DECLARATION OF TAMi GIERLOFF

I, Tami Gierloff, declare as follows:

1. I am the Associate Dean of Library Services and a Professor of Law at the Lewis & Clark Law School, a position I have held since 2011. I have personal knowledge of the matters stated in this declaration and could competently testify to them if called as a witness.

2. Lewis & Clark’s law school was founded in Portland in 1884 as the state of Oregon’s law school and was reorganized as the private Northwestern College of Law in 1915. In 1965, the school merged with Lewis & Clark and was renamed Northwestern School of Law of Lewis & Clark College.

3. The Lewis & Clark Law School enrolls approximately 700 students working on a full-time or part-time basis towards a J.D. and for several L.L.M. programs.

4. The Paul L. Boley Law Library, which I direct, is the largest law library in Oregon and the second-largest in the Pacific Northwest. Our collection has over 500,000 volumes and is used by our students and faculty as well as visiting scholars and practitioners.

5. The Paul L. Boley Law Library provides access to the PACER system, but only with the assistance and supervision of our Reference Librarians.
6. The reason for restricted access to the PACER system is because with charges on a per-page basis, we must control access.

7. As a result, our students and faculty are severely limited in their access to current information present in the dockets of our federal courts.

8. My career as a law librarian began in 1990 at the University of Minnesota Law Library and I have been at Lewis & Clark since 1994.

9. It is my firm belief that law students should be actively using the resources that are available in a system such as PACER and that if PACER documents were more broadly available and freely available, it would be of great use to our students in their legal education.

10. Broader access to PACER is important beyond the confines of law schools, it is important for citizens in all walks of life who interact with our system of justice, as participants or as observers. Conducting the proceedings of our courts in the light of day is also an important safeguard on the integrity of those proceedings.
11. For these reasons, this affidavit is submitted in support of the Public Resource fee exemption request, which would make the full proceedings of one or more courts available for access by the public, and by our students and faculty.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct and this declaration was executed this 1st day of April, 2015 at Portland, Oregon.

By ____________________________

Tami Sherloff