

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

IN RE: APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION
FROM THE ELECTRONIC PUBLIC
ACCESS FEES BY CHEN HUANG

Administrative Order
No. 21-MS-021

This matter is before the Court upon the application and request by Chen Huang 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 Chen Huang, a Lecturer in Finance at the University of Kent in the UK, falls within the class of users listed in the fee schedule as being eligible for a fee exemption. Additionally, Huang has demonstrated that an exemption is necessary in order to avoid unreasonable burdens and to promote public access to information.

Accordingly, Huang 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 whether the introduction of Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program (GHGRP) in the U.S. improves publicly listed companies' social behaviors by reducing the probability of environmental related lawsuits. Specifically, Huang will use environmental related litigation data from 2000 to 2020 to ensure 10 years before and after the GHGRP. Huang's research requires access to 3-5% of approximately 18,000 cases or a total of 540-900 cases. Huang's goal from this research is to publish an article in an upcoming special issue of an academic accounting journal.

Huang 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 Huang (PACER Account #6661533), 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, Huang agrees not to sell for profit any data obtained as a result of receiving this exemption;
4. Huang 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 until September 30, 2021.

This Order 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.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

FOR THE COURT:



Dated: March 30, 2021

ROBERT J. JONKER
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE