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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

GEORGIA ANN CHOTICAMCHORN,
an Individual

Plaintiff,

v.

SOUTHWEST AIRLINES, INC.; and
DOES 1 through 50, Inclusive.

Defendants.

USDC Case No. 2:17-cv-9118ODW(Ex)
[LASC Case No. BC675110]

~~PROPOSED~~ **PROTECTIVE ORDER**

Complaint Filed: August 3, 2017
Trial Date: None

**BASED ON THE FOREGOING STIPULATION OF THE PARTIES, THE
COURT FINDS THAT GOOD CAUSE EXISTS TO GRANT THE
STIPULATED PROTECTIVE ORDER AS FOLLOWS:**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, pursuant to Stipulation, that:

1. 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 would be warranted. Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the Court to enter the following Stipulated Protective Order.

1 SOUTHWEST AIRLINES CO. and CHOTICAMCHORN (collectively, the "Parties")
2 acknowledge that this Order does not confer blanket protections on all disclosures or
3 responses to discovery and that the protection it affords extends only to the limited
4 information or items that are entitled under the applicable legal principles to
5 treatment as confidential.

6 2. In connection with discovery and the trial of this action, the Parties may
7 designate certain documents and testimony, or other information derived therefrom,
8 as "Confidential" under the terms of this Stipulation and Stipulated Protective Order
9 ("Order").

10 3. "Confidential" information is information which has not been made
11 public and which concerns or relates to SOUTHWEST's business practices and falls
12 within Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c)(1)(G), including, but not limited to
13 event reports, computer records, emails, contracts, policies, procedures, manuals.

14 4. GOOD CAUSE STATEMENT.

15 The Parties believe that the designation of certain documents as Confidential is
16 necessary because there is significant risk in disclosing certain highly sensitive
17 information beyond the purposes of this litigation. SOUTHWEST could be
18 irreparably harmed if information designated as Confidential is divulged or somehow
19 wrongly misused by the Parties or non-parties. The unfettered disclosure of the
20 information, including but not limited to the filing of the documents in the public
21 record, could be harmful to the commercial interests of SOUTHWEST. There is good
22 cause to enter this Protective Order to ensure adequate protection against the
23 wrongful use or disclosure of Protected Material, and to protect the value associated
24 with the Protected Material. Any violation of the confidentiality obligations set forth
25 in this Protective Order could be detrimental and prejudicial to one or more Parties.
26 The Parties agree that the concerns set forth in this paragraph are asserted in good
27 faith.

28 5. A party receiving ("Receiving Party") material protected under this

1 agreement ("Protected Material") may use Protected Material disclosed or produced
2 by another Party or by a non-party in connection with this case only for prosecuting,
3 defending, or attempting to settle this litigation.

4 6. By designating a document, testimony or other information derived
5 therefrom as Protected Material labeled "Confidential" under the terms of this
6 Stipulation and Protective Order, the Parties are certifying that there is a good faith
7 basis both in law and in fact for the designation. Such "Confidential" materials shall
8 be used solely in connection with this lawsuit, and not for any business, competitive,
9 or governmental purpose or function, and such information shall not be disclosed to
10 anyone except as provided herein.

11 7. Except as otherwise provided in this Order, or as otherwise stipulated or
12 ordered, material that qualifies for protection under this Order should be clearly
13 designated as so before the material is disclosed or produced. Designation in
14 conformity with this Order requires:

15 a. for information in documentary form (apart from transcripts of
16 depositions or other pretrial or trial proceedings), that the party producing Protected
17 material ("Producing Party") affix the legend "Confidential" on each page that
18 contains protected material, or prominently on each electronic media that contains
19 protected material.

20 b. for testimony given in deposition or in other pretrial proceedings,
21 testimony taken at a deposition may be designated as "Confidential" by making a
22 statement to that effect on the record at the deposition or other proceeding. Following
23 the deposition, the party wishing to designate certain testimony as Protected Material
24 ("Designating Party") shall have 30 days, after the transcript becomes available, to
25 identify the specific portions of the testimony as to which protection is sought. Only
26 those portions of the testimony that are appropriately designated for protection within
27 the 30 days shall be covered by the provisions of this Stipulated Protective Order.

28 c. for information produced in any other form, including any tangible

1 items, that the Producing Party affix in a prominent place on the exterior of the
2 container or containers in which the information or item is stored the legend
3 "Confidential." If only portions of the information or item warrant protection, the
4 Producing Party, to the extent practicable, shall identify the protected portions.

5 8. Information or material produced which is designated as "Confidential"
6 may be disclosed or made available only to the Court, to counsel for a party
7 (including the paralegal, clerical, and secretarial staff employed by such counsel), and
8 to the "qualified persons" designated below:

9 a. in-house counsel of a party, or an officer, director, or employee of a
10 party deemed necessary by counsel to aid in the prosecution, defense, or settlement of
11 this action;

12 b. experts or consultants (together with their clerical staff) retained to
13 assist in the prosecution, defense, or settlement of this action who sign an undertaking
14 confirming that they have reviewed and agree to be bound by the terms of the
15 protective order;

16 c. court reporter(s) employed in this action;

17 d. a witness at any proceeding in this action; and,

18 e. any other person as to whom the Disclosing Party agrees in writing.

19 9. Nothing herein shall impose any restrictions on the use or disclosure by a
20 party of material obtained by such party independent of discovery in this action,
21 whether or not such material is also obtained through discovery in this action, or from
22 disclosing its own Protected Material as it deems appropriate.

23 10. In the event that any Protected Material is used in any proceeding in this
24 action, it shall not lose its confidential status through such use, and the party using
25 such shall take all reasonable steps to maintain its confidentiality during such use;
26 however, this Paragraph does not apply where the Protected Material appears in the
27 public record.

28 11. No document shall be filed under seal unless counsel secures a court order

1 allowing the filing of a document under seal. An application to file a document under
2 seal shall be served on opposing counsel, and on the person or entity that has custody
3 and control of the document, if different from opposing counsel. If opposing counsel,
4 or the person or entity who has custody and control of the document, wishes to
5 oppose the application, he/she must contact the chambers of the judge who will rule
6 on the application, to notify the judge's staff that an opposition to the application will
7 be filed.

8 12. This Stipulation is entered solely for the purpose of facilitating the
9 exchange of documents and information between the Parties to this action without
10 involving the Court unnecessarily in the process. Nothing in this Stipulation nor the
11 production of any information or document under the terms of this Stipulation nor
12 any proceedings pursuant to this Stipulation shall be deemed to have the effect of an
13 admission or waiver by any party or of altering the confidentiality or
14 non-confidentiality of any such document or information or altering any existing
15 obligation of any party or the absence thereof. Neither the stipulation nor its
16 contents, nor designation of a document as "Confidential," nor any party's objection
17 or failure to object to such a designation is admissible as evidence for the purpose of
18 proving or disproving any matter at issue in the litigation. Further, the Parties agree
19 that the "Confidential" designation provided on documents for purposes of production
20 under this Protective Order is not admissible for any purpose. In addition, the parties
21 agree that the "Confidential" designation added pursuant to this Protective Order shall
22 not appear on any trial exhibit or any other document shown to the jury.

23 13. Inadvertent production of privileged material, or the inadvertent failure to
24 designate material as "Confidential," does not waive the privileged or confidential
25 status of the document or information.

26 14. If timely corrected, an inadvertent failure to designate qualified
27 information or items as "Confidential" does not, standing alone, waive the
28 Designating Party's right to secure protection under this Order for such material. If

1 material is appropriately designated as "Confidential" after the material was initially
2 produced, the Receiving Party, on timely notification of the designation, must make
3 reasonable efforts to assure that the material is treated in accordance with the
4 provisions of this Order, and must immediately (a) notify in writing the Designating
5 Party of any disclosures of such Protected Material, (b) use its best efforts to retrieve
6 all copies of the Protected Material, and (c) inform the person or persons to whom
7 disclosures were made of all the terms of this Order. If the designated documents
8 have already been filed with the Court without the confidential designation, the
9 Designating Party may move the court for filing of the document under seal.

10 15. Any party may challenge the confidentiality designation of the other
11 party, but shall be required to maintain the confidentiality of the information unless
12 and until a ruling issues designating that the information ought not be deemed
13 "Confidential" or the Designating Party fails to seek a ruling on the confidentiality of
14 the designated material, as set forth in detail in Paragraph 18.

15 16. A party that elects to initiate a challenge to a Designating Party's
16 confidentiality designation must begin the process by conferring directly with counsel
17 for the Designating Party. In conferring, the challenging Party must explain the basis
18 for its belief that the confidentiality designation was not proper and must give the
19 Designating Party an opportunity to review the designated material, to reconsider the
20 circumstances, and, if no change in designation is offered, to explain the basis for the
21 chosen designation.

22 17. If the parties are unable to resolve their dispute regarding the
23 confidentiality of the designated material following the meet and confer process set
24 forth in Paragraph 16, the Designating Party must, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil
25 Procedure 26, and the rules of this Court, file and serve a motion for a protective
26 order that identifies the material designated as confidential and affirms that the
27 moving party has complied with the meet and confer requirements imposed in the
28 preceding paragraph. The Designating Party bears the burden of persuading the

1 Court that the information is Confidential within the definition of that term set forth
2 above.

3 18. In the case of a dispute, the material designated as confidential will be
4 deemed confidential until thirty (30) days following the start of the meet and confer
5 process set forth in Paragraph 16. If the Designating Party files a motion for a
6 protective order, as set forth in Paragraph 17, the designated material maintains its
7 confidentiality designation until the court orders otherwise. If the Designating Party
8 fails to file a motion for a protective order following the meet and confer process,
9 after thirty days from the start of the meet and confer process, the material is no
10 longer considered confidential.

11 19. Upon written request, at the conclusion of this matter, the Parties hereby
12 agree to promptly return all copies of all Protected Material received; or, in the
13 alternative, such parties may shred all copies of all such Protected Material and
14 promptly send written confirmation from the other Party that it has complied with the
15 terms of this Stipulation. Notwithstanding, Counsel shall be able to retain a copy of
16 confidential information that has been submitted in a pleading or marked as an exhibit
17 in a deposition.

18 20. Even after the termination of this litigation, the confidentiality obligations
19 imposed by this Order shall remain in effect until a Designating Party agrees
20 otherwise in writing or a court order otherwise directs. This Court retains and shall
21 have jurisdiction over the Parties, their attorneys and all recipients of discovery
22 designated "Confidential" for the enforcement of the provisions of this Order
23 following termination of this case, and/or to terminate all or some of the provisions of
24 this Order on application by any party.

25 21. This Order shall not preclude a party from exercising any rights or raising
26 any objections otherwise available to them under the rules of discovery and evidence.

27 22. This Order shall be binding upon the Parties to this action, the attorneys
28 for each party and upon any recipient of discovery designated as "Confidential" and

1 upon any successor, executor, personal representative, administrator, heir, legal
2 representative, assignee, subsidiaries, division, employee, agent, independent
3 contractor, or other person or legal entity over which any party or attorney or
4 recipient of documents covered by this Order may have control.

5 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

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7 DATED: January 4, 2018



8 JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES
9 DISTRICT COURT

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