

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA**

In re

EXEMPTION FROM FEES FOR
ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO COURT
DATA

Administrative Order
FLMB-2009-4

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER EXEMPTING USERS FOR EDUCATIONAL
PURPOSES FROM PAYMENT OF THE FEE FOR ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO
COURT DATA UPON APPROVAL OF THE CHIEF JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES
BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA**

This matter came before the Court to consider waiving payment of the prescribed fee for electronic access to court data maintained on the PACER (“Public Access to Court Electronic Records”) system. PACER is an electronic public access service that allows users to obtain case and docket information from the bankruptcy court and to view the pleadings directly. A fee is prescribed for electronic access to court data.

The Court may exempt persons or classes of persons from the fee if the exemption is necessary in order to avoid unreasonable burdens and to promote public access to information. This Order is entered to authorize the Chief Judge of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida to exempt individual researchers from paying the fees where proper application is made in order to promote important public access to information on bankruptcy filings. Waiver of the fee will facilitate academic research and promote education in the area of bankruptcy law. Academic researchers who are eligible for exemption from PACER fees pursuant to this Order shall include law school professors and other persons actively engaged in researching bankruptcy law. Upon proper application to the Chief Judge of this Bankruptcy Court pursuant to the terms set forth in this Order, requests for exemption and the term of any exemption shall be determined at the sole discretion of the Chief Judge.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED:

1. Law School professors and other persons actively engaged in researching bankruptcy law may request an exemption from PACER fees for a specified period of time by making application by letter to the current Chief Judge of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida. In making such a request, the researcher must agree to use PACER for only research and scholarly publications and must agree not to sell the data obtained for profit. Additionally, any transfer of data obtained is prohibited unless expressly authorized.

2. The Chief Judge of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida shall have the sole discretion to authorize the requested exemption but shall limit the exemption to an appropriate length of time.

3. A person who is exempted from paying PACER fees must restrict access to user identification and password information consistent with the nature of their research project.

4. Information on how to access and use the PACER system is available on the internet at <http://pacer.psc.uscourts.gov>.

DONE AND ORDERED in the Middle District of Florida, this 15 day of September, 2009.

BY THE COURT



Paul M. Glenn
Chief United States Bankruptcy Judge

SERVICE LIST

Hon. Paul M. Glenn
Chief United States Bankruptcy Judge

Hon. Arthur B. Briskman
United States Bankruptcy Judge

Hon. Jerry A. Funk
United States Bankruptcy Judge

Hon. Karen S. Jennemann
United States Bankruptcy Judge

Hon. Michael G. Williamson
United States Bankruptcy Judge

Hon. K. Rodney May
United States Bankruptcy Judge

Hon. Catherine Peek McEwen
United States Bankruptcy Judge

Hon. Caryl E. Delano
United States Bankruptcy Judge

Hon. Alexander L. Paskay
United States Bankruptcy Judge

Lee Ann Bennett, Clerk of Court
Middle District of Florida

Michael Shadburn, Chief Deputy
Middle District of Florida

Charles Kilcoyne, Deputy-in-Charge
Tampa Division

Deputy-in-Charge
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