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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

MATTHEW R. LINDNER, et al

Plaintiffs,

vs.

FORD MOTOR COMPANY, et al

Defendants.

CASE NO. 2:10-cv-00051-LDG-LRL

**AGREED PROTECTIVE ORDER
REGARDING CONFIDENTIAL
INFORMATION**

In accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P.26(c), this Protective Order shall govern the disclosure during all phases of litigation, including pretrial discovery, trial, and any appeals related hereto and the subsequent handling of trade secret or other confidential research, development, or commercial information and any documents or tangible things containing any such information (collectively referred to herein as "CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION").

1 **Good Faith Claim:** The parties agree and acknowledge that there is a good faith belief that all the documents and other tangible things and information produced in this litigation contain CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION which are legally entitled to protection from disclosure under Fed. R. Civil R. 26(c) and applicable case law.

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2 **Produced Documents:** Any and all documents and other tangible things produced shall be treated as containing CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION irrespective of and without the requirements of any specific or special designation by any party.

3 **Designating Party:** The party producing CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION shall be the “designating party” herein.

4 **Deposition Transcripts:** All deposition transcripts, testimony and exhibits, in their entirety, shall be treated as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.

5 **Objection to Designations:** Any party may challenge that a document is not CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or subject to any other restriction imposed by this Order. Except as otherwise provided in this Protective Order, any such dispute shall, in the first instance, be addressed between counsels. If, after a good faith attempt to resolve differences, the parties are unable mutually to agree, any party may seek an order of the Court modifying the designation or any other provision of this Protective Order. The designating party shall bear the burden of establishing that a document is either not a trade secret, or not confidential business or proprietary information, or that the disclosure of the trade secret or confidential business or proprietary information would not be harmful. If these requirements are met, the burden will shift to the Designating Party to establish that the specific confidential information is irrelevant, that its disclosure is unnecessary to the action or that the requested disclosure otherwise should not occur or be afforded any other protections under Fed. R. Civ. P.26(c).

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1 6 **Authorized Disclosure:** Absent a specific order by this Court, all
2 CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, including copies, summaries, notes of,
3 abstracts of, or ideas of that CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, shall be
4 maintained in confidence by the party to whom those materials are produced or
5 given, solely for use in connection with this action, shall not be used (directly or
6 indirectly) for any business or competitive purpose, and shall not be disclosed
7 (directly or indirectly) to anyone except the following:

- 8 a. Outside counsel who have entered an appearance in this action, third party
9 document vendors employed by any firm retained to represent the parties, and
10 clerical or secretarial employees of any firm retained to reproduce or transcribe
11 the CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION for use in accordance with this
12 Protective Order:
- 13 b. Counsel for the parties in this litigation, including their associates, clerks
14 paraprofessional, and secretarial and clerical personnel who are reasonably
15 necessary to assist counsel in the conduct of this action;
- 16 c. Experts or consultants assisting counsel for any party pursuant to subparagraph
17 9, *infra*;
- 18 d. The Court, its officers, and qualified persons taking testimony involving such
19 information, and necessary stenographic videotape and clerical personnel;
- 20 e. Subject to the notice requirements of subparagraph 8, *infra*, witnesses,
21 interviewees, and deponents;
- 22 f. All insurers and reinsurers for the parties.

23
24 CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION shall likewise be maintained in confidence and
25 shall not be disclosed except to persons identified in Items [a, b, d, e and f] above.
26 Nothing in this Protective Order shall be construed to limit in any way the use a
27 party may make of its own materials.
28

1 7 **Disclosure.** Before the disclosure of CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION to any
2 person pursuant to subparagraph 6(e), supra, the party wishing to make this
3 disclosure shall notify the designating party in writing, identifying the person by
4 name or title. Unless the designating party objects, in writing, within five (5)
5 business days of receipt of notice, disclosure may be made. No objection shall be
6 interposed except in good faith. Nothing in this order shall be construed to require
7 advance notice of the use of any protected material at a deposition or court
8 proceeding.

9
10 8 **Disclosure to Experts:** The procedure for having a non-testifying consultant, or
11 testifying expert or other third party approved for access to CONFIDENTIAL
12 INFORMATION shall be as follows:

13 a. In the case of a non-testifying consultant, counsel for the party on whose behalf
14 said consultant has been retained shall (i) obtain a written acknowledgement,
15 signed by the non-testifying consultant, in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A,
16 and (ii) keep the original of such acknowledgement in counsel's files.

17 b. In the case of a testifying expert who has been retained or other third party,
18 counsel for the party who wishes to disclose CONFIDENTIAL
19 INFORMATION to such persons shall (i) obtain a written acknowledgement,
20 signed by the testifying expert or other third party, in the form attached hereto as
21 Exhibit A, (ii) keep the original of such acknowledgment in counsel's files, and
22 (iii) produce a copy of said acknowledgment to all other counsel of record, if
23 requested, within seven days.

24 c. Within ten days of receipt of an acknowledgment having been executed
25 hereunder, or within ten days of receipt of notice from counsel that a proposed
26 non-testifying consultant, testifying expert or other third person cannot or will
27 not execute an acknowledgement hereunder, the Designating Party may object
28 to the person proposed for approval. Failure to object within fourteen (14) days

1 to a person proposed shall be deemed approval, but shall not preclude any
2 subsequent objection to continued access where facts suggesting a basis for
3 objection are subsequently learned by the objecting party or its counsel.

4 d. If the Designating party so objects, that person or entity and the requesting party
5 shall, within five days from the date of notice of objection, confer and attempt to
6 resolve the dispute in good faith. If the participants cannot resolve the dispute,
7 or if the conference does not take place, then within fourteen (14) days from the
8 date of notice of objection, the requesting party may make an appropriate
9 application to the Court, to be kept under seal, requesting that access to
10 CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION be allowed to the proposed person. At the
11 hearing on such an application, the burden will be on the person or entity
12 requesting disclosure to show that the CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION
13 involved is either not a trade secret, or not confidential business or proprietary
14 information, or that the disclosure of the trade secret or confidential business or
15 proprietary information would not be harmful. If these requirements are met,
16 the burden will shift to the Designating Party to establish that discovery of the
17 specific CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION is irrelevant, that its disclosure to
18 the proposed person is unnecessary to the action or that the requested disclosure
19 otherwise should not occur. The parties agree that the expense and/or cost
20 involved in hiring an independent, outside consultant shall not be considered a
21 reason supporting a request for Court-ordered disclosure pursuant to this
22 paragraph 8(d).

23
24 9 **Custody.** All CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION and any and all copies, extracts
25 and summaries thereof, including memoranda relating thereto, shall be retained by
26 the receiving party in the custody of counsel of record, or by person to whom
27 disclosure is authorized under subparagraph 6, supra.
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10 **Court Filings.** Documents subject to this Protective Order may be offered in connection with non-dispositive pre-trial motions in this matter. Any document subject to this Protective Order which is offered in connection with such pre-trial motion in this matter shall be filed under seal. However, any document subject to this Protective Order which is offered in connection with a dispositive pre-trial motion shall not be filed under seal without the express approval of the court.

11 **Privileged Materials:** If information subject to a claim of attorney-client privilege, attorney work product or any other applicable protection from disclosure is inadvertently produced to a party or parties, such production shall in no way prejudice or otherwise constitute a waiver of, or estoppel as to, any claim or privilege, work product or other applicable protection to which the Designating Party would otherwise be entitled to assert. If a claim of inadvertent production is made with respect to any information then in the custody of another, such party shall promptly return the information to the claiming party or person and shall not use such information for any purpose other than in connection with a motion to compel (which shall be filed under seal). The party returning such material may then move the Court for an Order compelling production of material which shall be filed under seal and said motion shall not assert as a ground for entering such an Order the fact or circumstances of the inadvertent production.

12 **Handling during Trial:** CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION that is subject to this Protective Order may be marked and used as trial exhibits by either party, subject to the terms and conditions imposed by the Court upon application by any party. Whenever any CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION is introduced or elicited at a deposition, trial, hearing or other proceeding, such portions of the proceedings which concern the CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION shall be conducted so that

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only those persons authorized hereunder to have access to such matters shall be present, except as otherwise ordered by the Court.

13 Handling Post-Litigation. Within seventy (70) days of termination of this litigation, including any appeals, the originals and all copies of CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION shall be turned over to the party that produced such material or their respective counsel and/or destroyed. Counsel for any party that received CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION shall confirm in writing by signing an affidavit (attached as Exhibit B) that, to the best of such counsel's knowledge and belief, all originals and copies of CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION supplied to that counsel have been returned and/or destroyed. Provided, however, counsel for all parties may retain a complete copy of each pleading (including exhibits) filed in this action and counsel may retain attorney work-product containing or describing such CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, but may not use such work product other than solely for purposes of this litigation or any settlement thereof.

DATED THIS 25th **day of 2011.**

IT IS SO ORDERED



United States Magistrate Judge

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EXHIBIT A
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

MATTHEW R. LINDNER, et al

Plaintiffs,

vs.

FORD MOTOR COMPANY, et al

Defendants.

CASE NO. 2:10-cv-00051-LDG-LRL

**UNDERTAKING CONCERNING CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL COVERED BY:
AGREED PROTECTIVE ORDER REGARDING CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

The undersigned hereby acknowledge that he/she has read the Protective Order dated _____, 2011, and entered in the United State District Court, District of Nevada, in the above-referenced matter; that he/she has received a copy of the Protective Order, understands the terms thereof; and that he/she agrees to be bound by those terms. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the undersigned acknowledges that he/she is being granted access to confidential materials solely to assist in the prosecution or defense of this specific litigation and that any other use of the information contained in those confidential material or their direct or indirect disclosure outside the terms and conditions of the Protective Order is a violation of this Protective Order that may be punished as a contempt of court and/or to the full extent of the law.

DATE: _____

Signature

Print Name

Address

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EXHIBIT D
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

MATTHEW R. LINDNER, et al

CASE NO. 2:10-cv-00051-LDG-LRL

Plaintiffs,

vs.

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FORD MOTOR COMPANY, et al

Defendants.

BEFORE ME, the undersigned Notary Public, duly commissioned and qualified in and for the State of _____, therein residing, and in the presence of the witnesses hereinafter named _____ and _____, undersigned, _____ personally _____ came _____ and appeared: _____, _____ counsel _____ for _____, in the above-captioned litigation, who, after first being duly sworn, did depose and say:

Pursuant to the subparagraph fourteen (14) of the Agreed Protective Order entered before the court on _____, 2011, to the best of such counsel's knowledge and belief, all originals and copies of CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION supplied to that counsel have been returned and/or destroyed.

Counsel

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED
before me in and for the State of _____, on this _____ day of _____, 2011,

Notary