STIPULATED PROTECTIVE ORDER

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED by and between counsel for Plaintiff Prime Healthcare Services – Montclair, LLC, doing business as Montclair Hospital Medical Center ("Plaintiff"), and Defendant Thomas E. Price¹, sued in his official capacity as Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ("Defendant"), (collectively, the "Parties"), that during the pre-trial stage of the above-captioned case (the "Litigation") the following Protective Order (the "Order") shall govern the handling of Confidential Information received through discovery, or the voluntary exchange of information, ("Discovery Material") in the Litigation.

1.1 PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS

Discovery in the Litigation is 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 and defending 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 and that the protection it affords from public disclosure and use extends only to the limited information or items that are entitled to confidential treatment under the applicable legal principles. The parties further acknowledge, as set forth in Section 12.3, below, that this Stipulated Protective Order does not entitle them to file confidential information under seal. Rather, when the parties seek permission from the court to file materials under seal, the parties must comply with C.D. Local Rule 79-5 and with any pertinent orders of the assigned District Judge and Magistrate Judge. See, e.g., Standing

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. Proc. 25(d), Thomas E. Price, who was officially sworn in as the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on February 10, 2017, is substituted into this action for defendant Sylvia Mathews Burwell. *See Cheney v. U.S. Dist. Court for D.C.*, 541 U.S. 913, 917 (2004) ("[F]ederal law provides for automatic substitution of the new officer when the originally named officer has been replaced.") (citing Fed. R. Civ. Proc. 25(d)).

Order, \P 9 (Docket No. 9). Nothing in this Protective Order supersedes existing independent statutory, law enforcement, national security, or regulatory obligations imposed on a party, and this Stipulated Protective Order does not prohibit or absolve the parties from complying with such other obligations

1.2 GOOD CAUSE STATEMENT

This Litigation is likely to involve information and documents which may be subject to limitations on disclosure due to federal laws, state laws, privileges and/or privacy rights concerning the disclosure of confidential medical information, trade secrets, or proprietary information. Accordingly, to expedite the flow of information, to facilitate the prompt resolution of disputes over confidentiality of discovery materials, to adequately protect information the parties are entitled to keep confidential, to ensure that the parties are permitted reasonable necessary uses of such material in connection with this action, to address their handling at the end of the litigation, and to serve the ends of justice, a protective order for such information is justified in this matter. The parties shall not designate any information/documents as confidential for tactical reasons or without a good faith belief that it has been maintained in a confidential, non-public manner, and there is good cause or compelling reasons why it should not be part of the public record of this case.

1.3 <u>CONFIDENTIAL HEALTH INFORMATION</u>

This Litigation involves documents and information that are likely to contain certain individually identifiable health information (defined as health information that is connected to a patient's name, address, social security number or other identifying number). Information produced may be subject to the provisions of the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. § 552a), the HIPAA Privacy and Security Rule (45 C.F.R. Parts 160, 162, 164), or the provisions of 42 U.S.C. § 1306, or there may be no waiver by the patient to produce the records to any entity outside the requested or subpoenaed person. The Producing Party may produce the information in an

2.1 <u>Litigation</u>: This pending federal law suit.

- 2.2 <u>Challenging Party</u>: A Party or Non-Party that challenges the designation of information or items under this Order.
- 2.3 <u>"Confidential" or 'Confidential Health Information"</u>: Information (regardless of how it is generated, stored or maintained) or tangible things that qualify for protection under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c), and as specified above in the Good Cause Statement and description of Confidential Health Information.
- 2.4 <u>Counsel</u>: Government counsel, Relator's Counsel, Defendants'Outside Counsel of record and In-house counsel, as well as counsel's support staff.
- 2.5 <u>Designating Party</u>: A Party or Non-Party that designates information or items that it produces in disclosures or in responses to discovery as "CONFIDENTIAL" or "CONFIDENTIAL HEALTH INFORMATION."
- 2.6 <u>Disclosure or Discovery Material</u>: All items or information, regardless of the medium or manner in which it is generated, stored, or maintained (including, among other things, testimony, transcripts, and tangible things), that are produced or generated in disclosures or responses to discovery in this matter.
- 2.7 <u>Expert</u>: A person with specialized knowledge or experience in a matter pertinent to the litigation who has been retained by a Party or its counsel to serve as an expert witness or as a consultant in this Litigation.
 - 2.8 <u>In-House Counsel</u>: Attorneys who are employees of a Party to this

extracted from Protected Material; (2) all copies, excerpts, summaries, or

compilations of Protected Material; and (3) any deposition testimony,

2.7

3

5

6

7 8

9

10 11

12

13 14

15

16

17 18

19

20

21

22 23

24

25

26

2.7

28

conversations, or presentations by Parties or their Counsel that might reveal Protected Material, other than during a court hearing or trial.

Any use of Protected Material during a court hearing or trial shall be governed by the orders of the presiding judge. This Order does not govern the use of Protected Material during a court hearing or trial.

4. **DURATION**

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

DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL

5.1 Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection. Each Party or Non-Party that designates information or items for protection under this Order must take care to limit any such designation to specific material that qualifies under the appropriate standards. The Designating Party must designate for protection only those parts of material, documents, items, or oral or written communications that qualify so that other portions of the material, documents, items, or communications for which protection is not warranted are not swept unjustifiably within the ambit of this Order. Mass, indiscriminate, or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations that

are shown to be clearly unjustified or that have been made for an improper purpose (e.g., to unnecessarily encumber the case development process or to impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may expose the Designating Party to sanctions.

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

- 5.2 <u>Manner and Timing of Designations</u>. Except as otherwise provided in this Order (see, e.g., section 5.2(b) below), or as otherwise stipulated or ordered, Disclosure or Discovery Material that qualifies for protection under this Order must be clearly so designated before the material is disclosed or produced. Designation in conformity with this Order requires:
- (a) For information in documentary form (e.g., paper or electronic documents, but excluding electronic information produced in native form or in a format that is not amenable to visible endorsement on the image, and also excluding transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial proceedings), that the Producing Party affix the legend "CONFIDENTIAL" or "CONFIDENTIAL HEALTH INFORMATION" to each page of the document that contains protected material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for protection, the Producing Party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the margins).
- (b) For electronic information that is provided in native form or a format that is not amenable to visible endorsement on the image, the file name(s) shall begin with "CONFIDENTIAL" or "CONFIDENTIAL HEALTH INFORMATION."² The media on which the Protected Material is provided (*e.g.*, CD, DVD, external hard drive) also must be and remain plainly labeled with "CONFIDENTIAL SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER" or "CONFIDENTIAL HEALTH INFORMATION" unless and until the protection of the data within the media is removed. Any copying or transferring of electronic

The original metadata of the native files shall be retained pursuant to the Parties' agreed upon ESI protocols.

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

2.7

28

the location where the users access the information.

(c) A Party or Non-Party that makes original documents available for inspection need not designate them for protection until after the inspecting Party has indicated which documents it would like copied and produced. During the inspection and before the designation, all of the material made available for inspection shall be deemed "CONFIDENTIAL." After the inspecting Party has identified the documents it wants copied and produced, the Producing Party must determine which documents qualify for protection under this Order. Then, before producing the specified documents, the Producing Party must affix the "CONFIDENTIAL or CONFIDENTIAL HEALTH INFORMATION legend" to each page of the document that contains Protected Material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for protection, the Producing Party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the margins). If the original documents made available for inspection that are designated for copying include materials produced in native file format, or that are in a format that is not amenable to visible endorsement on the image, the Producing Party shall comply with the direction in subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph regarding their production.

(d) For testimony given in depositions that the Designating Party identify the Disclosure or Discovery Material on the record, or by letter from counsel within thirty days of receipt of the official deposition transcript or copy thereof (or written notification that the transcript is available), listing the specific pages and lines of the transcript and any exhibits that should be treated as Protected Material. The entire deposition transcript (including any exhibits not previously produced in discovery in this Litigation) shall be treated as Protected

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22.

23

24

25

26

2.7

- (e) For information produced in some form other than documentary and for any other tangible items, that the Producing Party affix in a prominent place on the exterior of the container or containers in which the information is stored the legend "CONFIDENTIAL SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER" or "CONFIDENTIAL HEALTH INFORMATION." If only a portion or portions of the information warrants protection, the Producing Party, to the extent practicable, shall identify the protected portion(s).
- (f) For interrogatory answers and responses to requests for admissions, designation of Protected Material shall be made by placing within each interrogatory answer or response to requests for admission asserted to contain Protected Material the following: "CONFIDENTIAL SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER" or 'CONFIDENTIAL HEALTH INFORMATION."
- 5.3 <u>Inadvertent Failures to Designate</u>. If timely corrected, an inadvertent failure to designate qualified information or items does not, standing alone, waive the Designating Party's right to secure protection under this Order for such material. Upon timely correction of a designation, the Receiving Party must make reasonable efforts to assure that the material is treated in accordance with the

6. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS

- 6.1 <u>Timing of Challenges</u>. Any Party or Non-Party may challenge a designation of confidentiality at any time that is consistent with the Court's Scheduling Order.
- 6.2 <u>Meet and Confer</u>. The Challenging Party shall initiate the dispute resolution process under Local Rule 37.1 *et seq*.
- 6.3 The burden of persuasion in any such challenge proceeding shall be on the Designating Party. Frivolous challenges, and those made for an improper purpose (e.g., to harass or impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may expose the Challenging Party to sanctions. Unless the Designating Party has waived or withdrawn the confidentiality designation, all parties shall continue to afford the material in question the level of protection to which it is entitled under the Producing Party's designation until the Court rules on the challenge.
- 6.4 After a designation as Protected Material is removed or withdrawn by the Designating Party or by the Court, the Designating Party must provide to the Receiving Party replacement documents, files, or information that is free from any marking is or designations as Protected Material. The replacement versions shall be provided in the same format as the information that is to be replaced, unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties. The presumptive time for providing the replacement information shall be ten days, but the Designating Party must in good faith provide the information in a reasonable time, considering any agreements with the Receiving Party, the volume of information to be re-produced, and the nature or format of the information.

7. ACCESS TO AND USE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

7.1 <u>Basic Principles</u>. A Receiving Party may use Protected Material that is disclosed or produced by another Party or by a Non-Party in connection with this

1	Litigation only for prosecuting, defending, or attempting to settle this Litigation.		
2	Such Protected Material may be disclosed only to the categories of persons and		
3	under the conditions described in this Order. When the Litigation has been		
4	terminated, a Receiving Party must comply with the provisions of section 13		
5	regarding Final Disposition below.		
6	Protected Material must be stored and maintained by a Receiving Party at a		
7	location and in a secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons		
8	authorized under this Order.		
9	7.2 <u>Disclosure of "CONFIDENTIAL" or "CONFIDENTIAL HEALTH</u>		
10	<u>INFORMATION</u> " <u>Information or Items</u> . Unless otherwise ordered by the court or		
11	permitted in writing by the Designating Party, a Receiving Party may disclose any		
12	information or item designated "CONFIDENTIAL" or "CONFIDENTIAL		
13	HEALTH INFORMATION" only to:		
14	(a) the Receiving Party's Outside Counsel of Record in this		
15	Litigation, as well as employees of said Outside Counsel of Record to whom it is		
16	reasonably necessary to disclose the information for this Litigation;		
17	(b) the officers, directors, and employees (including In-house		
18	Counsel) of the Receiving Party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for		
19	this Litigation and who have received a copy of this Order;		
20	(c) Experts (as defined in this Order) of the Receiving Party to		
21	whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Litigation and who received a		
22	copy of this Order		
23	(d) the court and its personnel;		
24	(e) court reporters and their staff;		
25	(f) professional jury or trial consultants, mock jurors, and		
26	Professional Vendors, to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this		
27	Litigation and who have received a copy of this Order;		
28	(g) witnesses and potential witnesses, including their counsel,		

- (h) during their depositions, witnesses, and attorneys for witnesses, in the Litigation to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary provided that (1) the deposing party provides the witness with a copy of this Order; and (2) the witness will not be permitted to keep any Protected Material, unless otherwise agreed by the Designating Party or ordered by the court. Pages of transcribed deposition testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal Protected Material may be separately bound by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to anyone except as permitted under this Order; and
- (i) any mediator, arbitrator or settlement officer, and their supporting personnel, mutually agreed upon by any of the parties engaged in settlement discussions.

8. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCEDIN OTHER LITIGATION

If a Party is served with a subpoena or a court order issued in other litigation that compels disclosure of any information or items designated in this Litigation as "CONFIDENTIAL" or "CONFIDENTIAL HEALTH INFORMATION" that Party must:

- (a) promptly notify in writing the Designating Party. Such notification shall include a copy of the subpoena or court order;
- (b) promptly notify in writing the party who caused the subpoena or order to issue in the other litigation that some or all of the material covered by the subpoena or order is subject to this Protective Order. Such notification shall include a copy of this Stipulated Protective Order; and
- (c) cooperate with respect to all reasonable procedures sought to be pursued by the Designating Party whose Protected Material may be affected.

 If the Designating Party timely seeks a protective order, the Party served with the subpoena or court order shall not produce any information designated in this

make the information requested available for inspection by the

(3)

16

17

18

19

20

21

22.

23

24

25

26

27

28

If a Non-Party represented by counsel fails to commence the process 2 called for by Local Rules 45-1 and 37-1, et seq. within 14 days of receiving the 3 notice and accompanying information or fails contemporaneously to notify the 4 Receiving Party that it has done so, the Receiving Party may produce the 5 6 Non-Party's confidential information responsive to the discovery request. If an unrepresented Non-Party fails to seek a protective order from this court within 7 14 days of receiving the notice and accompanying information, the Receiving 8 Party may produce the Non-Party's Confidential Information responsive to the 9 discovery request. If the Non-Party timely seeks a protective order, the Receiving 10 Party shall not produce any information in its possession or control that is subject 11 12 to the confidentiality agreement with the Non-Party before a determination by the court unless otherwise required by the law or court order. Absent a court order 13 to the contrary, the Non-Party shall bear the burden and expense of seeking 14 protection in this court of its Protected Material. 15

10. <u>UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL</u>

If a Receiving Party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has disclosed Protected Material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized under this Order, the Receiving Party must immediately (a) notify in writing the Designating Party of the unauthorized disclosures, (b) use its best efforts to retrieve all unauthorized copies of the Protected Material, (c) inform the person or persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the terms of this Order.

11. <u>INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE</u> PROTECTED MATERIAL

When a Producing Party gives notice to Receiving Parties that certain inadvertently produced material is subject to a claim of privilege or other protection, the obligations of the Receiving Parties are those set forth in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(5)(B). This provision is not intended to modify

2.7

whatever procedure may be established in an e-discovery order that provides for production without prior privilege review.

12. <u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>

- 12.1 <u>Right to Further Relief</u>. Nothing in this Order abridges the right of any person to seek its modification by the Court in the future.
- 12.2 <u>Right to Assert Other Objections</u>. By stipulating to the entry of this Order no Party waives any right it otherwise would have to object to disclosing or producing any information or item on any ground not addressed in this Order. Similarly, no Party waives any right to object on any ground to use in evidence of any of the material covered by this Order.
- Protected Material must comply with Civil Local Rule 79-5 and with any pertinent orders of the assigned District Judge and Magistrate Judge. *See, e.g.*, Standing Order, ¶ 9 (Docket No. 9). Protected Material may only be filed under seal pursuant to a court order authorizing the sealing of the specific Protected Material at issue. If a Receiving Party intends to file any Protected Material of a Designating Party, it must provide sufficient notice to the Designating Party to allow the Designating Party to timely request to file the Protected Material at issue under seal. If the Designating Party's request to file Protected Material under seal is denied by the court, then the Receiving Party may file the information in the public record unless otherwise instructed by the court.

13. <u>FINAL DISPOSITION</u>

After the final disposition of this Litigation, as defined in paragraph 4, within 60 days of a written request by the Designating Party, each Receiving Party must return all Protected Material to the Producing Party or destroy such material. As used in this subdivision, "all Protected Material" includes all copies, abstracts, compilations, summaries, and any other format reproducing or capturing any of the Protected Material. Whether the Protected Material is returned or destroyed, the

Receiving Party must submit a written certification to the Producing Party (and, if not the same person or entity, to the Designating Party) by the 60 day deadline that: (1) identifies (by category, where appropriate) all the Protected Material that was returned or destroyed, and (2) affirms that the Receiving Party has not retained any copies, abstracts, compilations, summaries or any other format reproducing or capturing any of the Protected Material. Notwithstanding this provision, Counsel are entitled to retain an archival copy of all pleadings, motion papers, trial, deposition, and hearing transcripts, legal memoranda, correspondence, deposition and trial exhibits, expert reports, attorney work product, and consultant and expert work product, even if such materials contain Protected Material. Any such archival copies that contain or constitute Protected Material remain subject to this Protective Order as set forth in Section 4 (DURATION). The United States Attorney's Office for the Central District of California, the Civil Division of the Department of Justice, and the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services shall each have the right to maintain one copy of such documents for their master files.

1

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

14. <u>DISCLOSURE TO AGENCIES OR DEPARTMENTS OF THE UNITED</u> STATES OR OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Nothing contained in this Order shall prevent or in any way limit or impair the right of the United States or of the State of California to disclose to any agency or department of the United States or of the State of California, or any division of any such agency or department, designated confidential documents or electronically stored information relating to any potential violation of law or regulation, or relating to any matter within that agency's or department's jurisdiction. Nor shall anything contained in this Order prevent or in any way limit or impair the use of any such designated confidential documents or electronically stored information by an agency or department in any proceeding relating to any potential violation of law or regulation, or relating to any matter within that

agency's or department's jurisdiction, provided, however, that the agency or 1 department shall maintain the confidentiality of the designated confidential 2 documents or electronically stored information consistent with the terms of this 3 Order. 4 15. DISCLOSURES TO THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS 5 Nothing contained in this Order shall prevent or in any way limit or impair 6 the right of the United States to provide designated confidential documents or 7 electronically stored information to a Congressional entity, provided, however that 8 9 the United States shall notify the Congressional entity requesting the documents or electronically stored information that the designated confidential documents or 10 electronically stored information have been produced pursuant to this Order and 11 shall, if there are no objections interposed by the Congressional entity requesting 12 the documents or electronically stored information, use reasonable efforts to notify 13 the Producing Party of the Congressional entity's request and the United States' 14 response thereto. 15 /// 16 /// 17 /// 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

1	1		
2	16. Notwithstanding Section 10 of this Order, any violation of this Order may be		
3	punished by any and all appropriate measures including, without limitation,		
4	contempt proceedings and/or monetary sanctions.		
5	5		
6	6 Dated: August 2, 2017 Respect	tfully submitted,	
7			
8	8 /s/Brya	n Wong	
9	11(01)	A. SCHELL	
10	10 BRYAL Attorne	N WONG ys for Plaintiff	
11			
12	Dated: August 2, 2017 SANDI Acting	RA R. BROWN United States Attorney FHY A. SCHOUTEN	
13	13 Assista	nt United States Attorney Civil Division	
14	14 DAVÍD	OK. BARRETT nt United States Attorney	
15	Chief, C	Civil Fraud Section A. KONTOS	
16	16 Assista	nt United States Attorney Chief, Civil Fraud Section	
17	17	·	
18		ald W. Yoo	
19	Assista	LD W. YOO nt United States Attorney ys for Defendant	
20		ys for Defendant	
21	ODDED		
22			
23		FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN, IT IS SO ORDERED.	
24			
2526	A	\Im	
27	Dated: August 4, 2017		
28	HONORABLE SHERI PYM UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDG		
_0	-		

EXHIBIT A

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND

The undersigned has read and understands the foregoing Protective Order (the "Protective Order") entered by the Court in *Prime Healthcare Services* – *Montclair, LLC v. Thomas E. Price*, No. EDCV 17-173-SVW (SPx), which is currently pending in the United States District Court for the Central District of California. I understand its contents, and hereby undertake and agree to be bound by the terms of the Protective Order. Specifically and without limitation, the undersigned agrees not to use or disclose any information that is designated as subject to the Protective Order and made available to me, other than as provided by the Protective Order. The undersigned acknowledges further that my duties under the Protective Order shall survive the termination of this case and that failure to comply with the terms of the Protective Order may result in the imposition of sanctions by the Court and any other sanction authorized by law. I also hereby consent to the personal jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Central District of California for the purpose of enforcing the aforementioned Order.

 Name (Print or Type)
Signature
Company (if applicabl

Dated: