

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA

FILED  
U.S. Bankruptcy Court  
Western District of NC

In re: )  
 )  
 PACER Fee Exemption )  
 )  
 \_\_\_\_\_ )

APR 22 2026

Christine F. Ramsey, Clerk  
Charlotte Division

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

**THIS MATTER** is before the court upon the application and request by Edith Hotchkiss 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 Edith Hotchkiss is a Professor of Finance at Boston College. She is conducting two research projects. Project #1 examines the role of private credit lenders in Chapter 11 bankruptcy restructurings. Project #2 examines the impact of the introduction of Subchapter V of Chapter 11 cases on small businesses. She will review an estimated 3,343 cases from bankruptcy courts nationwide.

Professor Hotchkiss falls within the class of users listed in the fee schedule as being eligible for a fee exemption. Additionally, Professor Hotchkiss has demonstrated that an exemption is necessary to avoid unreasonable burdens and to promote public access to information. Accordingly, Professor Hotchkiss shall be exempt from the payment of fees for access via PACER to

the electronic case files maintained in this court. Professor Hotchkiss 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 Edith Hotchkiss, PACER account number 5201540, 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, Edith Hotchkiss agrees not to sell for profit any data obtained as a result of receiving this exemption;
- IV. Edith Hotchkiss is prohibited from transferring any data obtained as a result of receiving this exemption, including redistribution via internet-based databases; and
- V. this exemption is valid through 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.

It is so ORDERED.

Date:

April 28, 2026

Laura Turner Beyer  
Laura Turner Beyer  
Chief United States Bankruptcy Judge