UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2026-104

IN RE:

EXEMPTION OF FEES TO ACCESS PACER FOR PROFESSOR E. GARRETT WEST

_____/

FILED BY NC D.C.
Nov 2, 2026
ANGELA E. NOBLE
CLERK U.S. DIST. CT.
S. D. OF FLA. - WPB

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.

Professor E. Garrett West, 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, Professor West has demonstrated that an exemption is necessary to avoid unreasonable burden and to promote public access to information. Therefore, it is

ORDERED that Professor West is 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 conducting an empirical study of how qualified immunity operates in federal district courts. Professor West is not exempt from the payment of fees incurred in connection with other uses of the PACER system.

Additionally, the following limitations apply:

1. this fee exemption applies only to and is valid only for the purposes stated above;

2. this fee exemption applies only to the electronic case files of the Court that are available through the PACER system;

3. by accepting this exemption, Professor E. Garrett West agrees not to sell for profit any data obtained as a result of receiving this exemption;

4. Professor West is prohibited from transferring any data obtained as a result of

receiving this exemption, including redistribution via internet-based databases; and

5. this exemption is valid retroactively from October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027.

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 Miami, Florida, this 2nd day of November, 2026.

CECILIA M. ALTONAGA
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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