## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

## **ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2020-96**

FILED BY	CW	_D.C.
Dec 8, 2020		
ANGELA E. NOBLE CLERK U.S. DIST. CT. S. D. OF FLA MIA		

EXEMPTION OF FEES TO ACCESS PACER FOR REBECCA FORDON

IN RE:

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 and to continue to promote public access and to avoid unreasonable burdens on both users and court staff in retrieving data.

The Court finds that Rebecca Fordon, 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, Ms. Fordon has demonstrated that an exemption is necessary in order to avoid unreasonable burdens and to promote public access to information. It is hereby

**ORDERED AND ADJUDGED** that Rebecca Fordon 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 her research specifically for the proposed amendment to Rule 12(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure to account for statutory reductions in the time to Answer civil complaints, most notably to account for the FOIA statute's reduction of answer times from 60 days to 30 days. Ms. Fordon will review the docket sheets, including necessary documents, of all FOIA cases filed

within the study period and measure the time of the Government's answer. Ms. Fordon 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 Rebecca Fordon 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, Ms. Fordon agrees not to sell for profit any data obtained as a result of receiving this exemption;
- 4. Ms. Fordon 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 December 8, 2020, to November 30, 2021.

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 Chambers at Miami, Miami-Dade County, Florida,

this <u>8th</u> day of December 2020.

K. MICHAEL MOORE 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