

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT OF NEVADA

WILLIAM O'DONOHUE, JANE FISHER &
LORRAINE BENUTO

Plaintiffs,

v.

STATE OF NEVADA EX REL. BOARD OF
REGENTS OF THE NEVADA SYSTEM OF
HIGHER EDUCATION, ON BEHALF OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA RENO,

Defendants.

Case No. 3:25-cv-00014-MMD-CLB

**ORDER GRANTING STIPULATED
PROTECTIVE ORDER**

In order to protect the confidentiality of confidential information obtained by the parties in connection with this case, the parties hereby agree as follows:

1. Any party or non-party may designate as "confidential" (by stamping the relevant page or other otherwise set forth herein) any document or response to discovery which that party or non-party considers in good faith to contain information involving trade secrets, or confidential personal and/or business or financial information, subject to protection under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure or Nevada law ("Confidential Information"), including but not limited to (a) personnel information concerning non-parties to this case under Nevada System of Higher Education Code Section 5.6.2 and (b) student information under Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. Where a document or response consists of more than one page, the first page and each page on which confidential information appears shall be so designated.

2. A party or non-party may designate information disclosed during a deposition or in response to written discovery as "confidential" by so indicating in said response or on the record at the deposition and requesting the preparation of a separate transcript of such material. Additionally, a party or non-party may designate in writing, within twenty (20) days after receipt of said responses or of the deposition transcript for which the designation is proposed, that specific

1 pages of the transcript and/or specific responses be treated as "confidential" information. Any
2 other party may object to such proposal, in writing or on the record. Upon such objection, the
3 parties shall follow the procedures described in paragraph 8 below. After any designation made
4 according to the procedure set forth in this paragraph, the designated documents or information
5 shall be treated according to the designation until the matter is resolved according to the
6 procedures described in paragraph 8 below, and counsel for all parties shall be responsible for
7 making all previously unmarked copies of the designated material in their possession or control
8 with the specified designation.

9 3. All confidential information produced or exchanged in the course of this case (other than
10 information that is publicly available) shall be used by the party or parties to whom the
11 information is produced solely for the purpose of this case.

12 4. Except with the prior written consent of other parties, or upon prior order of this Court
13 obtained upon notice to opposing counsel, Confidential Information shall not be disclosed to any
14 person other than:

15 (a) counsel for the respective parties to this litigation, including in-house counsel
16 and co-counsel retained for this litigation;

17 (b) employees of such counsel;

18 (c) individual defendants, class representatives, any officer or employee of a party,
19 to the extent deemed necessary by Counsel for the prosecution or defense of this litigation;

20 (d) consultants or expert witnesses retained for the prosecution or defense of this
21 litigation, provided that each such person shall execute a copy of the Certification annexed
22 to this Order as Exhibit "A" (which shall be retained by counsel to the party so disclosing
23 the Confidential Information and made available for inspection by opposing counsel during
24 the pendency or after the termination of the action only upon good cause shown and upon
25 order of the Court) before being shown or given any Confidential Information;

26 (e) any authors or recipients of the Confidential Information;

27 (f) the Court, Court personnel, and court reporters; and
28

(g) witnesses (other than persons described in paragraph 4(e)). A witness shall sign the Certification before being shown a confidential document. Confidential Information may be disclosed to a witness who will not sign the Certification only in a deposition at which the party who designated the Confidential Information is represented or has been given notice that Confidential Information shall be designated "Confidential" pursuant to paragraph 2 above. Witnesses shown Confidential Information shall not be allowed to retain copies.

5. Any persons receiving Confidential Information shall not reveal or discuss such information to or with any person who is not entitled to receive such information, except as set forth herein.

6. Unless otherwise permitted by statute, rule or prior court order, papers filed with the court under seal shall be accompanied by a contemporaneous motion for leave to file those documents under seal, and shall be filed consistent with the court's electronic filing procedures in accordance with Local Rule IA 10-5. Notwithstanding any agreement among the parties, the party seeking to file a paper under seal bears the burden of overcoming the presumption in favor of public access to papers filed in court. *Kamakana v. City and County of Honolulu*, 447 F.2d 1172 (9th Cir. 2006).

7. A party may designate as "Confidential" documents or discovery materials produced by a non-party by providing written notice to all parties of the relevant document numbers or other identification within 30 days after receiving such documents or discovery materials. Any party or non-party may voluntarily disclose to others without restriction any information designated by that party or non-party as confidential, although a document may lose its confidential status if it is made public.

8. If a party contends that any material is not entitled to confidential treatment, such party may at any time give written notice to the party or non-party who designated the material. The party or non-party who designated the material shall have twenty-five (25) days from the receipt of such written notice to apply to the Court for an order designating the material as confidential. The

1 party or non-party seeking the order has the burden of establishing that the document is entitled to
2 protection.

3 9. Notwithstanding any challenge to the designation of material as Confidential
4 Information, all documents shall be treated as such and shall be subject to the provisions hereof
5 unless and until one of the following occurs:

6 (a) the party or non-party claims that the material is Confidential Information
7 withdraws such designation in writing; or

8 (b) the party or non-party who claims that the material is Confidential Information
9 fails to apply to the Court for an order designating the material confidential within the time
10 period specified above after receipt of a written challenge to such designation; or

11 (c) the Court rules the material is not confidential.

12 10. All provisions of this Order restricting the communication or use of Confidential
13 Information shall continue to be binding after the conclusion of this action, unless otherwise
14 agreed or ordered. Upon conclusion of the litigation, a party in the possession of Confidential
15 Information, other than that which is contained in pleadings, correspondence, and deposition
16 transcripts, shall either (a) return such documents no later than thirty (30) days after conclusion of
17 this action to counsel for the party or non-party who provided such information, or (b) destroy
18 such documents within the time period upon consent of the party who provided the information
19 and certify in writing within thirty (30) days that the documents have been destroyed.

20 11. The terms of this Order do not preclude, limit, restrict, or otherwise apply to the use of
21 documents at trial.

22 12. Nothing herein shall be deemed to waive any applicable privilege, work product
23 protection, confidentiality or protection afforded by state or federal regulation, statute or law.
24 Nothing herein shall be deemed to affect the ability of a party to seek relief for an inadvertent
25 disclosure of material protected by privilege, work product protection, confidentiality or protection
26 afforded by state or federal regulation, statute or law.

1 13. Any witness or other person, firm, or entity from which discovery is sought may be
2 informed of and may obtain the protection of this Order by written advice to the parties' respective
3 counsel or by oral advice at the time of any deposition or similar proceeding.

4 14. The court's jurisdiction over this agreement shall terminate upon dismissal of this
5 action.

6
7 Dated: March 5, 2025

Dated: March 7, 2025

8 /s/ Mark Mausert

/s/ Frank Z. LaForge

9 Mark Mausert

Frank Z. LaForge

10 729 Evans Avenue

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA RENO

11 Reno, NV 89512

1664 N. Virginia Street/MS550

12 Las Vegas, NV 89101

Reno, NV 89557-0550

(702) 388-4469

(775) 784-3512

Attorney for Plaintiffs

Attorney for Defendant

13
14 **ORDER**

15 Pursuant to the foregoing stipulation of the Parties, **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

16
17 
18 _____
19 **UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

20 Dated: March 10, 2025
21 _____
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify my understanding that Confidential Information is being provided to me pursuant to the terms and restrictions of the Protective Order dated _____, in *O'Donohue, et al. v. Nevada System of Higher Education*, Civil No. 3:25-cv-00014-MMD-CLB. I have been given a copy of that Order and read it. I agree to be bound by the Order. I will not reveal the Confidential Information to anyone, except as allowed by the Order. I will maintain all such Confidential Information ☐ including copies, notes, or other transcriptions made therefrom -- in a secure manner to prevent unauthorized access to it. No later than thirty 30 days after the conclusion of this action, I will return the Confidential Information—including copies, notes or other transcriptions made therefrom—to the counsel who provided me with the Confidential Information. I hereby consent to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the purpose of enforcing the Protective Order.

DATED: _____
