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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

1 CHARMAINE BUTKOWSKI, an individual;

2 Plaintiff,

3 vs.

4 BLUESTREAM BRANDS, INC. d/b/a
5 FINGERHUT, a foreign corporation; NAVIENT
6 SOLUTIONS, INC., a foreign corporation; and
7 EQUIFAX, INC., a foreign corporation,

8 Defendants.

9 Case No.: 2-16-cv-02220-JAD-GWF

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**STIPULATION AND PROTECTIVE
ORDER**

20 Subject to the approval of the Court, Plaintiff Charmaine Butkowski (“Plaintiff”), Defendant
21 Navient Solutions, LLC f/k/a Navient Solutions, Inc. (“NSL”), and Defendant Bluestem Brands, Inc.
22 d/b/a Fingerhut (“Bluestem”) (collectively, the “Parties”) stipulate to the following Protective
Order.

23 The Court, being advised in the premises, finds there is a potentially significant number of
24 documents containing the nonpublic personal information of Plaintiff and the confidential and
25 proprietary information of NSL and Bluestem to be exchanged in discovery in this case, such that
26 document-by-document review of discovery materials will be impracticable if the case is to proceed
27 in an orderly, timely, and efficient manner.

1 The Court further finds the Parties' interests in protecting the non-public personal
2 information of Plaintiff, as well as confidential and commercially sensitive information of NSL and
3 Bluestem pertaining to Plaintiff's account(s) from unnecessary disclosure, and the Parties' desire and
4 the benefit to the Court of an orderly and expeditious resolution of this matter on its merits, outweigh
5 any societal interest in disclosure of such materials to non-parties. Thus, after due consideration by
6 the Court and for good cause shown, the Court finds that it is appropriate to expedite the flow of
7 discovery material, promote the prompt resolution of disputes over confidentiality, and to facilitate
8 the preservation of material arguably worthy of protection. Accordingly, it is,

9 **ORDERED and ADJUDGED as follows:**

10 1. "CONFIDENTIAL" Documents, Materials, and Information. This Order shall govern
11 all documents produced or exchanged, all written answers, deposition answers, and other responses
12 to discovery, and all communications of any kind made by Plaintiff, Plaintiff's attorneys, consultants,
13 agents, and representatives; Defendants NSL and Bluestem, their attorneys, consultants, agents,
14 employees, and representatives; and other third parties. "CONFIDENTIAL" materials shall be the
15 documents or information respectively designated under this Order and any notes, work papers, or
16 other documents respectively containing "CONFIDENTIAL" materials derived from such items.
17 Plaintiff, NSL, Bluestem, or any third party may identify any documents or information, including
18 but not limited to discovery materials produced by that party, initial disclosures, documents and
19 things, answers to interrogatories, responses to requests for production, responses to requests for
20 admission, deposition exhibits, and all or portions of deposition or hearing transcripts, as
21 "CONFIDENTIAL" and designate the documents or information as such by affixing thereto a legend
22 of "CONFIDENTIAL" or by designating through another method set forth in this Order or agreed to
23 by the parties.

24 Plaintiff, NSL, Bluestem, or any third party may designate documents or information as
25 "CONFIDENTIAL" to the extent that the party, through counsel, believes "good cause" under
26 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c) exists to categorize the material as confidential because the
27 material contains or includes: (1) confidential business or technical information; (2) trade secrets; (3)

1 proprietary business methods or practices; (4) any other competitively sensitive confidential
2 information; (5) personal information, including personal financial information about customers or
3 applicants, any party to this lawsuit, or an employee of any party to this lawsuit; (6) information
4 regarding any individual's banking or lending relationships, including, without limitation,
5 information regarding any individual's mortgage or credit history and/or consumer information not
6 otherwise available to the public; and (7) any other categories that are later agreed to in writing by
7 the parties or ordered by the Court.

8 2. Designation of "CONFIDENTIAL" Material. Documents shall be designated as
9 "CONFIDENTIAL" by stamping them with the word "CONFIDENTIAL" in a manner which will
10 not interfere with their legibility. This designation shall be used only in a reasonable fashion and
11 upon a good faith determination by counsel that a particular document contains non-public
12 information and falls within one of the categories enumerated in Paragraph 1. This designation shall
13 ordinarily be made before or at the same time as the production or disclosure of the material.
14 Because materials described in Paragraph 1 shall be covered by this Order, there shall be no waiver
15 of confidentiality if such materials are inadvertently produced without being stamped
16 "CONFIDENTIAL." Materials already produced in discovery in this litigation may be designated as
17 "CONFIDENTIAL" upon written notice (without stamping), within fourteen (14) days of the entry
18 of this Order, from the party asserting the confidentiality designation to all counsel of record to
19 whom such documents have been produced by notifying the other party of the identity of the
20 documents or information to be so designated. Any of the parties to this action can remove at any
21 time its designation of "CONFIDENTIAL" from any of the documents or information it has
22 previously so designated.

23 3. Treatment of "CONFIDENTIAL" Information. Unless otherwise ordered by the
24 Court, "CONFIDENTIAL" material, and any quotes, summaries, charts, or notes made therefrom,
25 and any facts or information contained therein or derived therefrom, shall be held in confidence and
26 used by the parties to whom the documents and information are produced solely for the purpose of
27 this case. The parties agree to take reasonable steps to maintain the confidentiality of the documents,
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1 information, and testimony relating thereto. During the pendency of this litigation,
2 "CONFIDENTIAL" material, including all copies thereof, shall be retained solely in the custody of
3 the parties' attorneys and shall not be placed in the possession of or disclosed to any other person,
4 except as set forth in this Order, as otherwise agreed upon by the parties, or upon leave of Court.
5 Each person to whom "CONFIDENTIAL" material is disclosed pursuant to this Order is hereby
6 prohibited from exploiting in any way such documents or information for his, her or its own benefit,
7 or from using such information for any purpose or in any manner not connected with the prosecution
8 or defense of this case.

9 4. Disclosure." As used herein, "disclosure" or to "disclose" shall mean to divulge,
10 reveal, describe, summarize, paraphrase, quote, transmit, or otherwise communicate
11 "CONFIDENTIAL" material.

12 5. Permissible Disclosure of "CONFIDENTIAL" Material. Except by order of this
13 Court, or otherwise as required by law, material designated as "CONFIDENTIAL" (and any notes or
14 documents that reflect or refer to such documents and information) shall not be disclosed to any
15 person other than:

- 16 (a) A party hereto;
- 17 (b) Counsel employed by a party, or an employee of such counsel, to whom it is necessary
18 that the materials be shown or the information known for purposes of this case;
- 19 (c) Any employee or agent of a party to whom the "CONFIDENTIAL" materials are
20 shown for the purpose of working directly on or testifying in connection with this
21 litigation at the request of or at the direction of counsel for such party;
- 22 (d) A person retained to assist in this action, such as an investigator, independent
23 accountant, or other technical expert or consultant, who has signed an
24 acknowledgement in the form of Exhibit A, which signed acknowledgment shall be
25 retained by the party who has retained such person;
- 26 (e) This Court (or its employees or agents) pursuant to a court filing in connection with this
27 action;

- (f) Any person(s) designated by the Court in the interest of justice, upon such terms as the Court may deem proper;
- (g) Members of the jury at a public trial of this matter, subject to the requirements of Paragraph 11 below; or
- (h) A person who is deposed or who testifies at any hearing in this matter who has signed an acknowledgement in the form of Exhibit A hereto, which signed acknowledgment shall be retained by the party who has compelled such person to testify at a deposition or trial. If the witness refuses to sign such form, the party compelling such testimony shall immediately notify opposing counsel and permit them seven (7) days to seek redress with the Court.

6. Review of Own "CONFIDENTIAL" Materials. The restrictions of this Order shall not apply to parties, and their employees, attorneys, experts or other authorized agents, when reviewing their own "CONFIDENTIAL" materials.

7. Deposition Transcripts. Deposition testimony and deposition exhibits containing "CONFIDENTIAL" material shall be covered by this Order. During a deposition taken in this matter, Plaintiff, NSL, Bluestem, or any third party, on the record, may designate as "CONFIDENTIAL" portions of the deposition testimony or deposition exhibits. Alternatively, Plaintiff, NSL, Bluestem, or any third party may, by written notice to opposing counsel and the court reporter not later than fourteen (14) business days after receipt of the final deposition transcript, designate as "CONFIDENTIAL" any portions of the deposition testimony or deposition exhibits. Until expiration of the above fourteen (14) day period, all deposition transcripts will be treated as "CONFIDENTIAL" material unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the parties.

8. Objections to "CONFIDENTIAL" Designations. To the extent that any party contests a designation under this Order, such party shall object to such designation in writing not later than fourteen (14) business days after receipt of materials designated as "CONFIDENTIAL." The parties shall first try to resolve the disagreement in good faith on an informal basis, such as the production of redacted copies. If the parties are unable to reach an agreement regarding the designation, then

1 the party objecting to such designation shall file an appropriate motion with the Court for a ruling
2 that the documents or other information shall not be accorded such status and treatment. In the event
3 that such a challenge is made, the party asserting the confidentiality designation shall have the
4 burden of establishing good cause exists under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c) to maintain the
5 designation. Until this Court enters an order changing the designation of such documents or
6 information, such document or information shall continue to be protected as provided by this Order.
7 Should the Court rule in favor of the party objecting to the confidentiality designation, the party
8 asserting the designation shall produce a copy of the document(s) without the "CONFIDENTIAL"
9 designation.

10 9. Disclosing "CONFIDENTIAL" Material. If any party wishes to disclose any
11 "CONFIDENTIAL" material beyond the terms of Paragraphs 5-6 of this Order, that party shall
12 provide all other parties with reasonable notice in writing of the request to disclose the materials,
13 unless otherwise required by law. If the parties cannot resolve their disagreement with respect to the
14 disclosure of any designated information, then a party may petition the Court for a determination of
15 these issues. In the event that such a challenge is made, the party asserting the confidentiality
16 designation shall have the burden of establishing that the designation is proper. Such
17 "CONFIDENTIAL" material shall remain "CONFIDENTIAL" as stipulated by this Order until the
18 Court rules on the party's specific petition.

19 10. Pleadings and Other Court Submissions. Each party agrees that when filing with the
20 Court any papers (including, without limitation, affidavits, memoranda, interrogatory answers, or
21 depositions) that disclose directly or indirectly any "CONFIDENTIAL" material, such papers shall
22 be filed under seal in accordance with the Court's local rules and requirements for filing documents
23 under seal.

24 If a party filing a non-dispositive motion seeks to file documents under seal, the filing party
25 must show that good cause exists as defined by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c). If a party
26 filing a dispositive motion seeks to file documents under seal, the filing party must show
27 "compelling reasons supported by specific factual findings outweigh the general history of access
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1 and the public policies favoring disclosure." *Pintos v. Pac. Creditors Ass'n*, 605 F.3d 665, 677-679
2 (9th Cir. 2010) (internal quotations and citations omitted).

3 The parties further recognize the possible need to use documents marked
4 "CONFIDENTIAL" during the trial of this matter. However, the parties agree to take reasonable
5 steps to protect the confidentiality of any trial exhibits so designated to include asking the Court to
6 ensure that any such documents referred to or offered into evidence at trial are filed with the Court
7 under seal.

8 11. Document Retention. After the conclusion of this matter (including the expiration of
9 all appeals), all originals and reproductions of the "CONFIDENTIAL" materials shall be returned to
10 the producing party within thirty (30) days of such conclusion or be destroyed (in which case
11 counsel for the party destroying said documents shall certify in writing to the producing party within
12 thirty (30) days of such conclusion that destruction of the "CONFIDENTIAL" materials has taken
13 place). Insofar as the provisions of this Order restrict the use of the documents produced hereunder,
14 the Order shall continue to be binding throughout and after the conclusion of this case, including all
15 appeals, except as set forth in Paragraph 13.

16 12. Admissibility. Nothing in this Order shall be construed to limit any party from
17 producing or introducing any document into evidence at public hearing. Subject to the Rules of
18 Evidence, "CONFIDENTIAL" materials and other confidential information may be offered in
19 evidence at trial or any court hearing. Any party may move the court for an Order that the evidence
20 be received *in camera* or under other conditions to prevent unnecessary disclosure of any
21 "CONFIDENTIAL" material. The Court will then determine whether the proffered evidence should
22 continue to be treated as "CONFIDENTIAL" and, if so, what protection, if any, may be afforded to
23 such information at the trial or hearing.

24 13. Scope of Discovery. Nothing in this Order shall preclude any party from opposing
25 production of any documents or information, or from seeking further or different relief should future
26 pretrial activities indicate such a need.

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14. Client Consultation. Nothing in this Order shall bar or otherwise restrict any attorney
2 herein from rendering advice to his or her client with respect to this case or from doing anything
3 necessary to prosecute or defend this case and further the interests of his or her client, provided,
4 however, that the attorney shall not disclose any material designated for protection hereunder where
5 such disclosure would be contrary to the terms of this Order.

15. Discretion of the Court. Nothing in this Order shall apply to, bind, or limit the Court
7 or its employees in the performance of their duties. Notwithstanding any foregoing suggestion to the
8 contrary, the Court shall retain final and complete authority to re-designate any material previously
9 designated as "CONFIDENTIAL" as a public document.

16. Notice of Breach. It shall be the obligation of counsel, upon hearing of any breach or
11 threatened breach of this Order by any person, promptly to notify counsel for the opposing and
12 producing parties of such breach or threatened breach. The parties shall make every reasonable
13 effort to mark all discovery containing "CONFIDENTIAL" materials, but the mistaken or
14 inadvertent failure to mark the discovery material, where notice has otherwise been given that it
15 contains "CONFIDENTIAL" materials, shall not exempt it from the provisions of this Order.

16. Litigation Use Only. All "CONFIDENTIAL" materials produced in this litigation,
17 whether by a party or nonparty, and whether pursuant to the civil rules of procedure, subpoena,
18 agreement or otherwise, and all information contained therein or derived therefrom, shall be used
19 solely for the preparation and trial of this action (including any appeals and retrials), and may not be
20 used for any other purpose, including business, governmental or commercial, or any other
21 administrative or judicial proceedings or actions.

22. Subpoena by Other Court or Agencies. If another court or an administrative agency
23 subpoenas or orders production of "CONFIDENTIAL" materials that a party obtained under the
24 terms of this Order, the party receiving the subpoena shall promptly notify the party or other person
25 who designated the "CONFIDENTIAL" materials of the pendency of such subpoena or order.

26. Inadvertent Disclosure Protection. Review of the "CONFIDENTIAL" materials
27 labeled "CONFIDENTIAL" by counsel, experts, or consultants in the litigation shall not waive the
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1 "CONFIDENTIAL" designation or any objections to production. "CONFIDENTIAL" materials
2 inadvertently produced by any party or nonparty through discovery in this action without having
3 been designated as "CONFIDENTIAL" shall be subject to the provisions of this Order to the same
4 extent as if the inadvertent disclosure had not occurred so long as there is reasonable notice to the
5 other party of the inadvertent disclosure. If a producing party inadvertently discloses to a receiving
6 party information that is privileged or otherwise immune from discovery, said producing party shall
7 promptly, upon discovery of such disclosure, so advise the receiving party in writing and request that
8 the item or items of information be returned. No party to this action shall thereafter assert that such
9 disclosure waived any privilege or immunity. It is further agreed that the receiving party will return
10 such inadvertently produced item or items of information and all copies thereof within fourteen (14)
11 business days of receiving a written request for the return of such item or items of information from
12 the producing party.

13 20. Non-Parties. Non-parties who are required to produce "CONFIDENTIAL" material
14 in response to a subpoena, and who in good faith believe that such material contains confidential
15 information, may rely on this Order and apply it to their production.

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1 21. **Responsibility of Attorneys.** The attorneys of record are responsible for employing
2 reasonable measures to control, consistent with this Order, the duplication of, access to, and
3 distribution of copies of materials labeled "CONFIDENTIAL." Parties shall not duplicate any such
4 materials except for working copies and for filing in court under seal. The attorneys of record
5 further are responsible for employing reasonable measures to control, consistent with this Order, the
6 dissemination or revelation of confidential information.

7 **STIPULATED AND AGREED:**

8 Dated this 23rd day of February, 2017

9 Dated this 27th day of February, 2017.

10 **LAW OFFICES OF KEVIN L.
11 HERNANDEZ**

12 /s/ Kevin L. Hernandez, Esq.

13 KEVIN L. HERNANDEZ
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27 LLC f/k/a Navient Solutions, Inc.*

28 Dated this 22nd day of February, 2017.

1 **BALLARD SPAHR LLP**

2 /s/ Kyle A. Ewing, Esq.

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9 *Attorneys for Defendant Bluestem
10 Brands, Inc. d/b/a Fingerhut*

11 **ORDER**

12 IT IS SO ORDERED.

13 
14 George Foley Jr.
15 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

16 DATED: 2/28/2017