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Attorneys for Defendant
MXD GROUP, INC.

NOTE CHANGES MADE BY THE COURT

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JOSE ALCALA,

Plaintiff,

v.

MXD GROUP, INC.,

Defendant.

Case No. 2:17-cv-06553-ODW(ASx)

~~PROPOSED~~ STIPULATED
PROTECTIVE ORDER FOR
STANDARD LITIGATION

1. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS

Disclosure and discovery activity in this action are likely to involve production of confidential, proprietary, or private information for which special protection from public disclosure and from use for any purpose other than prosecuting this litigation may be warranted. Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the court to enter the following Stipulated Protective Order. The parties acknowledge that this Order does not confer blanket protections on all disclosures or responses to discovery

[PROPOSED] STIPULATED PROTECTIVE ORDER FOR STANDARD LITIGATION

1 and that the protection it affords from public disclosure and use extends only to the
2 limited information or items that are entitled to confidential treatment under the
3 applicable legal principles. The parties further acknowledge, as set forth in Section
4 12.3, below, that this Stipulated Protective Order does not entitle them to file
5 confidential information under seal; Civil Local Rule 79-5 sets forth the procedures
6 that must be followed and the standards that will be applied when a party seeks
7 permission from the court to file material under seal.

8 2. DEFINITIONS

9 2.1 Challenging Party: a Party or Non-Party that challenges the designation
10 of information or items under this Order.

11 2.2 “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items: information (regardless of
12 how it is generated, stored or maintained) or tangible things that qualify for protection
13 under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c).

14 2.3 Counsel (without qualifier): Outside Counsel of Record and House
15 Counsel (as well as their support staff).

16 2.4 Designating Party: a Party or Non-Party that designates information or
17 items that it produces in disclosures or in responses to discovery as
18 “CONFIDENTIAL.”

19 2.5 Disclosure or Discovery Material: all items or information, regardless of
20 the medium or manner in which it is generated, stored, or maintained (including,
21 among other things, testimony, transcripts, and tangible things), that are produced or
22 generated in disclosures or responses to discovery in this matter.

23 2.6 Expert: a person with specialized knowledge or experience in a matter
24 pertinent to the litigation who has been retained by a Party or its counsel to serve as an
25 expert witness or as a consultant in this action.

26 2.7 House Counsel: attorneys who are employees of a party to this action.
27 House Counsel does not include Outside Counsel of Record or any other outside
28 counsel.

1 2.8 Non-Party: any natural person, partnership, corporation, association, or
2 other legal entity not named as a Party to this action.

3 2.9 Outside Counsel of Record: attorneys who are not employees of a party
4 to this action but are retained to represent or advise a party to this action and have
5 appeared in this action on behalf of that party or are affiliated with a law firm which
6 has appeared on behalf of that party.

7 2.10 Party: any party to this action, including all of its officers, directors,
8 employees, consultants, retained experts, and Outside Counsel of Record (and their
9 support staffs).

10 2.11 Producing Party: a Party or Non-Party that produces Disclosure or
11 Discovery Material in this action.

12 2.12 Professional Vendors: persons or entities that provide litigation support
13 services (e.g., photocopying, videotaping, translating, preparing exhibits or
14 demonstrations, and organizing, storing, or retrieving data in any form or medium)
15 and their employees and subcontractors.

16 2.13 Protected Material: any Disclosure or Discovery Material that is
17 designated as “CONFIDENTIAL.”

18 2.14 Receiving Party: a Party that receives Disclosure or Discovery Material
19 from a Producing Party.

20 3. SCOPE

21 The protections conferred by this Stipulation and Order cover not only
22 Protected Material (as defined above), but also (1) any information copied or extracted
23 from Protected Material; (2) all copies, excerpts, summaries, or compilations of
24 Protected Material; and (3) any testimony, conversations, or presentations by Parties
25 or their Counsel that might reveal Protected Material. However, the protections
26 conferred by this Stipulation and Order do not cover the following information: (a)
27 any information that is in the public domain at the time of disclosure to a Receiving
28 Party or becomes part of the public domain after its disclosure to a Receiving Party as

1 a result of publication not involving a violation of this Order, including becoming part
2 of the public record through trial or otherwise; and (b) any information known to the
3 Receiving Party prior to the disclosure or obtained by the Receiving Party after the
4 disclosure from a source who obtained the information lawfully and under no
5 obligation of confidentiality to the Designating Party. Any use of Protected Material at
6 trial shall be governed by a separate agreement or order.

7 4. DURATION

8 Even after final disposition of this litigation, the confidentiality obligations
9 imposed by this Order shall remain in effect until a Designating Party agrees
10 otherwise in writing or a court order otherwise directs. Final disposition shall be
11 deemed to be the later of (1) dismissal of all claims and defenses in this action, with or
12 without prejudice; and (2) final judgment herein after the completion and exhaustion
13 of all appeals, rehearings, remands, trials, or reviews of this action, including the time
14 limits for filing any motions or applications for extension of time pursuant to
15 applicable law.

16 5. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL

17 5.1 Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection.

18 Each Party or Non-Party that designates information or items for protection under this
19 Order must take care to limit any such designation to specific material that qualifies
20 under the appropriate standards. The Designating Party must designate for protection
21 only those parts of material, documents, items, or oral or written communications that
22 qualify – so that other portions of the material, documents, items, or communications
23 for which protection is not warranted are not swept unjustifiably within the ambit of
24 this Order.

25 Mass, indiscriminate, or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations
26 that are shown to be clearly unjustified or that have been made for an improper
27 purpose (e.g., to unnecessarily encumber or retard the case development process or to
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1 impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) expose the Designating
2 Party to sanctions.

3 If it comes to a Designating Party's attention that information or items that it
4 designated for protection do not qualify for protection, that Designating Party must
5 promptly notify all other Parties that it is withdrawing the mistaken designation.

6 5.2 Manner and Timing of Designations. Except as otherwise provided in
7 this Order (see, e.g., second paragraph of section 5.2(a) below), or as otherwise
8 stipulated or ordered, Disclosure or Discovery Material that qualifies for protection
9 under this Order must be clearly so designated before the material is disclosed or
10 produced.

11 Designation in conformity with this Order requires:

12 (a) for information in documentary form (e.g., paper or electronic
13 documents, but excluding transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial
14 proceedings), that the Producing Party affix the legend "CONFIDENTIAL" to each
15 page that contains protected material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a
16 page qualifies for protection, the Producing Party also must clearly identify the
17 protected portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the margins).

18 A Party or Non-Party that makes original documents or materials available for
19 inspection need not designate them for protection until after the inspecting Party has
20 indicated which material it would like copied and produced. During the inspection and
21 before the designation, all of the material made available for inspection shall be
22 deemed "CONFIDENTIAL." After the inspecting Party has identified the documents
23 it wants copied and produced, the Producing Party must determine which documents,
24 or portions thereof, qualify for protection under this Order. Then, before producing the
25 specified documents, the Producing Party must affix the "CONFIDENTIAL" legend
26 to each page that contains Protected Material. If only a portion or portions of the
27 material on a page qualifies for protection, the Producing Party also must clearly

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1 identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the
2 margins).

3 (b) for testimony given in deposition or in other pretrial or trial proceedings,
4 that the Designating Party identify on the record, before the close of the deposition,
5 hearing, or other proceeding, all protected testimony.

6 (c) for information produced in some form other than documentary and for
7 any other tangible items, that the Producing Party affix in a prominent place on the
8 exterior of the container or containers in which the information or item is stored the
9 legend "CONFIDENTIAL." If only a portion or portions of the information or item
10 warrant protection, the Producing Party, to the extent practicable, shall identify the
11 protected portion(s).

12 5.3 Inadvertent Failures to Designate. If timely corrected, an inadvertent
13 failure to designate qualified information or items does not, standing alone, waive the
14 Designating Party's right to secure protection under this Order for such material.
15 Upon timely correction of a designation, the Receiving Party must make reasonable
16 efforts to assure that the material is treated in accordance with the provisions of this
17 Order.

18 6. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS

19 6.1 Timing of Challenges. Any Party or Non-Party may challenge a
20 designation of confidentiality at any time. Unless a prompt challenge to a Designating
21 Party's confidentiality designation is necessary to avoid foreseeable, substantial
22 unfairness, unnecessary economic burdens, or a significant disruption or delay of the
23 litigation, a Party does not waive its right to challenge a confidentiality designation by
24 electing not to mount a challenge promptly after the original designation is disclosed.

25 6.2 Meet and Confer. The Challenging Party shall initiate the dispute
26 resolution process by providing written notice of each designation it is challenging
27 and describing the basis for each challenge. To avoid ambiguity as to whether a
28 challenge has been made, the written notice must recite that the challenge to

1 confidentiality is being made in accordance with this specific paragraph of the
2 Protective Order. The parties shall attempt to resolve each challenge in good faith and
3 must begin the process by conferring directly (in voice to voice dialogue; other forms
4 of communication are not sufficient) within 14 days of the date of service of notice. In
5 conferring, the Challenging Party must explain the basis for its belief that the
6 confidentiality designation was not proper and must give the Designating Party an
7 opportunity to review the designated material, to reconsider the circumstances, and, if
8 no change in designation is offered, to explain the basis for the chosen designation. A
9 Challenging Party may proceed to the next stage of the challenge process only if it has
10 engaged in this meet and confer process first or establishes that the Designating Party
11 is unwilling to participate in the meet and confer process in a timely manner.

12 6.3 Judicial Intervention. If the Parties cannot resolve a challenge without
13 court intervention, the Designating Party shall initiate the dispute resolution process
14 under Local Rule 37.1 et seq. ~~file and serve a motion to retain confidentiality under~~
15 ~~Civil Local Rule 7 (and in compliance with Civil Local Rule 79-5, if applicable)~~
16 ~~within 21 days of the initial notice of challenge or within 14 days of the parties~~
17 ~~agreeing that the meet and confer process will not resolve their dispute, whichever is~~
18 ~~earlier. Each such motion must be accompanied by a competent declaration affirming~~
19 ~~that the movant has complied with the meet and confer requirements imposed in the~~
20 ~~preceding paragraph. Failure by the Designating Party to make such a motion~~
21 ~~including the required declaration within 21 days (or 14 days, if applicable) shall~~
22 ~~automatically waive the confidentiality designation for each challenged designation.~~
23 ~~In addition, the Challenging Party may file a motion challenging a confidentiality~~
24 ~~designation at any time if there is good cause for doing so, including a challenge to the~~
25 ~~designation of a deposition transcript or any portions thereof. Any motion brought~~
26 ~~pursuant to this provision must be accompanied by a competent declaration affirming~~
27 ~~that the movant has complied with the meet and confer requirements imposed by the~~
28 ~~preceding paragraph.~~

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2 The burden of persuasion in any such challenge proceeding shall be on the
3 Designating Party. Frivolous challenges, and those made for an improper purpose
4 (e.g., to harass or impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may
5 expose the Challenging Party to sanctions. Unless the Designating Party has waived
6 the confidentiality designation by failing to file a motion to retain confidentiality as
7 described above, all parties shall continue to afford the material in question the level
8 of protection to which it is entitled under the Producing Party’s designation until the
9 court rules on the challenge.

10 7. ACCESS TO AND USE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

11 7.1 Basic Principles. A Receiving Party may use Protected Material that is
12 disclosed or produced by another Party or by a Non-Party in connection with this case
13 only for prosecuting, defending, or attempting to settle this litigation. Such Protected
14 Material may be disclosed only to the categories of persons and under the conditions
15 described in this Order. When the litigation has been terminated, a Receiving Party
16 must comply with the provisions of section 13 below (FINAL DISPOSITION).

17 Protected Material must be stored and maintained by a Receiving Party at a
18 location and in a secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons
19 authorized under this Order.

20 7.2 Disclosure of “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items. Unless
21 otherwise ordered by the court or permitted in writing by the Designating Party, a
22 Receiving Party may disclose any information or item designated “CONFIDENTIAL”
23 only to:

24 (a) the Receiving Party’s Outside Counsel of Record in this action, as well
25 as employees of said Outside Counsel of Record to whom it is reasonably necessary to
26 disclose the information for this litigation and who have signed the “Acknowledgment
27 and Agreement to Be Bound” that is attached hereto as Exhibit A;

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2 (b) the officers, directors, and employees (including House Counsel) of the
3 Receiving Party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation and
4 who have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

5 (c) Experts (as defined in this Order) of the Receiving Party to whom
6 disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation and who have signed the
7 “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

8 (d) the court and its personnel;

9 (e) court reporters and their staff, professional jury or trial consultants,
10 mock jurors, and Professional Vendors to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary
11 for this litigation and who have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be
12 Bound” (Exhibit A);

13 (f) during their depositions, witnesses in the action to whom disclosure is
14 reasonably necessary and who have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to
15 Be Bound” (Exhibit A), unless otherwise agreed by the Designating Party or ordered
16 by the court. Pages of transcribed deposition testimony or exhibits to depositions that
17 reveal Protected Material must be separately bound by the court reporter and may not
18 be disclosed to anyone except as permitted under this Stipulated Protective Order.

19 (g) the author or recipient of a document containing the information or a
20 custodian or other person who otherwise possessed or knew the information.

21 8. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED IN
22 OTHER LITIGATION

23 If a Party is served with a subpoena or a court order issued in other litigation
24 that compels disclosure of any information or items designated in this action as
25 “CONFIDENTIAL,” that Party must:

26 (a) promptly notify in writing the Designating Party. Such notification shall
27 include a copy of the subpoena or court order;

28 (b) promptly notify in writing the party who caused the subpoena or order to

1 issue in the other litigation that some or all of the material covered by the subpoena or
2 order is subject to this Protective Order. Such notification shall include a copy of this
3 Stipulated Protective Order; and

4 (c) cooperate with respect to all reasonable procedures sought to be pursued
5 by the Designating Party whose Protected Material may be affected.

6 If the Designating Party timely seeks a protective order, the Party served with
7 the subpoena or court order shall not produce any information designated in this
8 action as “CONFIDENTIAL” before a determination by the court from which the
9 subpoena or order issued, unless the Party has obtained the Designating Party’s
10 permission. The Designating Party shall bear the burden and expense of seeking
11 protection in that court of its confidential material – and nothing in these provisions
12 should be construed as authorizing or encouraging a Receiving Party in this action to
13 disobey a lawful directive from another court.

14 9. A NON-PARTY’S PROTECTED MATERIAL SOUGHT TO BE PRODUCED
15 IN THIS LITIGATION

16 (a) The terms of this Order are applicable to information produced by a
17 Non-Party in this action and designated as “CONFIDENTIAL.” Such information
18 produced by Non-Parties in connection with this litigation is protected by the
19 remedies and relief provided by this Order. Nothing in these provisions should be
20 construed as prohibiting a Non-Party from seeking additional protections.

21 (b) In the event that a Party is required, by a valid discovery request, to
22 produce a Non-Party’s confidential information in its possession, and the Party is
23 subject to an agreement with the Non-Party not to produce the Non-Party’s
24 confidential information, then the Party shall:

25 (1) promptly notify in writing the Requesting Party and the Non-Party
26 that some or all of the information requested is subject to a confidentiality agreement
27 with a Non-Party;

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2 (2) promptly provide the Non-Party with a copy of the Stipulated
3 Protective Order in this litigation, the relevant discovery request(s), and a reasonably
4 specific description of the information requested; and

5 (3) make the information requested available for inspection by the Non-
6 Party.

7 (c) If the Non-Party fails to object or seek a protective order from this court
8 within 14 days of receiving the notice and accompanying information, the Receiving
9 Party may produce the Non-Party's confidential information responsive to the
10 discovery request. If the Non-Party timely seeks a protective order, the Receiving
11 Party shall not produce any information in its possession or control that is subject to
12 the confidentiality agreement with the Non-Party before a determination by the court.
13 Absent a court order to the contrary, the Non-Party shall bear the burden and expense
14 of seeking protection in this court of its Protected Material.

15 10. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

16 If a Receiving Party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has disclosed
17 Protected Material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized under this
18 Stipulated Protective Order, the Receiving Party must immediately (a) notify in
19 writing the Designating Party of the unauthorized disclosures, (b) use its best efforts
20 to retrieve all unauthorized copies of the Protected Material, (c) inform the person or
21 persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the terms of this Order,
22 and (d) request such person or persons to execute the "Acknowledgment and
23 Agreement to Be Bound" that is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

24 11. INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE
25 PROTECTED MATERIAL

26 When a Producing Party gives notice to Receiving Parties that certain
27 inadvertently produced material is subject to a claim of privilege or other protection,
28 the obligations of the Receiving Parties are those set forth in Federal Rule of Civil

1 Procedure 26(b)(5)(B). This provision is not intended to modify whatever procedure
2 may be established in an e-discovery order that provides for production without prior
3 privilege review. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Evidence 502(d) and (e), insofar as the
4 parties reach an agreement on the effect of disclosure of a communication or
5 information covered by the attorney-client privilege or work product protection, the
6 parties may incorporate their agreement in the stipulated protective order submitted to
7 the court.

8 12. MISCELLANEOUS

9 12.1 Right to Further Relief. Nothing in this Order abridges the right of any
10 person to seek its modification by the court in the future.

11 12.2 Right to Assert Other Objections. By stipulating to the entry of this
12 Protective Order no Party waives any right it otherwise would have to object to
13 disclosing or producing any information or item on any ground not addressed in this
14 Stipulated Protective Order. Similarly, no Party waives any right to object on any
15 ground to use in evidence of any of the material covered by this Protective Order.

16 12.3 Filing Protected Material. Without written permission from the
17 Designating Party or a court order secured after appropriate notice to all interested
18 persons, a Party may not file in the public record in this action any Protected Material.
19 A Party that seeks to file under seal any Protected Material must comply with Civil
20 Local Rule 79-5. Protected Material may only be filed under seal pursuant to a court
21 order authorizing the sealing of the specific Protected Material at issue. Pursuant to
22 Civil Local Rule 79-5, a sealing order will issue only upon a request establishing that
23 the Protected Material at issue is privileged, protectable as a trade secret, or otherwise
24 entitled to protection under the law. If a Receiving Party's request to file Protected
25 Material under seal pursuant to Civil Local Rule 79-5(d) is denied by the court, then
26 the Receiving Party may file the information in the public record pursuant to Civil
27 Local Rule 79-5(e) unless otherwise instructed by the court.

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2 13. FINAL DISPOSITION

3 Within 60 days after the final disposition of this action, as defined in paragraph
4 4, each Receiving Party must return all Protected Material to the Producing Party or
5 destroy such material. As used in this subdivision, “all Protected Material” includes
6 all copies, abstracts, compilations, summaries, and any other format reproducing or
7 capturing any of the Protected Material. Whether the Protected Material is returned or
8 destroyed, the Receiving Party must submit a written certification to the Producing
9 Party (and, if not the same person or entity, to the Designating Party) by the 60 day
10 deadline that (1) identifies (by category, where appropriate) all the Protected Material
11 that was returned or destroyed and (2) affirms that the Receiving Party has not
12 retained any copies, abstracts, compilations, summaries or any other format
13 reproducing or capturing any of the Protected Material. Notwithstanding this
14 provision, Counsel are entitled to retain an archival copy of all pleadings, motion
15 papers, trial, deposition, and hearing transcripts, legal memoranda, correspondence,
16 deposition and trial exhibits, expert reports, attorney work product, and consultant and
17 expert work product, even if such materials contain Protected Material. Any such
18 archival copies that contain or constitute Protected Material remain subject to this
19 Protective Order as set forth in Section 4 (DURATION).

20 14. Any violation of this Order may be punished by any and all appropriate
21 measures including, without limitation, contempt proceedings and/or monetary
22 sanctions.

23 IT IS SO STIPULATED, THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD.

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DATED: December 6, 2017

Respectfully submitted,
SEYFARTH SHAW LLP

By: /s/ Eric G. Ruehe
Richard B. Lapp
David D. Kadue
Eric G. Ruehe
Attorneys for Defendant
MXD GROUP, INC.

DATED: December 6, 2017

SCHNEIDER WALLACE
COTTRELL KONECKY WOTKYNS
LLP

By: /s/ Joshua Konecky
Joshua Konecky
Nathan Piller
Attorneys for Plaintiff
JOSE ALCALA

FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN, IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: December 8, 2017

/s/ Alka Sagar
Honorable Alka Sagar
United States Magistrate Judge

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EXHIBIT A

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND

I, _____ [print or type full name], of
_____ [print or type full address], declare under penalty of perjury that
I have read in its entirety and understand the Stipulated Protective Order that was
issued by the United States District Court for the Central District of California on
[date] in the case of _____ [**insert formal name of the case and the number
and initials assigned to it by the court**]. I agree to comply with and to be bound by
all the terms of this Stipulated Protective Order and I understand and acknowledge
that failure to so comply could expose me to sanctions and punishment in the nature of
contempt. I solemnly promise that I will not disclose in any manner any information
or item that is subject to this Stipulated Protective Order to any person or entity except
in strict compliance with the provisions of this Order.

I further agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the
Central District of California for the purpose of enforcing the terms of this Stipulated
Protective Order, even if such enforcement proceedings occur after termination of this
action.

I hereby appoint _____ [print or type full name] of
_____ [print or type full address and
telephone number] as my California agent for service of process in connection with
this action or any proceedings related to enforcement of this Stipulated Protective
Order.

Date: _____

City and State where sworn and signed: _____

Printed name: _____

Signature: _____

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