

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
IN AND FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLORADO

Case No: 13-cv-03035-RM-KMT

ANA NOVAS,

Plaintiff,

v.

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 IN THE COUNTY OF DENVER AND STATE OF COLORADO;
TRENT SHARP, in his individual capacity;
SCOTT BARNES, in his individual capacity; and
JOHN DOES 1-5,

Defendants.

PROTECTIVE ORDER

Upon a showing of good cause in support of the entry of a protective order to protect the discovery and dissemination of confidential information or information which will improperly annoy, embarrass, or oppress any party, witness, or person providing discovery in this case, IT IS ORDERED:

1. This Protective Order shall apply to all documents, materials and information, including without limitation, documents produced, answers to interrogatories, responses to requests for admission, deposition testimony, and other information disclosed pursuant to the disclosure or discovery duties created by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

2. As used in this Protective Order, a “document” is defined as provided in Fed.R.Civ.P. 34(a). A draft or non-identical copy is a separate document within the meaning of this term.

3. Information designated by a party as “CONFIDENTIAL” shall be information that is confidential pursuant to federal or state law, or which implicates common law privacy interests of current and/or former School District employees, including Plaintiff, and current and former School District students, and may include, without limitation, personnel records, student records, and personal information related to the Plaintiff (*e.g.* financial and medical records). *See, e.g.*, 22 U.S.C. § 1232g and 34 C.F.R. § 99.3 (prohibiting an educational institution from disclosing personally identifiable information regarding students); Colo. Rev. Stat. § 24-72-204(3)(a)(II)(A) (prohibiting a public entity from disclosing personnel records). Neither party shall designate as confidential documents which are public record, nor is either party permitted to designate as confidential documents which do not implicate the interests sought to be protected herein. Wholesale designation of all documents as confidential is not permitted. CONFIDENTIAL information shall not be disclosed or used for any purpose except the preparation and trial of this case and any related litigation or proceedings involving the parties to this lawsuit.

4. CONFIDENTIAL documents, materials, and/or information (collectively “CONFIDENTIAL information”) shall not, without the consent of the party producing it or further Order of the Court, be disclosed except that such information may be disclosed to:

- a. attorneys actively working on this case;
- b. persons regularly employed or associated with the attorneys actively working on the case whose assistance is required by said attorneys in the preparation for trial, at trial, or at other proceedings in this case;
- c. the parties, including designated representatives for the defendant;

d. expert witnesses and consultants retained in connection with this proceeding, to the extent such disclosure is necessary for preparation, trial or other proceedings in this case;

e. the Court and its employees (“Court Personnel”);

f. stenographic reporters who are engaged in proceedings necessarily incident to the conduct of this action;

g. deponents, witnesses, or potential witnesses; and

h. other persons by written agreement of the parties.

5. Prior to disclosing any CONFIDENTIAL information to any person listed above (other than counsel, persons employed by counsel, Court Personnel and stenographic reporters), counsel shall provide such person with a copy of this Protective Order and obtain from such person a written acknowledgment stating that he or she has read this Protective Order and agrees to be bound by its provisions. All such acknowledgments shall be retained by counsel and shall be subject to *in camera* review by the Court if good cause for review is demonstrated by opposing counsel.

6. CONFIDENTIAL documents, materials, and/or information will not be copied or retained by any person other than the parties’ counsel, subject to Paragraph 11 below. If any CONFIDENTIAL materials are provided to the persons listed in Paragraph 4(c), (d), (g) or (h) above, at the close of litigation such persons will either return the Confidential information to counsel who provided it or will provide written notification that the confidential material has been destroyed.

7. If CONFIDENTIAL materials are filed with the Court, the parties shall seek leave

to file such materials under seal pursuant to Local Rule 7.2, or with appropriate redactions made.

8. Documents are designated as CONFIDENTIAL by placing or affixing on them (in a manner that will not interfere with their legibility) the following or other appropriate notice: “CONFIDENTIAL,” or by informing opposing counsel in writing of any documents to be treated as CONFIDENTIAL and subject to this protective order.

9. Whenever a deposition involves the disclosure of CONFIDENTIAL information, the deposition or portions thereof shall be designated as CONFIDENTIAL and shall be subject to the provisions of this Protective Order. Such designation shall be made on the record during the deposition whenever possible, but a party may designate portions of depositions as CONFIDENTIAL after transcription, provided written notice of the designation is promptly given to all counsel of record within thirty (30) days after notice by the court reporter of the completion of the transcript.

10. 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 treated as CONFIDENTIAL under the terms of this Protective Order until the Court rules on the motion. 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 unless otherwise deemed CONFIDENTIAL as a matter of law. 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.

11. At the conclusion of this case, unless other arrangements are agreed upon, each document, all copies thereof, or any summary of documents containing CONFIDENTIAL information, other than attorney work product, which have been designated as CONFIDENTIAL shall be returned to the party that designated it CONFIDENTIAL, or the parties may elect to destroy CONFIDENTIAL documents. Where the parties agree to destroy CONFIDENTIAL documents, the destroying party shall provide all parties with an affidavit confirming the destruction.

12. This Protective Order may be modified by the Court at any time for good cause shown following notice to all parties and an opportunity for them to be heard.

DATED this 5th day of September, 2014.



Kathleen M. Tafoya
United States Magistrate Judge

