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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

JOHN DOE,

Plaintiff,

v.

SEATREE PLLC, JAMES J. NAMIKI,
KING COUNTY, and JANE DOES,

Defendants.

C17-1572 TSZ

MINUTE ORDER

JOHN DOE,

Plaintiff,

v.

SEATREE PLLC, and JAMES J.
NAMIKI,

Defendants.

C17-1681 TSZ

The following Minute Order is made by direction of the Court, the Honorable
Thomas S. Zilly, United States District Judge:

1 (1) Before the Court is a series of motions to seal various documents filed by
2 Plaintiff in the above-captioned cases.¹ The Local Rules impose a “strong presumption
3 of public access to the court’s files.” Local Rule 5(g). For the reasons stated in the
4 following paragraphs, the Court concludes that Plaintiff has not met the burden of
5 overcoming this presumption. *See also Kamakana v. City & Cty. of Honolulu*, 447 F.3d
6 1172, 1178 (9th Cir. 2006).

7 (2) Plaintiff’s motions to seal, docket nos. 36 and 48 in C17-1681, and docket
8 no. 65 in C17-1572, to which no opposition was filed, are DENIED. Plaintiff seeks to
9 file under seal hundreds of pages containing certain declarations, emails between plaintiff
10 and defendants concerning bills for legal services, and various invoices, billing records,
11 copies of checks, and corresponding documents.² Plaintiff has not identified why a less
12 restrictive alternative to filing these voluminous records under seal is insufficient. *See*
13 Local Rule 5(g)(3)(B).

14 (3) Plaintiff’s motions to seal, docket no. 45 in C17-1681 and docket no. 68 in
15 C17-1572, are DENIED. Plaintiff has not identified any applicable legal standard
16 sufficient to warrant sealing the document in question. *See* Local Rule 5(g)(3)(B).

17 (4) Plaintiff is DIRECTED to file one supplemental brief, not to exceed two (2)
18 pages, on or before June 1, 2018, specifically indicating whether he is withdrawing the
19 sealed documents at issue in these motions. Absent such indication, the Court will
20 promptly unseal these documents for public access. *See* Local Rule 5(g)(6).

21 (5) The Clerk is directed to send a copy of this Minute Order to all counsel of
22 record.

23 Dated this 22nd day of May, 2018.

William M. McCool
Clerk

s/Karen Dews
Deputy Clerk

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20 ¹ Some of the motions in C17-1572 overlap with the motions in C17-1681 in that they
21 request to seal what appear to be the same documents or similar information. For the reasons
22 stated herein, the Court finds it unnecessary to provide a detailed recitation of the documents at
23 issue or the extent to which these documents are subject to multiple motions.

² Plaintiff is reminded of his obligation to provide the Court with courtesy copies of
documents over fifty (50) pages under Local Rule 10(e)(9).