

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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In Re: :
: :
Application for Exemption from the Electronic : General Order M-515
Public Access Fees by Edward R. Morrison, :
: :
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This matter is before the Court upon the application and request by Edward R. Morrison (the "Applicant") for exemption from the fees imposed by the Electronic Public Access Fee Schedule adopted by the Judicial Conference of the United States Courts.

The Court finds, based upon the attached letter received on May 9, 2017, that the Applicant has demonstrated that an exemption is necessary in order to avoid unreasonable burdens and to promote public access to information.

Accordingly, the Applicant shall be exempt from the payment of fees for access via PACER to the electronic case files maintained in this Court to the extent such use is incurred in connection with the project described in the attached letter and application. The Applicant shall not be exempt from the payment of fees incurred in connection with other uses of the PACER system in this Court.

Additionally, the following limitations apply:

1. This fee exemption applies only to the Applicant, and is valid only for the purposes stated above.
2. This fee exemption applies only to the electronic case files of this Court that are available through the PACER system;
3. By accepting this exemption, the Applicant agrees not to sell for profit any data obtained as a result of receiving this exemption.
4. This exemption is valid from May 1, 2017 through May 30, 2018.

This exemption may be revoked at the discretion of the Court at any time. A copy of this Order shall be sent to the PACER Service Center.

Dated: New York, New York
May 16, 2017


CECELIA G. MORRIS
Chief United States Bankruptcy Judge

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
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LAW SCHOOL

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May 9, 2017

Chief Judge Cecelia G. Morris
United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York
Alexander Hamilton Custom House
One Bowling Green
New York, NY 10004-1408

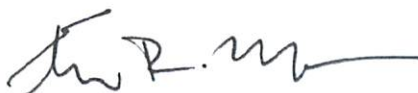
Dear Chief Judge Morris:

I respectfully request a 12-month waiver of fees charged by your court's PACER site. My PACER ID is cs2148em.

I am pursuing two projects that require access to dockets, filings, and the "cases report" for Chapter 7 and 13 consumer bankruptcy filings in the Southern District of New York. One project matches bankruptcy filings to data provided by a company that offers "legal funding" to tort plaintiffs seeking compensation from defendants. The legal funding consists of short-term loans to the plaintiffs; the loans are repaid from proceeds, if any, from the lawsuits. Working with a co-author (Ronen Avraham, Univ. of Texas School of Law), I am testing the extent to which legal funding affects the likelihood that a tort plaintiff files for bankruptcy. This project is important because policymakers are now debating the costs and benefits of the legal funding industry. The second project explores the role of Chapter 7 trustees in collecting assets. It appears that trustees discover assets in a large proportion of Chapter 7 cases in which the filer declared, in the original petition, that no assets would be available for distribution to creditors. I am studying how trustees identify cases in which assets might be discoverable. This project is important because it could point to "best practices" for trustees in Chapter 7 cases.

I would be most grateful for a 12-month fee waiver in order to pursue these projects. Without a waiver, these projects are infeasible. Any data obtained through this exemption will not be used for commercial purposes and will not be transferred or redistributed (via the internet or any other means).

Sincerely,



Edward R. Morrison

