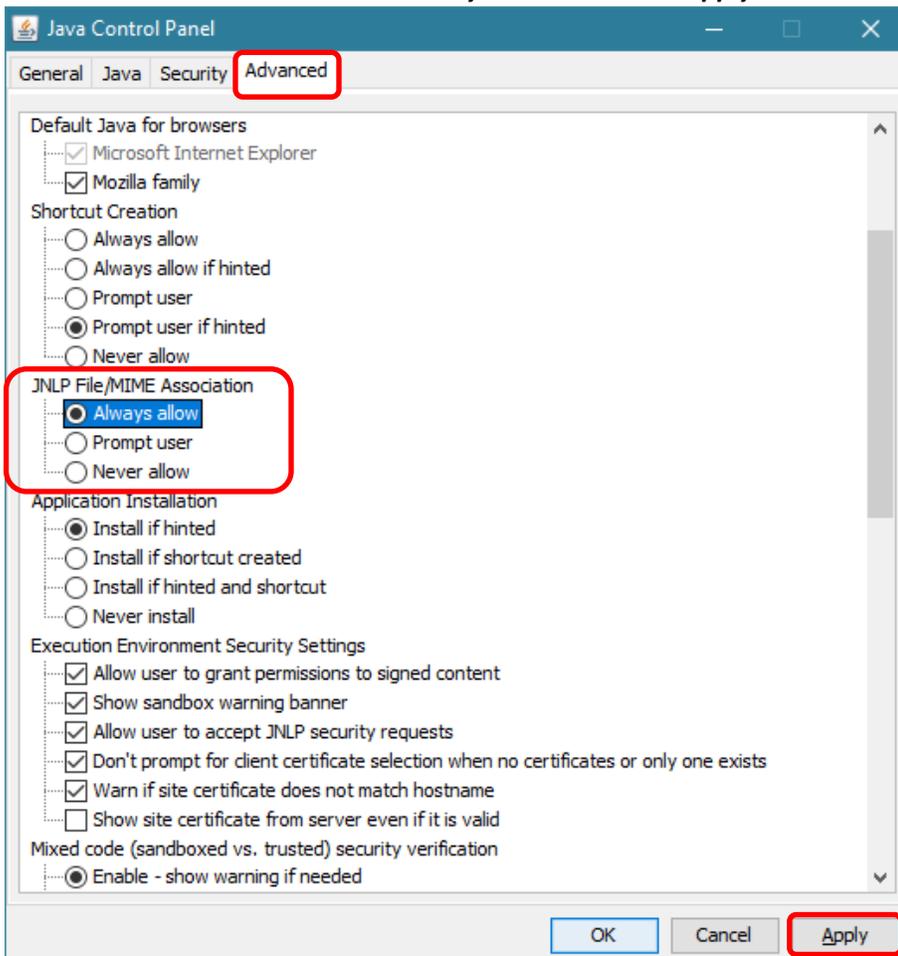
If you are certain that you must retain older versions of Java you may install the newest version by navigating to <https://www.java.com/en/download/win10.jsp> and installing it, without removing the older version, however this situation may have unpredictable results, and the US Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims cannot assist in troubleshooting such a situation.

Configure Java to recognize and permit JNLP files to run and add the Court's site to the exception list

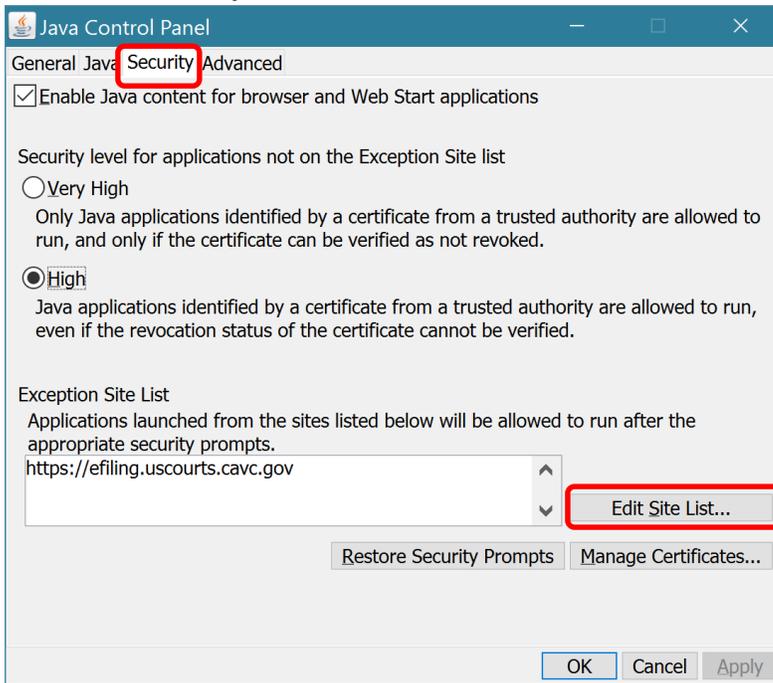
1. Click on the **Windows** button and search for “**java**”. Click on **Configure Java**.



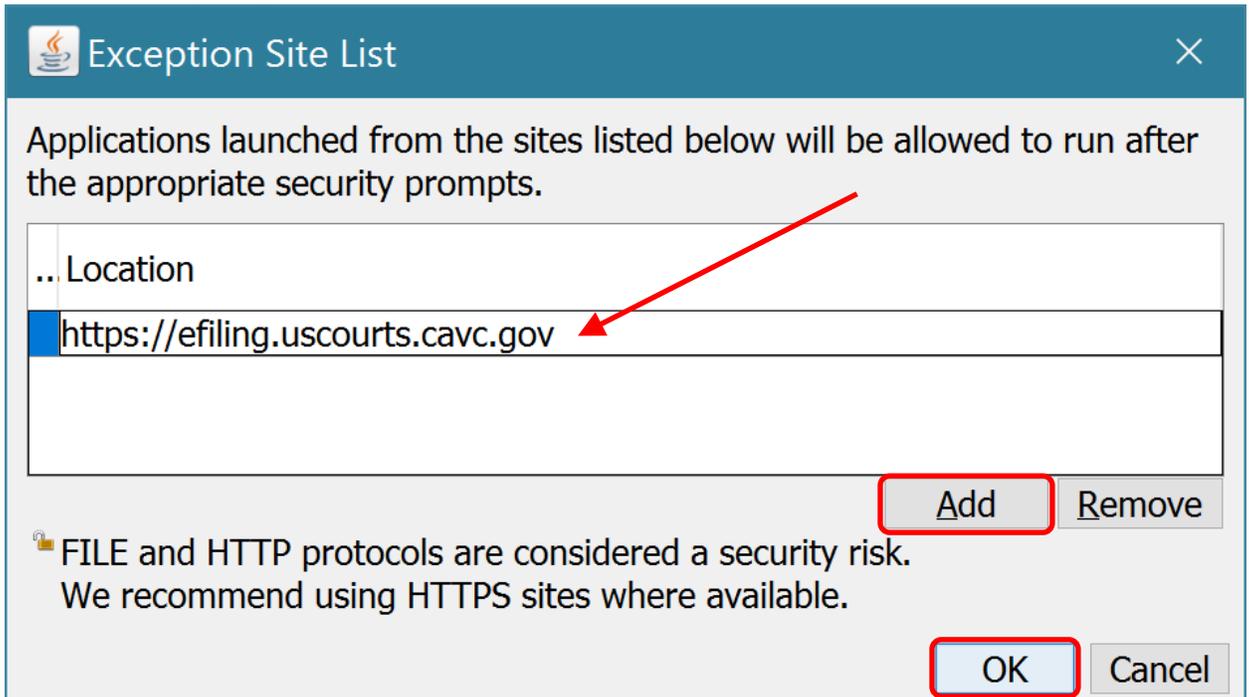
2. Click on the **Advanced** tab, and then scroll down until you see the title **JNLP File/MIME Association**. Check the button for **Always Allow** and click **Apply**.



3. Click on the **Security** tab and **Edit Site List** to add the Court's site to the java exception list.

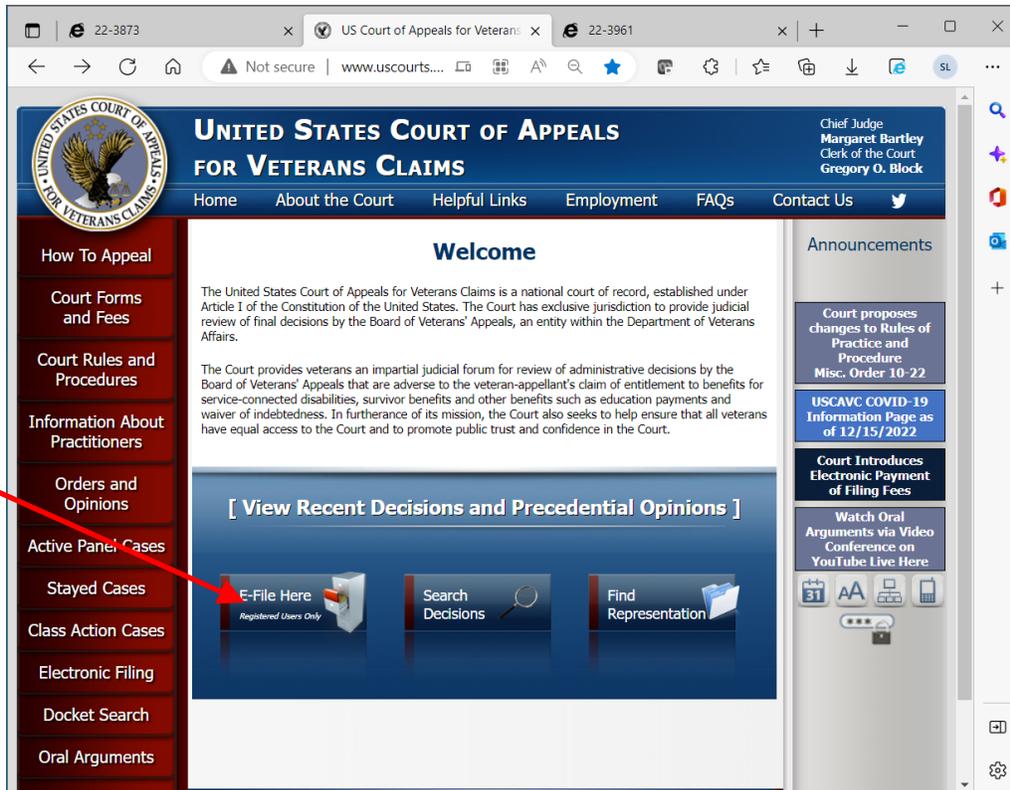


4. Click **Add**.
5. Type "<https://efiling.uscourts.cavc.gov>" in the space next to the red ! and click **OK** and **OK**.
Make sure the spelling is exact.



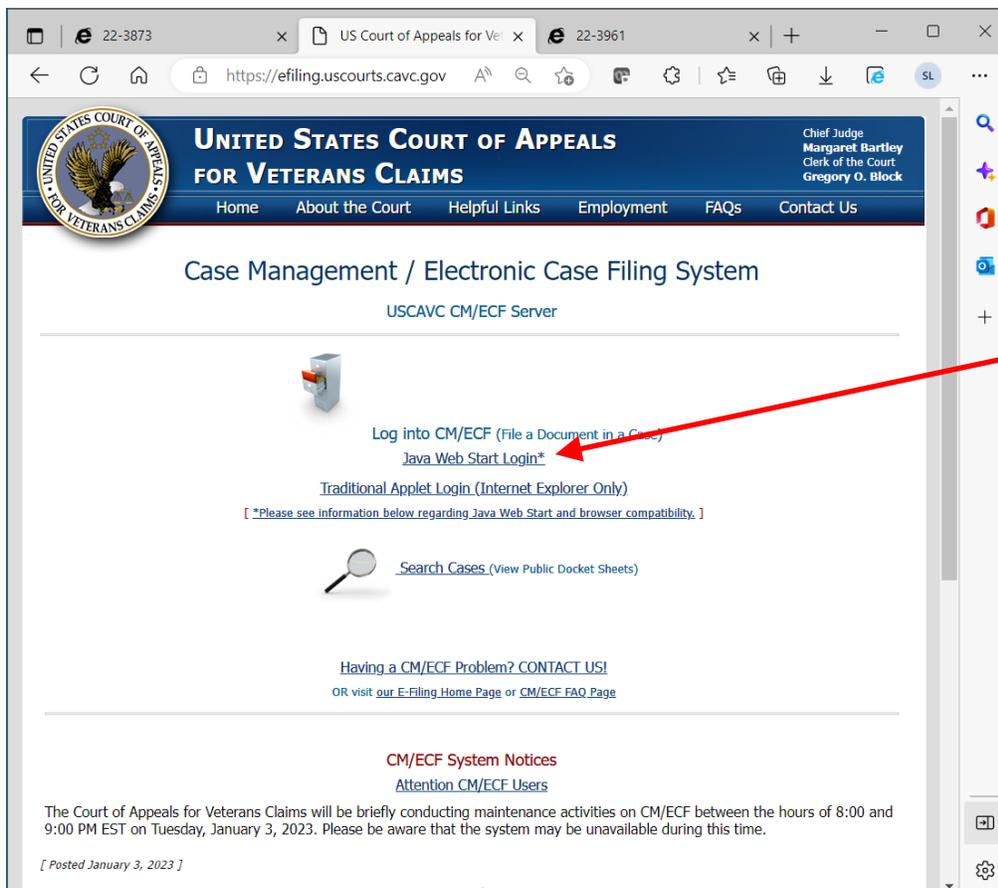
Logging in

From the Court's main site, click **E-File Here**. Or go to <https://efiling.uscourts.cavc.gov/>



The screenshot shows the homepage of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. The header includes the court's name and the names of the Chief Judge, Margaret Bartley, and the Clerk of the Court, Gregory O. Block. The main navigation menu includes Home, About the Court, Helpful Links, Employment, FAQs, and Contact Us. The central content area features a 'Welcome' message and a section titled '[View Recent Decisions and Precedential Opinions]' with three buttons: 'E-File Here' (Registered Users Only), 'Search Decisions', and 'Find Representation'. A red arrow points to the 'E-File Here' button. The right sidebar contains 'Announcements' with several news items, including 'Court proposes changes to Rules of Practice and Procedure Misc. Order 10-22' and 'USCAVC COVID-19 Information Page as of 12/15/2022'.

Click on **Java Web Start Login**



The screenshot shows the login page for the Case Management / Electronic Case Filing System (USCAVC CM/ECF Server). The page features a central section with a server icon and the following links: 'Log into CM/ECF (File a Document in a Case) Java Web Start Login*', 'Traditional Applet Login (Internet Explorer Only)', and a note: '[*Please see information below regarding Java Web Start and browser compatibility.]'. Below this is a 'Search Cases (View Public Docket Sheets)' link with a magnifying glass icon. At the bottom, there is a section for 'CM/ECF System Notices' with a link to 'Attention CM/ECF Users'. A footer notice states: 'The Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims will be briefly conducting maintenance activities on CM/ECF between the hours of 8:00 and 9:00 PM EST on Tuesday, January 3, 2023. Please be aware that the system may be unavailable during this time. [Posted January 3, 2023]'. A red arrow points to the 'Java Web Start Login*' link.

The first time CM/ECF is run with Java Web Start, you may have to perform additional steps to ensure the browser is properly configured to allow Java Web Start and the CM/ECF application to run properly. See the images below. Java Web Start must be the default program used to open the k2ajnlp file. See

Examples:

Google Chrome

This icon means Chrome will open the file using Java Web Start. Click the arrow and **Always open files of this type**.
Click the arrow again and click **Open**.

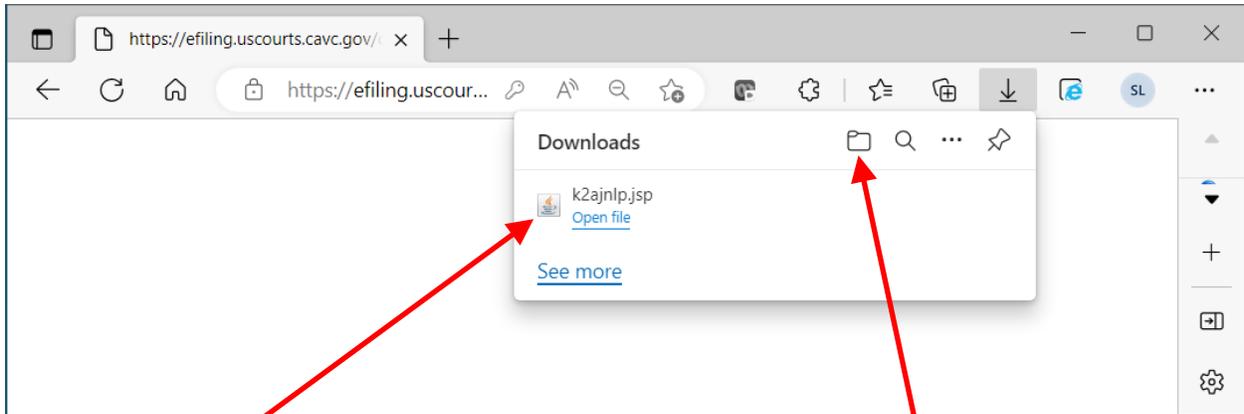
When logging in for the first time, Java Web Start may not be the default program set to open this file. Click **Show in folder** to open the Downloads folder. See page 7 on how to ensure that Java Web Start will open .jsp files.

Mozilla Firefox

This icon means Firefox will open the file using Java Web Start. Check the box for **Do this automatically for files like this from now on** and click **OK**.

If Java Web Start Launcher is not in the dropdown list, see page 7 on how to ensure that Java Web Start will open .jsp files.

Microsoft Edge

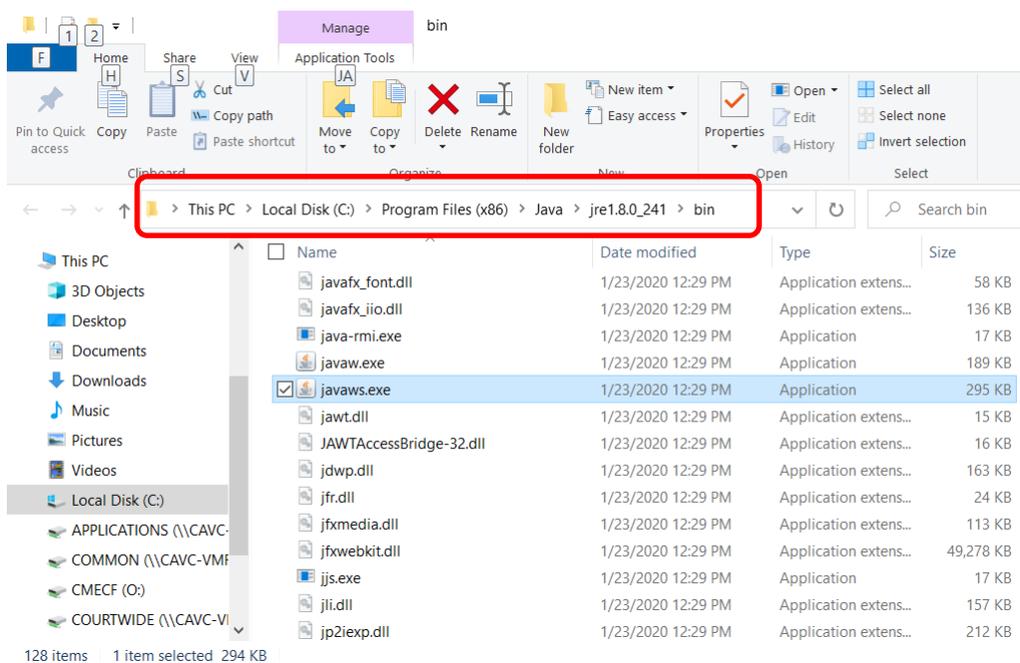
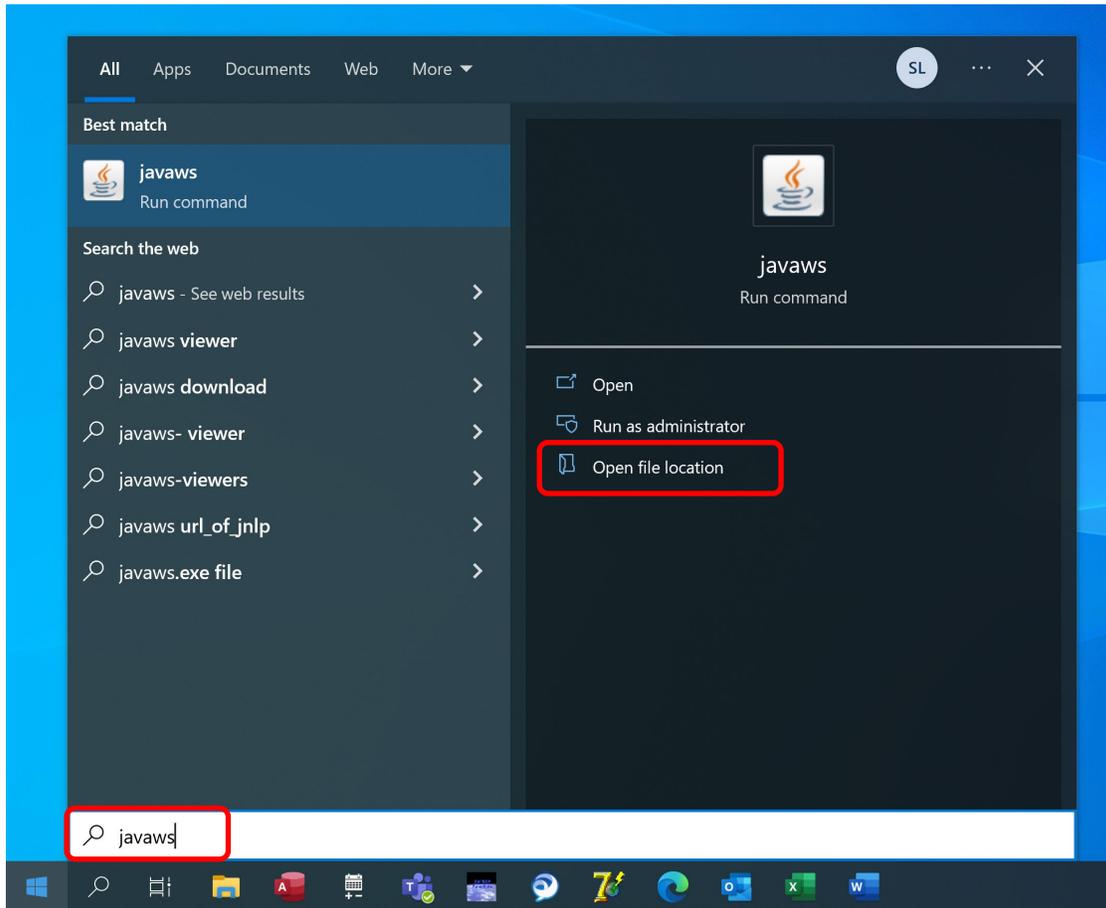


This icon means Edge will open the file using Java Web Start. Click ***Open file***

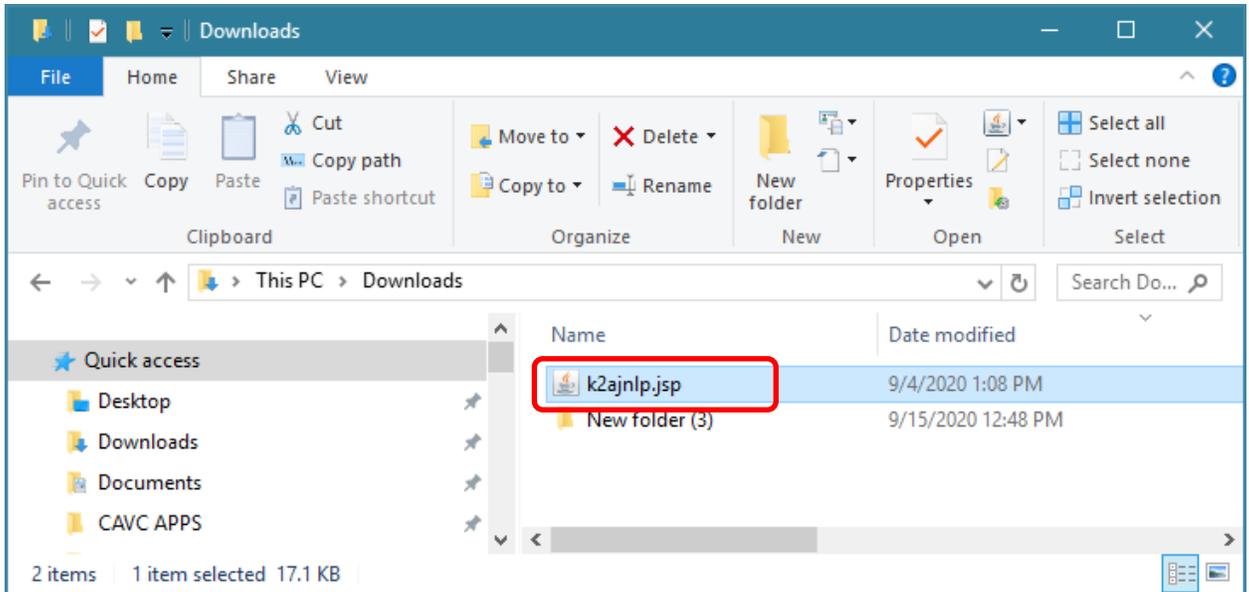
When logging in for the first time, Java Web Start may not be the default program set to open this file. Click the folder icon to open the Downloads folder. See below on how to ensure that Java Web Start will open .jsp files.

Ensure that Java Web Start will open JSP files

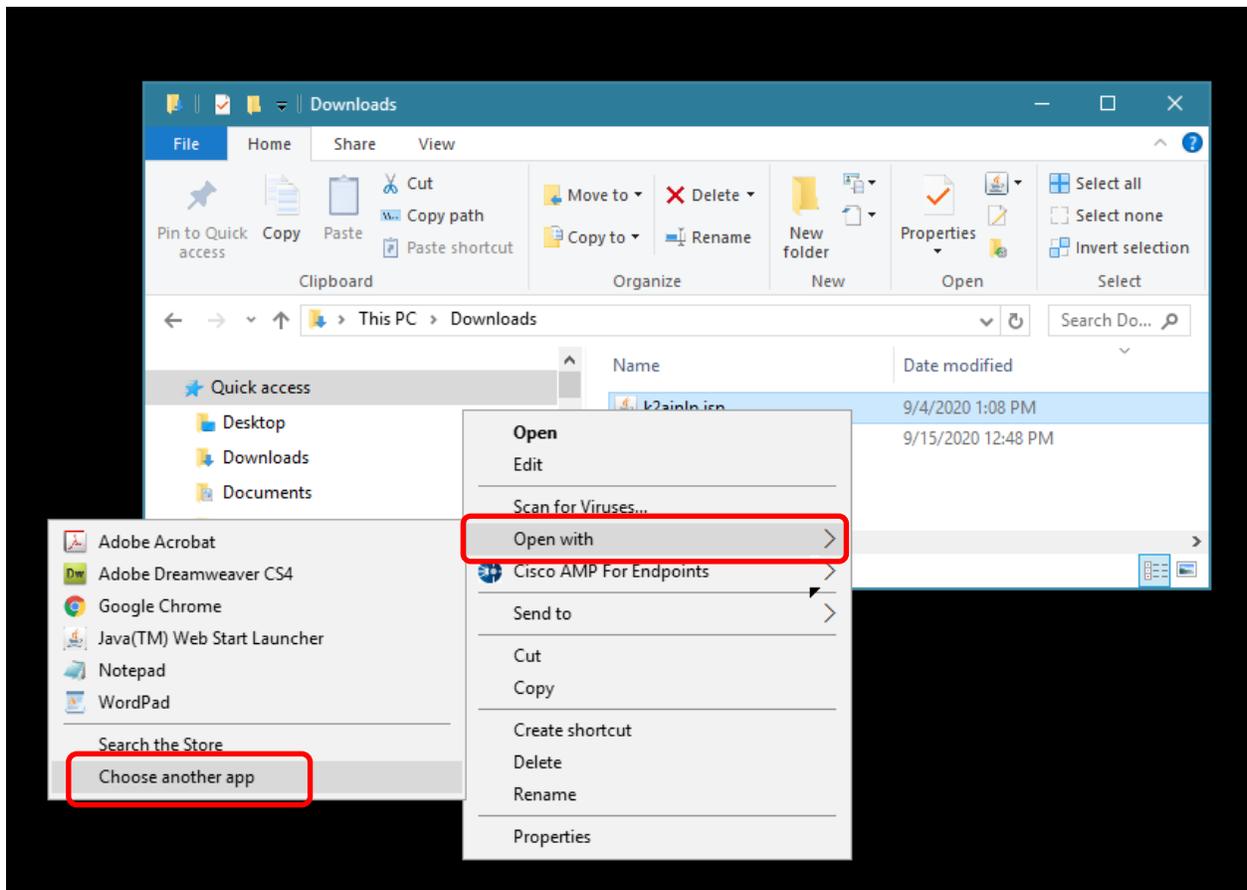
1. Find the location of the javaws program. Click the **Windows** button and type "**javaws**". Click **Open file location**. An explorer window will open with the location of the program.



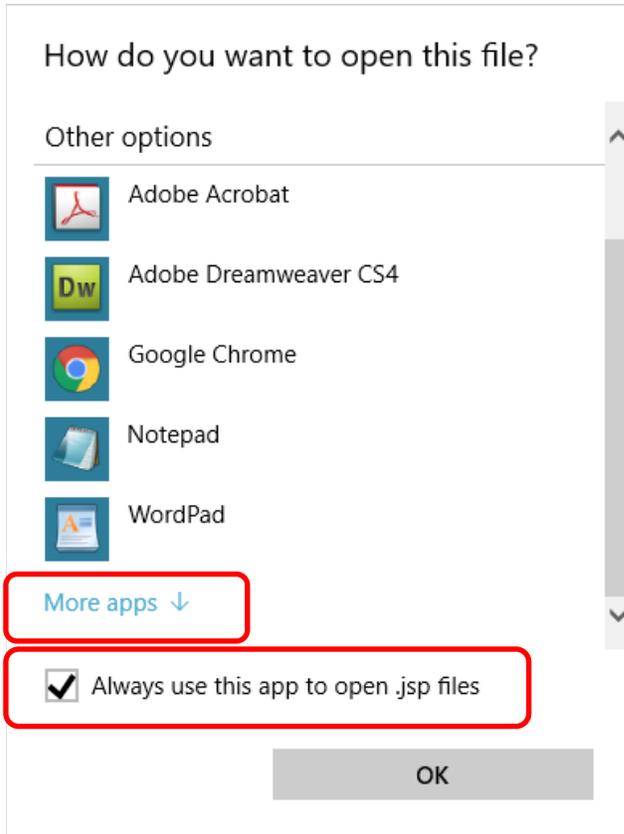
2. After logging in to CM/ECF, a file called **k2ajnlp.jsp** file will be downloaded. By default, it should be saved in the Downloads folder. Open the Downloads folder.



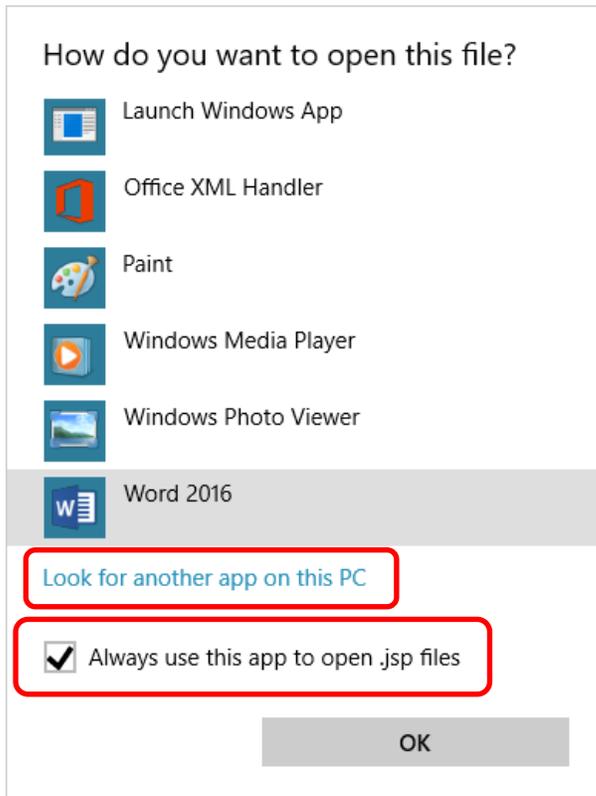
3. **Right click** on **k2ajnlp.jsp** and click **Open with**. Select **Java Web Start Launcher**. If you don't see it, click **Choose another app**.



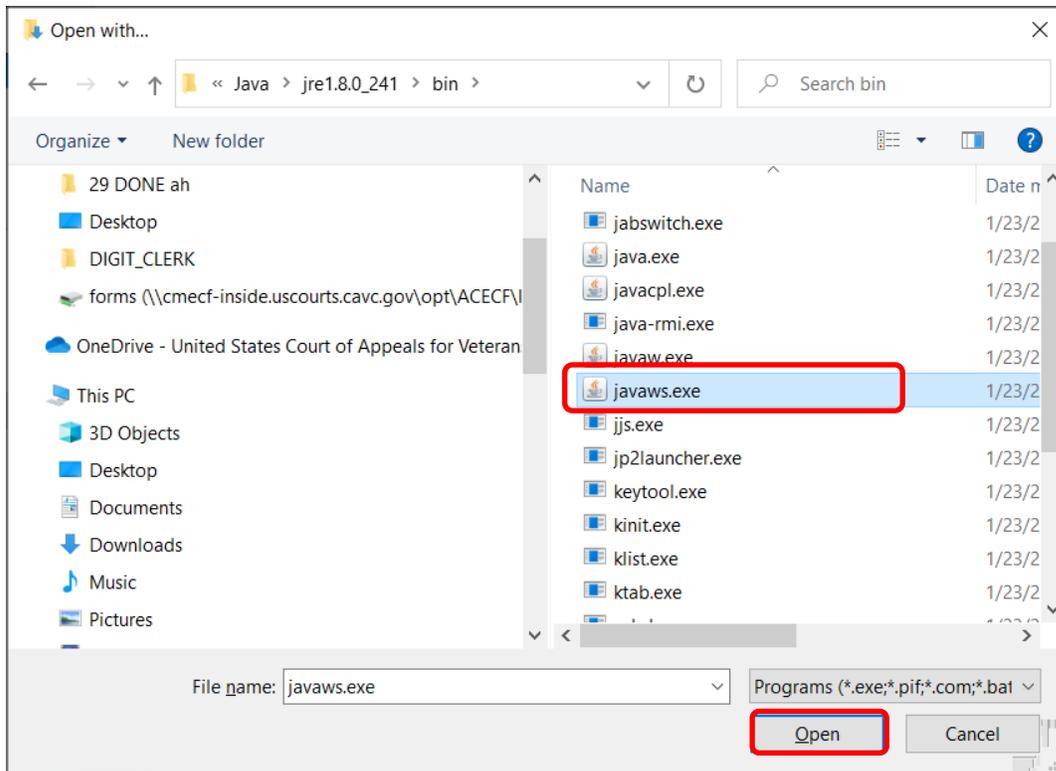
4. Check the box for **Always use this app to open .jsp files**. Scroll down and look **for Java Web Start Launcher**. If you don't see it, click **More apps**.



5. Scroll down and look **for Java Web Start Launcher**. If you don't see it, click **Look for another app on this PC**.



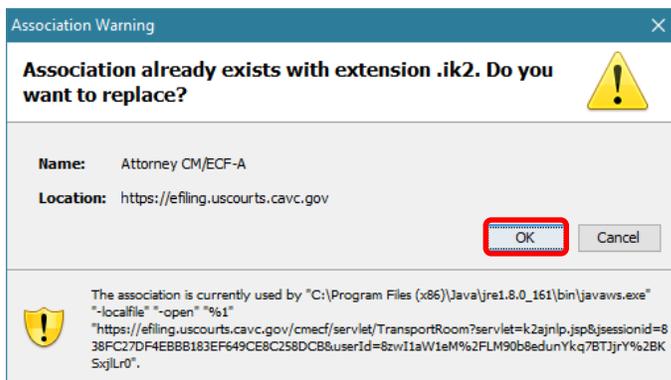
6. Click the appropriate folders to get to the javaws.exe program. See the path from step 1. Select **javaws.exe** and click **Open**.



7. Check the box for **Do not show this again** and click **Run**.



8. If you see this window, click **OK**.



9. After logging in, **keep these 3 windows open** while working in CM/ECF. You may minimize the windows, but do not close them.

The image shows three overlapping windows from a computer screen. The top window is titled "Attorney CM/ECF..." and contains a large blue "CM/ECF" logo. Below the logo is a red warning icon and the text "Closing this window terminates CM/ECF." The middle window is titled "Startup Page" and has a menu bar with "Filing", "Reports", "Utilities", "Logout", and "Help". The main content area features the seal of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, followed by the text "U.S. Court of Appeals CM/ECF Official Attorney Electronic Document Filing System". Below this is a disclaimer: "This facility is for Official Court Business only. Activity to and from this site is logged. Document filings on this system are subject to Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure, Rule 25. Evidence of unauthorized or criminal activity will be forwarded to the appropriate law enforcement officials under 18USC152 and 3571." A "Welcome" section follows, stating "Welcome to the U.S. Court of Appeals Case Management/Electronic Case Files System. Please select an option from the menu." and "Last login Mar 18, 2019 9:26:26 AM EDT". A link for "Court Information" is also present. The bottom window is a browser window with the address bar showing "efiling.uscourts.cavc.gov/cmecf". The browser's address bar, search bar, and navigation buttons are visible.

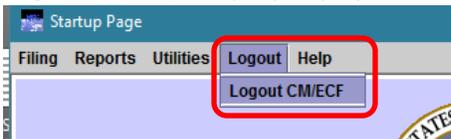
Changing Password

To change the password, click on Utilities – Update My Account. The password must be at least 8 characters and contain at least 2 non-alpha characters.



Logging out

Log out of CM/ECF properly by clicking Logout – Logout CM/ECF.

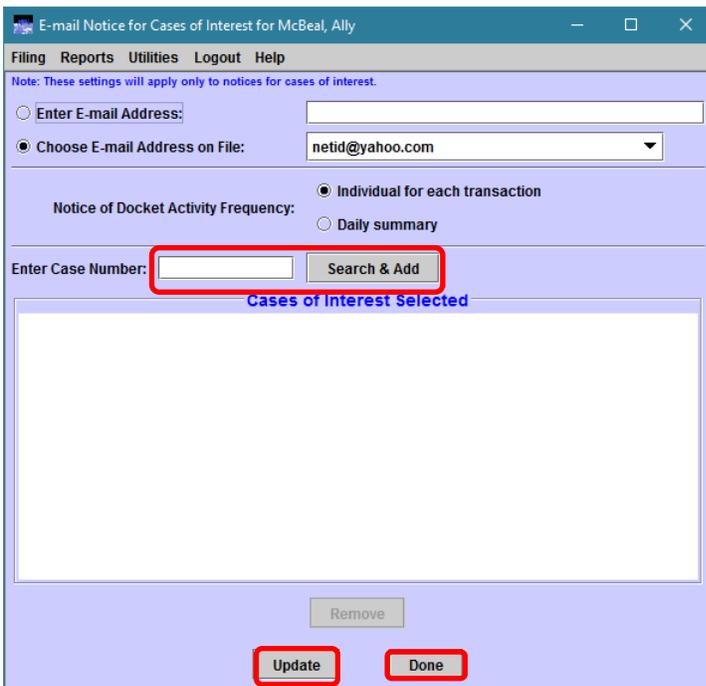


Receive notices for cases of interest

To receive notices for cases that you want to follow but are not involved with, click Utilities – Notices for Cases of Interest.



Enter the case number and click **Search & Add**. Then click **Update** or **Done**.

A screenshot of the 'E-mail Notice for Cases of Interest for McBeal, Ally' form. The form includes a note: 'Note: These settings will apply only to notices for cases of interest.' There are two radio buttons for 'Enter E-mail Address:' (unselected) and 'Choose E-mail Address on File:' (selected). The 'Choose E-mail Address on File:' dropdown is set to 'netid@yahoo.com'. Under 'Notice of Docket Activity Frequency:', there are two radio buttons: 'Individual for each transaction' (selected) and 'Daily summary' (unselected). There is an 'Enter Case Number:' text box and a 'Search & Add' button. Below this is a large empty box labeled 'Cases of Interest Selected'. At the bottom, there are 'Remove', 'Update', and 'Done' buttons. Red boxes highlight the 'Search & Add' button and the 'Update' and 'Done' buttons.