



1                    **DISCUSSION**

2                    Requests to seal documents in this district are governed by E.D. Cal. L.R. (“Local Rule”)  
3 141. In brief, Local Rule 141 provides that documents may be sealed only by a written order of  
4 the court after a specific request to seal has been made. Local Rule 141(a). However, a mere  
5 request to seal is not enough, as the local rule requires “[t]he ‘Request to Seal Documents’ shall  
6 set forth the statutory or other authority for sealing . . . .” Local Rule 141(b).

7                    The court starts ““with a strong presumption in favor of access to court records,” Center  
8 for Auto Safety v. Chrysler Group, LLC, 809 F.3d 1092, 1096 (9th Cir. 2016) (quoting Foltz v.  
9 State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co., 331 F.3d 1122, 1135 (9th Cir. 2003)). “The presumption of  
10 access is ‘based on the need for federal courts, although independent – indeed, particularly  
11 because they are independent – to have a measure of accountability and for the public to have  
12 confidence in the administration of justice.’” Id. (quoting United States v. Amodeo, 71 F.3d  
13 1044, 1048 (2d Cir.1995)). A request to seal material must normally meet the high threshold of  
14 showing that “compelling reasons” support secrecy. Id. (citing Kamakana v. City and County of  
15 Honolulu, 447 F.3d 1172, 1178 (9th Cir. 2006)).

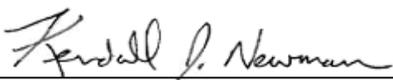
16                    Plaintiff has not identified legal authority that supports sealing of the submitted document.  
17 Instead, it appears plaintiff merely labels the document as “private . . . not for public record,  
18 under seal,” which is not a compelling reason to seal. Center for Auto Safety, 809 F.3d at 1096.  
19 Given this, Local Rule 140(e)(1) requires the Clerk to return the filing to plaintiff.

20                    Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 21                    1. Plaintiff’s request to seal is DENIED;  
22                    2. The Clerk shall RETURN to plaintiff the document filed May 4, 2022, entitled  
23                    “judicial notice of exercise of right to set off”; and  
24                    3. Plaintiff shall CEASE filing documents in this closed case. Any future filings deemed  
25                    frivolous will be ignored.

26 Dated: May 10, 2022

27 nels.2151

28   
KENDALL J. NEWMAN  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE