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

JESUS CORRALES; ERICA ORTIZ;
ENRIQUE CARRANZA; and
BULMARO CARRANZA,

Plaintiffs,

v.

CITY OF LOMPOC; HENRY
STRONG; DAVID GARZA;
GABRIEL MOLINA; and DOES 1-10,

Defendants.

Case No. 2:21-CV-06629-CJC-GJS

[Assigned to Hon. Cormac J. Carney]

**~~PROPOSED~~ ORDER GRANTING
PARTIES' JOINT STIPULATED
PROTECTIVE ORDER**

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1 **ORDER**

2 1. **A. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS**

3 Discovery in this action is likely to involve production of confidential,
4 proprietary or private information for which special protection from public disclosure
5 and from use for any purpose other than prosecuting this litigation may be warranted.
6 Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the Court to enter the
7 following Stipulated Protective Order. The parties acknowledge that this Order does
8 not confer blanket protections on all disclosures or responses to discovery and that
9 the protection it affords from public disclosure and use extends only to the limited
10 information or items that are entitled to confidential treatment under the applicable
11 legal principles.

12 **B. GOOD CAUSE STATEMENT**

13 This action is likely to involve materials and information that were acquired in
14 confidence by public employees in the course of their duties and have not been
15 officially disclosed or made open or available to the public. Such confidential
16 materials and information consist of, among other things: (1) confidential police
17 personnel files and accompanying materials maintained by the City of Lompoc Police
18 Department; (2) law enforcement investigative reports and records which may
19 contain personal contact information of third party witnesses; (3) information
20 otherwise generally unavailable to the public, or which may be privileged or otherwise
21 protected from disclosure under state or federal statutes, court rules, case decisions, or
22 common law. Defendants contend that individual officers have an interest in
23 protecting their own privacy rights to information in their personnel files and other
24 related information.

25 Accordingly, to expedite the flow of information, to facilitate the prompt
26 resolution of disputes over confidentiality of discovery materials, to adequately
27 protect information the parties are entitled to keep confidential, to ensure that the
28 parties are permitted reasonably necessary uses of such material in preparation for

1 and in the conduct of trial, to address their handling at the end of the litigation, and
2 serve the ends of justice, a protective order for such information is justified in this
3 matter. It is the intent of the parties that information will not be designated as
4 confidential for tactical reasons and that nothing be so designated without a good faith
5 belief that it has been maintained in a confidential, non-public manner, and there is
6 good cause why it should not be part of the public record of this case.

7 C. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PROCEDURE FOR FILING UNDER SEAL

8 The parties further acknowledge, as set forth in Section 12.3, below, that this
9 Stipulated Protective Order does not entitle them to file confidential information
10 under seal; Local Civil Rule 79-5 sets forth the procedures that must be followed and
11 the standards that will be applied when a party seeks permission from the court to file
12 material under seal.

13 There is a strong presumption that the public has a right of access to judicial
14 proceedings and records in civil cases. In connection with non-dispositive motions,
15 good cause must be shown to support a filing under seal. *See Kamakana v. City and*
16 *County of Honolulu*, 447 F.3d 1172, 1176 (9th Cir. 2006), *Phillips v. Gen. Motors*
17 *Corp.*, 307 F.3d 1206, 1210-11 (9th Cir. 2002), *Makar-Welbon v. Sony Electronics, Inc.*,
18 187 F.R.D. 576, 577 (E.D. Wis. 1999) (even stipulated protective orders require good
19 cause showing), and a specific showing of good cause or compelling reasons with
20 proper evidentiary support and legal justification, must be made with respect to
21 Protected Material that a party seeks to file under seal. The parties' mere designation
22 of Disclosure or Discovery Material as CONFIDENTIAL does not—without the
23 submission of competent evidence by declaration, establishing that the material
24 sought to be filed under seal qualifies as confidential, privileged, or otherwise
25 protectable—constitute good cause.

26 Further, if a party requests sealing related to a dispositive motion or trial, then
27 compelling reasons, not only good cause, for the sealing must be shown, and the relief
28 sought shall be narrowly tailored to serve the specific interest to be protected. *See*

1 *Pintos v. Pacific Creditors Ass’n*, 605 F.3d 665, 677-79 (9th Cir. 2010). For each
2 item or type of information, document, or thing sought to be filed or introduced under
3 seal in connection with a dispositive motion or trial, the party seeking protection must
4 articulate compelling reasons, supported by specific facts and legal justification, for
5 the requested sealing order. Again, competent evidence supporting the application to
6 file documents under seal must be provided by declaration.

7 Any document that is not confidential, privileged, or otherwise protectable in
8 its entirety will not be filed under seal if the confidential portions can be redacted. If
9 documents can be redacted, then a redacted version for public viewing, omitting only
10 the confidential, privileged, or otherwise protectable portions of the document, shall
11 be filed. Any application that seeks to file documents under seal in their entirety
12 should include an explanation of why redaction is not feasible.

13 2. DEFINITIONS

14 2.1 Action: this pending federal lawsuit.

15 2.2 Challenging Party: a Party or Non-Party that challenges the designation
16 of information or items under this Order.

17 2.3 “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items: information (regardless of
18 how it is generated, stored or maintained) or tangible things that qualify for protection
19 under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c), and as specified above in the Good
20 Cause Statement.

21 2.4 Counsel: Outside Counsel of Record and House Counsel (as well as their
22 support staff).

23 2.5 Designating Party: a Party or Non-Party that designates information or
24 items that it produces in disclosures or in responses to discovery as
25 “CONFIDENTIAL.”

26 2.6 Disclosure or Discovery Material: all items or information, regardless
27 of the medium or manner in which it is generated, stored, or maintained (including,
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1 among other things, testimony, transcripts, and tangible things), that are produced or
2 generated in disclosures or responses to discovery in this matter.

3 2.7 Expert: a person with specialized knowledge or experience in a matter
4 pertinent to the litigation who has been retained by a Party or its counsel to serve as
5 an expert witness or as a consultant in this Action.

6 2.8 House Counsel: attorneys who are employees of a party to this Action.
7 House Counsel does not include Outside Counsel of Record or any other outside
8 counsel.

9 2.9 Non-Party: any natural person, partnership, corporation, association or
10 other legal entity not named as a Party to this action.

11 2.10 Outside Counsel of Record: attorneys who are not employees of a party
12 to this Action but are retained to represent or advise a party to this Action and have
13 appeared in this Action on behalf of that party or are affiliated with a law firm that
14 has appeared on behalf of that party, and includes support staff.

15 2.11 Party: any party to this Action, including all of its officers, directors,
16 employees, consultants, retained experts, and Outside Counsel of Record (and their
17 support staffs).

18 2.12 Producing Party: a Party or Non-Party that produces Disclosure or
19 Discovery Material in this Action.

20 2.13 Professional Vendors: persons or entities that provide litigation support
21 services (e.g., photocopying, videotaping, translating, preparing exhibits or
22 demonstrations, and organizing, storing, or retrieving data in any form or medium)
23 and their employees and subcontractors.

24 2.14 Protected Material: any Disclosure or Discovery Material that is
25 designated as “CONFIDENTIAL.”

26 2.15 Receiving Party: a Party that receives Disclosure or Discovery Material
27 from a Producing Party.

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1 3. SCOPE

2 The protections conferred by this Stipulation and Order cover not only
3 Protected Material (as defined above), but also (1) any information copied or extracted
4 from Protected Material; (2) all copies, excerpts, summaries, or compilations of
5 Protected Material; and (3) any testimony, conversations, or presentations by Parties
6 or their Counsel that might reveal Protected Material.

7 Any use of Protected Material at trial shall be governed by the orders of the
8 trial judge. This Order does not govern the use of Protected Material at trial.

9 4. DURATION

10 FINAL DISPOSITION of the action is defined as the conclusion of any
11 appellate proceedings, or, if no appeal is taken, when the time for filing of an appeal
12 has run. Except as set forth below, the terms of this protective order apply through
13 FINAL DISPOSITION of the action. The parties may stipulate that they will be
14 contractually bound by the terms of this agreement beyond FINAL DISPOSITION,
15 but will have to file a separate action for enforcement of the agreement once all
16 proceedings in this case are complete.

17 Once a case proceeds to trial, information that was designated as
18 CONFIDENTIAL or maintained pursuant to this protective order used or introduced
19 as an exhibit at trial becomes public and will be presumptively available to all
20 members of the public, including the press, unless compelling reasons supported by
21 specific factual findings to proceed otherwise are made to the trial judge in advance
22 of the trial. *See Kamakana*, 447 F.3d at 1180-81 (distinguishing “good cause”
23 showing for sealing documents produced in discovery from “compelling reasons”
24 standard when merits-related documents are part of court record). Accordingly, for
25 such materials, the terms of this protective order do not extend beyond the
26 commencement of the trial.

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1 5. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL

2 5.1 Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection.

3 Each Party or Non-Party that designates information or items for protection under this
4 Order must take care to limit any such designation to specific material that qualifies
5 under the appropriate standards. The Designating Party must designate for protection
6 only those parts of material, documents, items or oral or written communications that
7 qualify so that other portions of the material, documents, items or communications
8 for which protection is not warranted are not swept unjustifiably within the ambit of
9 this Order.

10 Mass, indiscriminate or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations
11 that are shown to be clearly unjustified or that have been made for an improper
12 purpose (e.g., to unnecessarily encumber the case development process or to impose
13 unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may expose the Designating Party
14 to sanctions.

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

18 5.2 Manner and Timing of Designations. Except as otherwise provided in
19 this Order (see, e.g., second paragraph of section 5.2(a) below), or as otherwise
20 stipulated or ordered, Disclosure or Discovery Material that qualifies for protection
21 under this Order must be clearly so designated before the material is disclosed or
22 produced.

23 Designation in conformity with this Order requires:

24 (a) for information in documentary form (e.g., paper or electronic
25 documents, but excluding transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial
26 proceedings), that the Producing Party affix at a minimum, the legend
27 "CONFIDENTIAL" (hereinafter "CONFIDENTIAL legend"), to each page that
28 contains protected material. If only a portion of the material on a page qualifies for

1 protection, the Producing Party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s)
2 (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the margins).

3 A Party or Non-Party that makes original documents available for inspection
4 need not designate them for protection until after the inspecting Party has indicated
5 which documents it would like copied and produced. During the inspection and
6 before the designation, all of the material made available for inspection shall be
7 deemed “CONFIDENTIAL.” After the inspecting Party has identified the documents
8 it wants copied and produced, the Producing Party must determine which documents,
9 or portions thereof, qualify for protection under this Order. Then, before producing
10 the specified documents, the Producing Party must affix the “CONFIDENTIAL
11 legend” to each page that contains Protected Material. If only a portion of the material
12 on a page qualifies for protection, the Producing Party also must clearly identify the
13 protected portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the margins).

14 (b) for testimony given in depositions that the Designating Party
15 identifies the Disclosure or Discovery Material on the record, before the close of the
16 deposition all protected testimony.

17 (c) for information produced in some form other than documentary and
18 for any other tangible items, that the Producing Party affix in a prominent place on
19 the exterior of the container or containers in which the information is stored the legend
20 “CONFIDENTIAL.” If only a portion or portions of the information warrants
21 protection, the Producing Party, to the extent practicable, shall identify the protected
22 portion(s).

23 5.3 Inadvertent Failures to Designate. If timely corrected, an inadvertent
24 failure to designate qualified information or items does not, standing alone, waive the
25 Designating Party’s right to secure protection under this Order for such material.
26 Upon timely correction of a designation, the Receiving Party must make reasonable
27 efforts to assure that the material is treated in accordance with the provisions of this
28 Order.

1 6. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS

2 6.1 Timing of Challenges. Any Party or Non-Party may challenge a
3 designation of confidentiality at any time that is consistent with the Court’s
4 Scheduling Order.

5 6.2 Meet and Confer. The Challenging Party shall initiate the dispute
6 resolution process under Local Rule 37.1 et seq.

7 6.3 The burden of persuasion in any such challenge proceeding shall be on
8 the Designating Party. Frivolous challenges, and those made for an improper purpose
9 (e.g., to harass or impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may
10 expose the Challenging Party to sanctions. Unless the Designating Party has waived
11 or withdrawn the confidentiality designation, all parties shall continue to afford the
12 material in question the level of protection to which it is entitled under the Producing
13 Party’s designation until the Court rules on the challenge.

14 7. ACCESS TO AND USE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

15 7.1 Basic Principles. A Receiving Party may use Protected Material that is
16 disclosed or produced by another Party or by a Non-Party in connection with this
17 Action only for prosecuting, defending or attempting to settle this Action. Such
18 Protected Material may be disclosed only to the categories of persons and under the
19 conditions described in this Order. When the Action has been terminated, a Receiving
20 Party must comply with the provisions of section 13 below (FINAL DISPOSITION).
21 Protected Material must be stored and maintained by a Receiving Party at a location
22 and in a secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons authorized
23 under this Order.

24 7.2 Disclosure of “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items. Unless
25 otherwise ordered by the court or permitted in writing by the Designating Party, a
26 Receiving Party may disclose any information or item designated
27 “CONFIDENTIAL” only to:
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1 (a) the Receiving Party’s Outside Counsel of Record in this Action, as
2 well as employees of said Outside Counsel of Record to whom it is reasonably
3 necessary to disclose the information for this Action;

4 (b) the officers, directors, and employees (including House Counsel) of
5 the Receiving Party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action;

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

9 (d) the court and its personnel;

10 (e) court reporters and their staff;

11 (f) professional jury or trial consultants, mock jurors, and Professional
12 Vendors to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action and who have
13 signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

14 (g) the author or recipient of a document containing the information or
15 a custodian or other person who otherwise possessed or knew the information;

16 (h) during their depositions, witnesses, and attorneys for witnesses, in
17 the Action to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary provided: (1) the deposing
18 party requests that the witness sign the form attached as Exhibit 1 hereto; and (2) they
19 will not be permitted to keep any confidential information unless they sign the
20 “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A), unless otherwise
21 agreed by the Designating Party or ordered by the court. Pages of transcribed
22 deposition testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal Protected Material may be
23 separately bound by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to anyone except as
24 permitted under this Stipulated Protective Order; and

25 (i) any mediator or settlement officer, and their supporting personnel,
26 mutually agreed upon by any of the parties engaged in settlement discussions.

1 8. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED IN
2 OTHER LITIGATION

3 If a Party is served with a subpoena or a court order issued in other litigation
4 that compels disclosure of any information or items designated in this Action as
5 “CONFIDENTIAL,” that Party must:

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

8 (b) promptly notify in writing the party who caused the subpoena or
9 order to issue in the other litigation that some or all of the material covered by the
10 subpoena or order is subject to this Protective Order. Such notification shall include
11 a copy of this Stipulated Protective Order; and

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

14 If the Designating Party timely seeks a protective order, the Party served with the
15 subpoena or court order shall not produce any information designated in this action
16 as “CONFIDENTIAL” before a determination by the court from which the subpoena
17 or order issued, unless the Party has obtained the Designating Party’s permission. The
18 Designating Party shall bear the burden and expense of seeking protection in that court
19 of its confidential material and nothing in these provisions should be construed as
20 authorizing or encouraging a Receiving Party in this Action to disobey a lawful
21 directive from another court.

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

24 (a) The terms of this Order are applicable to information produced by a
25 Non-Party in this Action and designated as “CONFIDENTIAL.” Such information
26 produced by Non-Parties in connection with this litigation is protected by the
27 remedies and relief provided by this Order. Nothing in these provisions should be
28 construed as prohibiting a Non-Party from seeking additional protections.

1 (b) In the event that a Party is required, by a valid discovery request, to
2 produce a Non-Party's confidential information in its possession, and the Party is
3 subject to an agreement with the Non-Party not to produce the Non-Party's
4 confidential information, then the Party shall:

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

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

11 (3) make the information requested available for inspection by the
12 Non-Party, if requested.

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

21 10. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

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

3 11. INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE
4 PROTECTED MATERIAL

5 When a Producing Party gives notice to Receiving Parties that certain
6 inadvertently produced material is subject to a claim of privilege or other protection,
7 the obligations of the Receiving Parties are those set forth in Federal Rule of Civil
8 Procedure 26(b)(5)(B). This provision is not intended to modify whatever procedure
9 may be established in an e-discovery order that provides for production without prior
10 privilege review. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Evidence 502(d) and (e), insofar as the
11 parties reach an agreement on the effect of disclosure of a communication or
12 information covered by the attorney-client privilege or work product protection, the
13 parties may incorporate their agreement in the stipulated protective order submitted
14 to the court.

15 12. MISCELLANEOUS

16 12.1 Right to Further Relief. Nothing in this Order abridges the right of any
17 person to seek its modification by the Court in the future.

18 12.2 Right to Assert Other Objections. By stipulating to the entry of this
19 Protective Order, no Party waives any right it otherwise would have to object to
20 disclosing or producing any information or item on any ground not addressed in this
21 Stipulated Protective Order. Similarly, no Party waives any right to object on any
22 ground to use in evidence of any of the material covered by this Protective Order.

23 12.3 Filing Protected Material. A Party that seeks to file under seal any
24 Protected Material must comply with Local Civil Rule 79-5. Protected Material may
25 only be filed under seal pursuant to a court order authorizing the sealing of the specific
26 Protected Material at issue. If a Party’s request to file Protected Material under seal
27 is denied by the court, then the Receiving Party may file the information in the public
28 record unless otherwise instructed by the court.

1 13. FINAL DISPOSITION

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

20 14. VIOLATION

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

23 IT IS SO ORDERED.

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25 Dated: May 2, 2022



HON. GAIL J. STANDISH
United States Magistrate Judge