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

14  
 15 ENMA REBECCA IMERY  
 16 Plaintiff,  
 17 v.  
 18 NISSAN NORTH AMERICA, INC.,  
 19 Defendant.

Case No. 8:21-cv-02029-MRW  
  
 STIPULATED PROTECTIVE  
 ORDER  
  
 (MRW VERSION 4/19)  
  
 Check if submitted without  
 material modifications to MRW form

21 1. INTRODUCTION

22 1.1 PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS

23  
 24 Discovery in this action is likely to involve production of confidential,  
 25 proprietary, or private information for which special protection from public  
 26 disclosure and from use for any purpose other than prosecuting this litigation may  
 27 be warranted. Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the Court to  
 28 enter the following Stipulated Protective Order. The parties acknowledge that this

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

### 9 1.2 GOOD CAUSE STATEMENT

10 In light of the nature of the claims and allegations in this case and the parties'  
11 representations that discovery in this case will involve the production of confidential  
12 records, and in order to expedite the flow of information, to facilitate the prompt  
13 resolution of disputes over confidentiality of discovery materials, to adequately  
14 protect information the parties are entitled to keep confidential, to ensure that the  
15 parties are permitted reasonable necessary uses of such material in connection with  
16 this action, to address their handling of such material at the end of the litigation, and  
17 to serve the ends of justice, a protective order for such information is justified in this  
18 matter. The parties shall not designate any information/documents as confidential  
19 without a good faith belief that such information/documents have been maintained  
20 in a confidential, non-public manner, and that there is good cause or a compelling  
21 reason why it should not be part of the public record of this case.

## 22 2. DEFINITIONS

23 2.1 Action: *Imery v. Nissan North America, Inc.*, No 8:21-cv-02029

24 2.2 Challenging Party: a Party or Non-Party that challenges the  
25 designation of information or items under this Order.  
26

27 2.3 "CONFIDENTIAL" Information or Items: information (regardless of  
28 how it is generated, stored or maintained) or tangible things that qualify for

1 protection under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c), and as specified above in  
2 the Good Cause Statement.

3 2.4 Counsel: Outside Counsel of Record and House Counsel (as well as  
4 their support staff).

5 2.5 Designating Party: a Party or Non-Party that designates information or  
6 items that it produces in disclosures or in responses to discovery as  
7 “CONFIDENTIAL.”

8 2.6 Disclosure or Discovery Material: all items or information, regardless  
9 of the medium or manner in which it is generated, stored, or maintained (including,  
10 among other things, testimony, transcripts, and tangible things), that are produced or  
11 generated in disclosures or responses to discovery in this matter.

12 2.7 Expert: a person with specialized knowledge or experience in a matter  
13 pertinent to the litigation who has been retained by a Party or its counsel to serve as  
14 an expert witness or as a consultant in this Action.

15 2.8 House Counsel: attorneys who are employees of a party to this Action.  
16 House Counsel does not include Outside Counsel of Record or any other outside  
17 counsel.

18 2.9 Non-Party: any natural person, partnership, corporation, association, or  
19 other legal entity not named as a Party to this action.

20 2.10 Outside Counsel of Record: attorneys who are not employees of a  
21 party to this Action but are retained to represent or advise a party to this Action and  
22 have appeared in this Action on behalf of that party or are affiliated with a law firm  
23 which has appeared on behalf of that party, and includes support staff.

24 2.11 Party: any party to this Action, including all of its officers, directors,  
25 employees, consultants, retained experts, and Outside Counsel of Record (and their  
26 support staffs).

27 2.12 Producing Party: a Party or Non-Party that produces Disclosure or  
28 Discovery Material in this Action.

1           2.13 Professional Vendors: persons or entities that provide litigation  
2 support services (e.g., photocopying, videotaping, translating, preparing exhibits or  
3 demonstrations, and organizing, storing, or retrieving data in any form or medium)  
4 and their employees and subcontractors.

5           2.14 Protected Material: any Disclosure or Discovery Material that is  
6 designated as “CONFIDENTIAL.”

7           2.15 Receiving Party: a Party that receives Disclosure or Discovery  
8 Material from a Producing Party.

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10       3.     SCOPE

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

16           Any use of Protected Material at trial will be governed by the orders of the  
17 trial judge. This Order does not govern the use of Protected Material at trial.

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19       4.     DURATION

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

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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  
4     this Order must take care to limit any such designation to specific material that  
5     qualifies under the appropriate standards. The Designating Party must designate for  
6     protection only those parts of material, documents, items, or oral or written  
7     communications that qualify so that other portions of the material, documents,  
8     items, or communications for which protection is not warranted are not swept  
9     unjustifiably within the ambit of 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  
14     Party 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 documents,  
25     but excluding transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial proceedings), that  
26     the Producing Party affix at a minimum, the legend "CONFIDENTIAL" (hereinafter  
27     "CONFIDENTIAL legend"), to each page that contains protected material. If only a  
28     portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for protection, the Producing

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

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

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

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

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

3  
4 6. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS

5 6.1 Timing of Challenges. Any Party or Non-Party may challenge a  
6 designation of confidentiality at any time that is consistent with the Court's  
7 Scheduling Order.

8 6.2 Meet and Confer. The Challenging Party will initiate the dispute  
9 resolution process (and, if necessary, file a discovery motion) under Local Rule 37.1  
10 et seq.

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

19  
20 7. ACCESS TO AND USE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

21 7.1 Basic Principles. A Receiving Party may use Protected Material that is  
22 disclosed or produced by another Party or by a Non-Party in connection with this  
23 Action only for prosecuting, defending, or attempting to settle this Action. Such  
24 Protected Material may be disclosed only to the categories of persons and under the  
25 conditions described in this Order. When the Action has been terminated, a  
26 Receiving Party must comply with the provisions of section 13 below (FINAL  
27 DISPOSITION).

28

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

4 7.2 Disclosure of “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items. Unless  
5 otherwise ordered by the court or permitted in writing by the Designating Party, a  
6 Receiving Party may disclose any information or item designated

7 “CONFIDENTIAL” only to:

8 (a) the Receiving Party’s Outside Counsel of Record in this Action, as  
9 well as employees of said Outside Counsel of Record to whom it is reasonably  
10 necessary to disclose the information for this Action;

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

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

16 (d) the Court and its personnel;

17 (e) court reporters and their staff;

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

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

23 (h) during their depositions, witnesses ,and attorneys for witnesses, in the  
24 Action to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary provided: (1) the deposing party  
25 requests that the witness sign the form attached as Exhibit A hereto; and (2) they  
26 will not be permitted to keep any confidential information unless they sign the  
27 “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A), unless otherwise  
28 agreed by the Designating Party or ordered by the court. Pages of transcribed



1 deposition testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal Protected Material may  
2 be separately bound by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to anyone except  
3 as permitted under this Stipulated Protective Order; and

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

6  
7 8. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED  
8 IN OTHER LITIGATION

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

12 (a) promptly notify in writing the Designating Party. Such notification  
13 will include a copy of the subpoena or court order;

14 (b) promptly notify in writing the party who caused the subpoena or order  
15 to issue in the other litigation that some or all of the material covered by the  
16 subpoena or order is subject to this Protective Order. Such notification will include  
17 a copy of this Stipulated Protective Order; and

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

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

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

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

8             (b) In the event that a Party is required, by a valid discovery request, to  
9     produce a Non-Party’s confidential information in its possession, and the Party is  
10    subject to an agreement with the Non-Party not to produce the Non-Party’s  
11    confidential information, then the Party will:

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

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

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

20            (c) If the Non-Party fails to seek a protective order from this court within  
21    14 days of receiving the notice and accompanying information, the Receiving Party  
22    may produce the Non-Party’s confidential information responsive to the discovery  
23    request. If the Non-Party timely seeks a protective order, the Receiving Party will  
24    not produce any information in its possession or control that is subject to the  
25    confidentiality agreement with the Non-Party before a determination by the court.  
26    Absent a court order to the contrary, the Non-Party will bear the burden and expense  
27    of seeking protection in this court of its Protected Material.

28

1     10.    UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

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

10  
11     11.    INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE  
12 PROTECTED MATERIAL

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

23  
24     12.    MISCELLANEOUS

25           12.1 Right to Further Relief. Nothing in this Order abridges the right of any  
26 person to seek its modification by the Court in the future.

27           12.2 Right to Assert Other Objections. By stipulating to the entry of this  
28 Protective Order no Party waives any right it otherwise would have to object to

1 disclosing or producing any information or item on any ground not addressed in this  
2 Stipulated Protective Order. Similarly, no Party waives any right to object on any  
3 ground to use in evidence of any of the material covered by this Protective Order.

4 12.3 Filing Protected Material. A Party that seeks to file under seal any  
5 Protected Material must comply with Civil Local Rule 79-5. Protected Material may  
6 only be filed under seal pursuant to a court order authorizing the sealing of the  
7 specific Protected Material at issue. If a Party's request to file Protected Material  
8 under seal is denied by the court, then the Receiving Party may file the information  
9 in the public record unless otherwise instructed by the court.

10  
11 13. FINAL DISPOSITION

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

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14. Any willful violation of this Order may be punished by civil or criminal contempt proceedings, financial or evidentiary sanctions, reference to disciplinary authorities, or other appropriate action at the discretion of the Court.

IT IS SO STIPULATED, THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD.

DATED: 11/02/2022

  
Attorneys for Plaintiff

DATED: 11/03/2022

  
Attorneys for Defendant

FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN, IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: 11/04/2022

/S/  
HON. MICHAEL R. WILNER  
United States Magistrate Judge

1 EXHIBIT A

2 ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND

3  
4 I, \_\_\_\_\_ [full name], of \_\_\_\_\_  
5 [full address], declare under penalty of perjury that I have read in its entirety and  
6 understand the Stipulated Protective Order that was issued by the United States  
7 District Court for the Central District of California on [date] in the case of *Imery v.*  
8 *Nissan North America, Inc.*, No. 8:21-cv-02029. I agree to comply with and to be  
9 bound by all the terms of this Stipulated Protective Order and I understand and  
10 acknowledge that failure to so comply could expose me to sanctions and punishment  
11 in the nature of contempt. I solemnly promise that I will not disclose in any manner  
12 any information or item that is subject to this Stipulated Protective Order to any  
13 person or entity except in strict compliance with the provisions of this Order.

14 I further agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court  
15 for the Central District of California for the purpose of enforcing the terms of this  
16 Stipulated Protective Order, even if such enforcement proceedings occur after  
17 termination of this action. I hereby appoint \_\_\_\_\_ [full  
18 name] of \_\_\_\_\_ [full address and  
19 telephone number] as my California agent for service of process in connection with  
20 this action or any proceedings related to enforcement of this Stipulated Protective  
21 Order.

22 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

23 City and State where signed: \_\_\_\_\_

24  
25 Printed name: \_\_\_\_\_

26  
27 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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