**Using the Cipher Utility**

Cipher is a command-line utility that can be used to encrypt files on NTFS volumes. The

syntax for the Cipher command is as follows:

Cipher /[command parameter] [filename]

Cipher command parameters

**Parameter Description**

/E Specifies that files or folders should be encrypted. Any files that are subsequently added to the folder will be encrypted.

/D Specifies that files or folders should be decrypted. Any files that are subsequently added to the folder will not be encrypted.

/S:dir Specifies that subfolders of the target folder should also be encrypted or decrypted based on the option specified.

/I Causes any errors that occur to be ignored. By default, the Cipher utility stops whenever an error occurs.

/H By default, files with hidden or system attributes are omitted from display. This option specifies that hidden and system files should be displayed.

/K Creates a new certificate file and certificate key.

/R Used to generate a recovery agent key and certificate for use with EFS.

/X Used to back up the EFS certificate and key into the specified

Using the Cipher Utility

**1.** Right-click Start ➢ Command Prompt (Admin).

**2.** In the Command Prompt dialog box, type **C:** and press Enter to access the C: drive.

**3.** From the C:\> prompt, type cipher. You will see a list of folders and files and the

state of encryption. The folder you encrypted should be indicated by an E.

**4.** Type **MD TEST** and press Enter to create a new folder named Test.

**5.** Type **cipher /e test** and press Enter. You will see a message verifying that the

folder was encrypted