

United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

ORDER
General Docket No. 2023-3

IN RE:
APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION FROM THE ELECTRONIC PUBLIC
ACCESS FEES BY MR. A. THOMAS BRANCH

This matter is before the Court upon an application and request 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 that Mr. A. Thomas Branch, an individual researcher associated with an educational institution, falls within the class of users listed in the fee schedule as being eligible for a fee exemption. Additionally, Mr. Branch has demonstrated that an exemption is necessary in order to avoid unreasonable burdens and to promote public access to information. Accordingly, Mr. Branch 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 the course of leading a research project designed to develop an AI-powered chatbot to provide legal guidance and support to indigent individuals who lack access to legal services in California. Mr. Branch 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:

- I. this fee exemption applies only to Mr. Branch, and is valid only for the purposes stated above;
- II. this fee exemption applies only to the electronic case files of this court that are available through the PACER system;
- III. by accepting this exemption, Mr. Branch agrees not to sell for profit any data obtained as a result of receiving this exemption;
- IV. Mr. Branch is prohibited from transferring any data obtained as a result of receiving this exemption, including redistribution via internet-based databases;

2023-3

V. this exemption is valid until December 31, 2023.

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 this 14th day of March 2023.

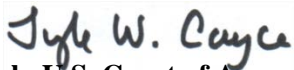


LYLE W. CAYCE
Clerk of Court

BY DIRECTION



A True Copy
Certified order issued Mar 14, 2023



Clerk, U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit