

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE  
FIFTH CIRCUIT

IN THE MATTER OF THE COLLECTION OF FEES  
FOR ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO COURT DATA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

The Judicial Conference of the United States has approved an amendment to the Miscellaneous Fee Schedule for courts of appeals determining that a fee be collected for the electronic dissemination of court information. This court previously entered two Administrative Orders, on January 17, 1995 and May 1, 1997 respectively, exempting all classes and persons from paying the referenced electronic system access fee.

Those orders are hereby rescinded.

The costs to obtain court information electronically have declined substantially since the advent of the billing access fee, whether it is for the EDOS PACER dial-up system or through Internet connection. Additionally, the historical basis for exempting all classes and persons has changed sufficiently to encourage the creation of a new practice for the Fifth Circuit.

In keeping with the direction of the Judicial Conference of the United States, exemption will continue for persons and classes who fall into the following groups: indigents; bankruptcy case trustees; not-for-profit organizations; voluntary ADR neutrals; other federal judicial entities, including Federal Public Defenders and United States Attorneys; Attorneys General of the states within the Fifth Circuit; and those for whom an application of fee waiver is approved by the court, or clerk by designation.

The court will also continue to provide generic and logistical information at no cost such as: local rules; court forms; courts hours; court locations; telephone listings; news items; court calendars; and opinions designated by the court for publication.

THEREFORE, effective January 3, 2000 the court adopts the electronic access user fee structure approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States, until further order of the court.

Entered October 7, 1999

FOR THE COURT:

Carolyn Dineen King  
Chief JUDGE

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An Administrative Order entered October 7, 1999 established an implementation date of January 3, 2000 for the collection of an electronic access to court data user fee as mandated by the Judicial Conference of the United States. Due to delays in the delivery of equipment and materials to effect this system, the implementation date of January 3, 2000 was delayed.

The equipment has now been installed and is online and available free of charge until the implementation date of October 1, 2000 when full collection of applicable user fees will commence.

Entered July 7, 2000.

Carolyn Dineen King  
Chief Judge