

United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

ORDER
General Docket No. 2021-3

IN RE:
APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION FROM THE ELECTRONIC PUBLIC
ACCESS FEES BY
ABIGAIL MIGHELL

This matter is before the Court upon the application and request by Abigail Mighell 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 Abigail Mighell, 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, Ms. Mighell has demonstrated that an exemption is necessary in order to avoid unreasonable burdens and to promote public access to information. Accordingly, Ms. Mighell 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 how President Trump's appointees to the United States Courts of Appeals during his presidency ideologically compare to current Appellate Courts judges appointed by other presidents, and whether the circuit courts have followed the trends of the United States Legislature and the Supreme Court by increasing in ideological polarization since 2016 conducting a qualitative analysis of interactions between attorneys and witnesses to extend the research on identity construction through interaction, with particular focus on how speakers can manage the identities of others. Ms. Mighell 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 Ms. Mighell, 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, Ms. Mighell agrees not to sell for profit any data obtained as a result of receiving this exemption;
- IV. Ms. Mighell 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 April 1, 2021.

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 18th day of February 2021.

Lyle W. Cayce

LYLE W. CAYCE
Clerk of Court

BY DIRECTION



A True Copy
Certified order issued Feb 18, 2021

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