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9 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
10 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
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12 GERALD MCGHEE, an individual, on  
13 behalf of himself and all others similarly  
14 situated,  
15 Plaintiff,  
16 v.  
17 NORTH AMERICAN BANCARD, LLC,  
18 Defendant.

Case No.: 17-cv-00586-AJB-KSC

**ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFF'S  
MOTION TO SEAL SELECT  
PORTIONS OF DOCUMENTS IN  
SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S MOTION  
FOR CLASS CERTIFICATION  
PURSUANT TO L.R. 79.2 AND  
PROTECTIVE ORDER**

**(Doc. No. 85)**

19  
20 Pending before the Court is Plaintiff's motion to file under seal portions of various  
21 documents in support of his motion for class certification. (Doc. No. 85.) The portions of  
22 these documents contain information designated by Defendants as "CONFIDENTIAL"  
23 under the terms of the Protective Order in this action, (Doc No. 67). Defendant has not  
24 opposed the motion. Good cause and compelling reasons appearing, the Court **GRANTS**  
25 the motion to seal.


26 In the Ninth Circuit, courts are split on whether the "good cause" or "compelling  
27 reasons" standard applies to sealed documents in the class certification context. *Compare*  
28 *Ramirez v. GEO Grp.*, No. 3:18-cv-02136-LAB-MSB, 2019 WL 6782920, at \*3 (S.D. Cal.

1 Dec. 11, 2019) (“The vast majority of courts within this circuit treat motions for class  
2 certification as non-dispositive motions to which the good cause sealing standard applies.”)  
3 (internal quotation marks omitted) *with Yan Mei Zheng v. Toyota Motor Corp.*, No. 5:17-  
4 cv-06591-BLF, 2019 WL 6841324, at \*1 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 16, 2019) (“This Court follows  
5 numerous other district courts within the Ninth Circuit in concluding that the compelling  
6 reasons standard applies to motions to seal documents relating to class certification.”). The  
7 documents Plaintiff here seeks to seal contain sensitive proprietary information. (Doc. No.  
8 85-1 at 4–5.) The Court need not resolve whether the good cause or compelling reasons  
9 standard applies because under either standard, sealing of these documents is appropriate.  
10 *See Yan Mei Zheng-Lawson v. Toyota Motor Corp.*, No. 17-CV-06591-BLF, 2019 WL  
11 3413253, at \*2 (N.D. Cal. July 29, 2019) (sealing sensitive proprietary information);  
12 *Nichols v. GEICO Gen. Ins. Co.*, No. 2:18-CV-01253-RAJ, 2020 WL 5105442, at \*2 (W.D.  
13 Wash. Aug. 31, 2020) (sealing proprietary competitive information under either the good  
14 cause or the compelling reasons standard).

15 As such, the Court **GRANTS** Plaintiff’s motion to seal Exhibits 4, 5, 9, and 10.

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17 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

18 Dated: December 1, 2020

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20 Hon. Anthony J. Battaglia  
21 United States District Judge  
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