

Order

Misc. File No. 3:24-mc-407

In Re: Application for Exemption from the Electronic Public Access Fees by Dr. Hannah Ringler

This matter is before the Court upon the application and request by **Dr. Hannah Ringler** 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 **Dr. Hannah Ringler**, 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. Hannah Ringler** has demonstrated that an exemption is necessary in order to avoid unreasonable burdens and to promote public access to information. Accordingly, **Dr. Hannah Ringler** 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 the argumentative strategies used in defamation lawsuits in federal civil cases between 2013 and 2023. **Dr. Hannah Ringler** 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 **Dr. Hannah Ringler**, 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, **Dr. Hannah Ringler** agrees not to sell for profit any data obtained as a result of receiving this exemption;
- IV. **Dr. Hannah Ringler** 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 December 31, 2024.

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 30 day of May, 2024.


Chief Judge R. Bryan Harwell