

FILED

AUG 31 2017

CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
DEPUTY

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

In the matter of)
Waiver of Pacer Fees for) General Order No. 663
Ethan Boldt)
_____)

Having considered the request of Ethan Boldt for a waiver of PACER fees, the Court finds that Ethan Boldt, as a Ph.D Candidate at the University of Georgia's Department of Political Science falls within the scope of users listed in the fee schedule as being eligible for a fee exemption. Additionally, Ethan Boldt has demonstrated that an exemption is necessary as an individual researcher associated with an educational institution.

Accordingly, the Court grants Ethan Boldt a waiver of the 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 regarding his research on how court professionals influence the adjudicatory process for defendants accused of federal crimes, specifically to gather a sample of criminal case documents for statistical research from 2006 to 2011. This fee exemption applies only for this research purpose. By accepting this exemption, Ethan Boldt agrees not to sell for profit any data obtained as a result of receiving this exemption. Furthermore, Ethan Boldt is prohibited from transferring any data obtained as a result of receiving this exemption, including redistribution via internet based databases. The exemption is valid until December 31, 2018.

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.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: 8/28/17


BARRY TED MOSKOWITZ, Chief Judge 3
United States District Court

Approved
Barry Ted Moskowitz



The University of Georgia

School of Public and International Affairs
Department of Political Science

July 27, 2017

Re: PACER fee exemption request

The Honorable Barry Ted Moskowitz
Chief Judge, Southern District of California
Suite 1580
333 West Broadway
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Chief Judge Barry Ted Moskowitz,

My name is Ethan Boldt, and I am a doctoral student in the University of Georgia's Department of Political Science. I am writing you in the hope of receiving a discretionary PACER fee exemption for your District so that I may gather data for my dissertation research: "The People and Process of Federal Criminal Cases." Under § 9 of the Electronic Public Access Fee Schedule, the Judicial Conference specifies that individual researchers associated with educational institutions may be granted an exemption from PACER fees.

The Electronic Public Access Fee Schedule requires that, "those seeking an exemption have demonstrated that an exemption is necessary in order to avoid unreasonable burdens and to promote public access to information" and that, "individual researchers requesting an exemption have shown that the defined research project is intended for scholarly research, that it is limited in scope, and that it is not intended for redistribution on the internet or for commercial purposes."

I believe this request meets these requirements. I am interested in gathering a defined sample of criminal case documents for statistical research featured in my dissertation project. Unfortunately, gathering the number of case documents necessary would be prohibitively expensive to do on my own. As a student I have an extremely limited ability to personally pay these fees and cannot effectively gather these case documents without assistance. I will not redistribute the documents I obtain on the Internet or use them commercially. The expected final completion date of PACER document retrieval will be **December 31, 2018.**

My dissertation focuses on how court professionals influence the adjudicatory process for defendants accused of federal crimes. The aspects of the cases being examined include pretrial release, case disposition times, and sanctions. As a quantitative researcher using statistical methods, my project will not shine a spotlight on specific cases or the particular persons involved in them. Instead, I hope to analyze aggregate relationships between variables and outcomes. I seek to draw a random sample of docket sheets and underlying case documents for criminal cases from 2006 to 2011.

Research on the criminal justice process is particularly timely given the increased attention it is receiving from citizens and the government itself. This research may potentially offer key insights to the public, identify inefficiencies, and suggest avenues for bipartisan reform.

I sincerely appreciate your time and effort considering this request. Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions by phone at 630-234-8850 or by e-mail at edboldt@uga.edu.

Sincerely,



Ethan Boldt

PACER account #: 5217557

PACER username: ethanboldt

Mailing Address:
Ethan D. Boldt
Political Science Department
104 Baldwin Hall
355 S. Jackson Street
Athens, GA 30602