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Style W. Cayce
Clerk, U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit

United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

ORDER
General Docket No. 2021-11

IN RE:
APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION FROM THE ELECTRONIC PUBLIC
ACCESS FEES BY
SHIJUN XIA

This matter is before the Court upon the application and request by Shijun Xia 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 Shijun Xia, 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. Mr. Xia has shown that the defined research project is intended for scholarly research that is limited in scope and not intended for redistribution on the internet or for commercial purposes. Additionally, Mr. Xia has demonstrated that an exemption is necessary in order to avoid unreasonable burdens and to promote public access to information. Accordingly, Mr. Xia 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 researching whether the mandatory disclosure program implemented by the federal acquisition regulation (FAR) council in 2008 increases qui tam lawsuit filings related to government contractors. The ultimate goal of the research is to publish multiple manuscripts that will be submitted for publication in academic journals. Mr. Xia 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. Xia, 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. Xia agrees not to sell for profit any data obtained as a result of receiving this exemption;
- IV. Mr. Xia is prohibited from transferring any data obtained as a result of receiving this exemption, including redistribution via internet-based databases;
- V. this exemption is valid until March 1, 2022.

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 23rd day of December 2021.



LYLE W. CAYCE
Clerk of Court

BY DIRECTION