

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2021-81

IN RE:

EXEMPTION OF FEES TO ACCESS PACER
FOR DR. CASEY DOUGAL

FILED BY CW D.C.

Sep 17, 2021

ANGELA E. NOBLE
CLERK U.S. DIST. CT.
S. D. OF FLA. - MIA

The United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida maintains case information online with the Public Access to Court Electronic Records (PACER) website. The Court desires to encourage the public's use of the database, continue to promote public access, and avoid unreasonable burdens on both users and court staff in retrieving data.

The Court finds that Dr. Casey Dougal, as 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, Dr. Dougal has demonstrated that an exemption is necessary to avoid unreasonable burdens and to promote public access to information. Therefore, it is

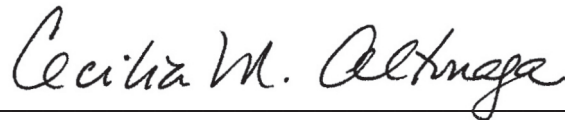
ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that Dr. Casey Dougal shall be exempt from the payment of fees for access via PACER to the electronic case files maintained in this Court, to the extent such use is incurred in the course of his research, specifically for his research studying the prevalence of civil rights litigation in public corporations. He has identified 59,722 (26,588 after 2004) federal cases where a public firm is a defendant in a civil rights case. He is seeking access only to the plaintiffs' first complaint in each case in order to better classify cases by their causes (e.g., is the case hiring/firing related, is the case due to harassment, etc.). To accomplish his research, Dr. Dougal will use PACER data to classify federal civil rights cases where a firm is a defendant into those that claim harassment as the primary complaint (i.e., racial, sexual, or

otherwise) and those which do not. Dr. Dougal 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 Dr. Casey Dougal 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, Dr. Dougal agrees not to sell for profit any data obtained as a result of receiving this exemption;
4. Dr. Casey Dougal is prohibited from transferring any data obtained as a result of receiving this exemption, including redistribution via internet-based databases;
5. this exemption is valid September 8, 2021 to August 31, 2022.

This exemption may be revoked at the discretion of the Court at any time. The Clerk of Court for the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida shall provide the PACER Service Center with any detailed information the Center may require to implement this Order.

DONE AND ORDERED in at Miami, Florida, this 17th day of September 2021.



CECILIA M. ALTONAGA
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

- c: Angela E. Noble, Court Administrator · Clerk of Court
Kevin Kappes, Chief Deputy Clerk · Administration
Brandy Lonchena, Chief Deputy Clerk · Operations
PACER Service Center
Michelle Gardner, Attorney Advisor, Multi-Court Exemptions, Administrative
Office of the U.S. Courts