

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLORADO
Magistrate Judge Boyd N. Boland

Case No.: 07-cv-01619-WDM-BNB

VIDA F. NEGRETE, as conservator for Everett E. Ow, and individual,
and on behalf of all other similarly situated persons,

Plaintiff,

v.

FIDELITY AND GUARANTY LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, a Maryland corporation,
Defendant.

ORDER

This matter is before me on the parties' **Unopposed Motion for Entry of Protective ORDER** [Doc. # 1, filed 8/1/2007] (the "Motion"). The Motion is DENIED and the proposed Confidentiality Stipulation and Protective Order is REJECTED. The parties are granted leave to submit a revised proposed order consistent with the comments contained here.

In Gillard v. Boulder Valley School District, 196 F.R.D. 382 (D. Colo. 2000), I set out certain requirements for the issuance of a blanket protective order such as the one sought here. Among other things, I require that any information designated by a party as confidential must first be reviewed by a lawyer and that the designation as confidential must be "based on a good faith belief that [the information] is confidential or otherwise entitled to protection" under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(c)(7). Gillard, 196 F.R.D. at 386. In addition, I require that the protective order contain a mechanism by which a party may challenge the designation of information as privileged. The addendum to the Gillard decision is a form of protective order which contains a provision that

satisfies this requirement:

A party may object to the designation of particular CONFIDENTIAL information by giving written notice to the party designating the disputed information. The written notice shall identify the information to which the objection is made. If the parties cannot resolve the objection within ten (10) business days after the time the notice is received, it shall be the obligation of the party designating the information as CONFIDENTIAL to file an appropriate motion requesting that the court determine whether the disputed information should be subject to the terms of this Protective Order. If such a motion is timely filed, the disputed information shall be treated as CONFIDENTIAL under the terms of this Protective Order until the Court rules on the motion. If the designating party fails to file such a motion within the prescribed time, the disputed information shall lose its designation as CONFIDENTIAL and shall not thereafter be treated as CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with this Protective Order. In connection with a motion filed under this provision, the party designating the information as CONFIDENTIAL shall bear the burden of establishing that good cause exists for the disputed information to be treated as CONFIDENTIAL.

Id. at 388-89.

The proposed protective order does not comply with the requirements established in Gillard. In particular, ¶ 9 of the proposed protective order improperly places on the party challenging the designation of CONFIDENTIAL the burden of filing a motion for review. To the contrary, the burden always rests with the party objecting to discovery to seek protection.

IT IS ORDERED that the Motion is DENIED.

Dated August 10, 2007.

BY THE COURT:

s/ Boyd N. Boland
United States Magistrate Judge