

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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In Re:

Application for Exemption from the  
Electronic Public Access Fees by  
**Mikhail Sterin**

Administrative Order 26-03  
(Misc. Proc. No. 26-03003)

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**ORDER GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM THE PAYMENT OF PACER FEES**

This matter is before the Court upon the application and request by Mikhail Sterin (“Applicant”) 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 Applicant as an associate Professor at Texas State University (San Marcos) falls within the class of users listed in the fee schedule as being eligible for a fee exemption. Additionally, Applicant has demonstrated that an exemption is necessary to avoid unreasonable burdens and to promote public access to information. Accordingly, Applicant 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 during Applicant’s academic research into whether auditor going-concern opinions (GCOs) help predict how long firms remain in Chapter 11, Applicant 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 Applicant 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, Applicant agrees not to sell for profit any data obtained as a result of receiving this exemption;
4. Applicant is prohibited from transferring any data obtained because of receiving this exemption, including redistribution via internet-based databases; and
5. this exemption is valid until **February 15, 2028**.

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: July 1, 2026

  
Wendy A. Kinsella  
Chief United States Bankruptcy Judge