

Honorable Tiffany M. Cartwright

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT TACOMA

RYAN RANER,

Plaintiff / Counterclaim Defendant,

v.

THE FUN PIMPS ENTERTAINMENT, LLC;  
RICHARD HUENINK, JR.; and JOEL  
HUENINK,

Defendants / Counterclaim Plaintiff.

Civil Action No. 22-cv-5718TMC

ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANTS'  
MOTION TO SEAL UNREDACTED  
VERSION OF DECLARATION

The Court, having considered Defendants' motion to seal the unredacted version of the Declaration of Richard Huenink, which contains sensitive financial information considered confidential to all parties in this case, concludes as follows.

The Local Civil Rules provide that where a party wishes "to file a confidential document it obtained from another party in discovery," the party filing the motion to seal such documents need not satisfy the requirements of LCR 5(g)(3)(B). See LCR 5(g)(3). Rather, it is the party who designated the document confidential who must, in its response to the motion to seal, satisfy LCR 5(g)(3)(B), which requires:

- (B) A specific statement of the applicable legal standard and the reasons for keeping a document under seal, including an explanation of:
- i. the legitimate private or public interests that warrant the relief sought;
  - ii. the injury that will result if the relief sought is not granted; and
  - iii. why a less restrictive alternative to the relief sought is not sufficient.

ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO  
SEAL - 1

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2 Here, both parties agree that the information to be filed under seal is confidential and  
3 deserves protection from disclosure to the public. There is a legitimate private interest in  
4 maintaining party sensitive financial information, which includes party compensation, confidential  
5 and not disclosed to the public, *inter alia* because it constitutes competitive industry trade secret  
6 information related to product development. Public disclosure of such information will result in a  
7 competitive disadvantage. The financial information sought to be filed under seal has been  
8 designated “Confidential” under the Stipulated Protective Order governing this case. (Dkt. 49)  
9 Defendants have minimized what is filed under seal through redaction, and there is no less  
10 restrictive alternative to prevent public disclosure. See LCR 5(g)(3)(B). Finally, Plaintiff has  
11 indicated that he does not oppose sealing the Declaration including the sensitive financial  
12 information.

13 The public disclosure of this type of highly confidential and sensitive information would  
14 result in severe and irreparable harm to the parties, and therefore the Court finds “compelling  
15 reasons” to justify keeping the requested materials under seal. Accordingly, the Court finds that  
16 Defendants have satisfied their burden under LCR 5(g)(3)(B), and GRANTS the motion to seal.

17 IT IS SO ORDERED.

18 DATED this 5th day of February, 2024.

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Tiffany M. Cartwright  
United States District Judge  
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Presented by:

s/ David A. Lowe, WSBA No. 24453

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