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This Protective Order shall govern the treatment and handling of all nonparty personal identification information ("PII") and personnel records, which 3 records and/or information are designated by the parties and/or by the Court as 4 containing confidential information, including, but not limited to, records of nonparty employees or agents of the United States.

Therefore, in the interest of expediting the flow of discovery material between the parties, and to help facilitate the prompt resolution of disputes over 8 confidentiality, it is pursuant to the Court's authority under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(c) 9 and the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552a(b)(11), and with the consent of the parties, 10 the following Protective Order will apply to appropriate records produced by the parties in its discovery disclosures and responses:

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED:

- 1. The parties' Motion for Entry of Stipulated Protective Order, ECF No. 18, 14 is **GRANTED**.
- 2. Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552a(b)(11), and subject to the conditions 16 described below, Defendants are authorized to release to Plaintiffs' counsel 17 government records and information containing what Defendants assert is Privacy 18 Act protected personal information of non-party individuals – employees. Without 19 determining the issue, Defendants may disclose the information contained within 20 the government's documents to Plaintiffs' counsel without obtaining prior written 21 consent of the individuals to whom those records pertain, and such disclosure shall 22 not violate the Privacy Act.
- 3. Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(c)(1)(B), Defendants may disclose 24 documents and information to Plaintiffs' counsel that may otherwise be protected 25|| from disclosure, without waiving those privileges outside of this litigation or to 26 third parties.
- 4. The parties shall take reasonable steps to protect the privacy interests of 28 the third-party individuals contained within the documents. Plaintiffs' counsel shall

- 5. These documents shall be used by the parties only for purposes of 5|| litigating this case, including any subsequent appeals. Persons receiving copies of protected documents or the contents of protected documents subject to this Protective Order shall not use such documents or other information for any other purpose. At the conclusion of this litigation, including any subsequent appeals, the parties' counsel will retrieve all copies of the documents that they have provided to 10 staff or experts, and will destroy the copies or return them to the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Washington, in care of Special 12 Attorney Timothy M. Durkin or his designee. If the documents that are retrieved by counsel are destroyed, counsel shall so notify Mr. Durkin or his designee in 13|| 14 writing.
- 6. If the parties intend to file documents containing PII or privileged 16 information in the Court file or use them as exhibits to depositions, they shall take steps to protect the privacy of the individuals identified in these records through 18 redaction of PII. Defendants assert this is required by the by the United States 19 District Court Eastern District of Washington, ECF Administrative Procedures, § VI(C), Privacy Concerns (May 6, 2015) and Fed. R. Civ. P. 5.2. Unless redacted, both parties shall protect the "Privileged and/or Confidential" marked information by filing such documents under seal.

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7. All information that is asserted by either party as privileged under the law enforcement privilege, the attorney work-product doctrine and/or the attorneyclient privilege, that is produced or presented in this action may only be used by the parties, members of their legal teams (i.e., lawyers, paralegals, investigators, support staff) and all persons retained by the parties (i.e., outside investigators, 28 consultants, expert witnesses), and only for the purpose of litigating this litigation.

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1|| Neither party shall disclose these materials or the content of these materials to any 2 other persons or agencies without prior Court order. This Order shall continue in 3 effect after the conclusion of the proceedings. Any modification or vacating of this 4 Order shall only be made upon notice to and an opportunity to be heard from both parties.

- 8. Defendants and their officers, employees, or attorneys, shall not bear any responsibility or liability for any unauthorized disclosure of any documents 8 obtained by Plaintiffs' and/or their counsel under this Protective Order, or of any 9 information contained in such documents. Plaintiffs shall not bear any 10 responsibility or liability for any unauthorized disclosure of any documents obtained by Defendants' counsel under this Protective Order, or of any information 12 contained in such documents.
- 9. To the extent the United States' discovery disclosures involve a limited 14 waiver of the agency investigative – law enforcement privilege, the attorney workproduct doctrine and/or the attorney-client privilege, the limited-restricted waiver 16 applies to material that may be relevant to the U.S. Attorney's Office – U.S. 17|| Department of Justice criminal investigation and/or any referred cases involving 18 the issues alleged in this litigation.
- 10. All persons having access to confidential information made available 20 pursuant to this Protective Order shall agree not to make any use of said confidential information except in connection with the above-captioned litigation and shall further agree not to deliver or transfer said confidential information to any person not previously authorized by the terms herein.
- 11. Counsel disclosing confidential information to any person or entity shall 25 be responsible for limiting distribution of the confidential information to those 26 person who both (1) have a need to know the information, and (2) are authorized to 27 receive the information under this Protective Order. Counsel shall be prepared to 28 account for the disposition and use of the information under this Protective Order.

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- 12. All copies of confidential information disclosed under this Protective Order shall be subject to the same restrictions as imposed on the original information.
- 13. All documents, materials, and information designated as confidential and disclosed to any person pursuant to this Protective Order shall remain in the possession only of the attorneys, experts, or consultants to whom they are disclosed as provided by the Protective Order. The parties or their attorneys may 8 not retain any documents, materials, or information designated as confidential pursuant to this Protective Order after the conclusion of this litigation.
- 14. Documents, materials, and information designated as confidential pursuant to this Order may be disclosed in regular proceedings of this Court and/or 12|| by agreement of the attorneys until trial, at trial the Court shall determine whether 13 the Order shall remain in force. Exhibits, unless redacted, shall be marked 14 "CONFIDENTIAL" and shall be: (1) filed ECF under seal; (2) Designated as an 15 Exhibit containing confidential material subject to the Court's Protective Order; 16 and (3) a copy of the exhibit filed under seal shall be promptly served upon opposing counsel in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 5 (email to ECF registered 18 account complies with requirement).
- 15. The confidential documents, materials, or information set forth to 20 facilitate discovery in this case may nonetheless be used at trial in accordance with 21|| the Court Rules, the Rules of Evidence, the Local Rules, and applicable federal 22 statutes and regulations (i.e., Privacy Act). However, any party or interested third party may apply to this Court for additional protection regarding the protected use 24 at trial of any discovery produced in this case. Such motions should be filed 25 contemporaneous with the parties' respective motions in limine.
- 16. No further modification or amendment of this Protective Order is 28 permitted except by a writing signed by counsel for the parties and approved by the

Court. The parties hereto agree that it is unreasonable to rely on any oral modification or amendment of this Protective Order.

17. The failure to insist upon fill compliance with any of the terms of the Protective Order in any instance shall not be deemed to be waiver of the right to insist upon full compliance with those terms thereafter.

18. This Order does not constitute any ruling on the question of whether any particular document or category of information is properly discoverable and does not constitute any ruling on any potential objection to the discoverability, relevance, or admissibility of any record, other than objections based on the Privacy Act and/or the investigative-law enforcement privilege, attorney-client privilege, and/or attorney work-product doctrine.

19. By stipulated entry of this Protective Order, the parties and their respective counsel certify that prior to the disclosure of any confidential information to anyone associated with the preparation of their case (i.e., experts, consultants, etc.) that the proposed recipient of the information will be provided with a conformed copy of this Protective Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED. The District Court Clerk is hereby directed to enter this Order and to provide copies to counsel.

DATED this 20th day of July 2018.



Stanley A. Bastian United States District Judge