

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA**

General Order No. 2021-32

In Re: Application for Exemption from the Electronic Public Access Fees by Shijun Xia

This matter is before the Court upon the application and request by Shijun Xia 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 Shijun Xia, an individual associated with a non-profit research institution, falls within the class of users listed in the fee schedule as being eligible for a fee exemption. Additionally, Mr. Xia has demonstrated that an exemption is necessary in order to avoid unreasonable burdens and to promote public access to information. Accordingly, Mr. Xia 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 mandatory disclosure program implemented by the federal acquisition regulation counsel in 2008 increases qui tam lawsuit filings related to government contractors. Mr. Xia 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 Shijun Xia, PACER Account No. 6915044, 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, Mr. Xia agrees not to sell for profit any data obtained as a result of receiving this exemption;
- IV. Mr. Xia 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 through February 28, 2022.

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.

SO ORDERED on December 22, 2021.

/s/ Jon E. DeGuilio
Chief Judge, United States District Court
Northern District of Indiana