

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORHTERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION**

COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS,
et al.,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

CHAD F. WOLF, in his official capacity as
Acting Secretary of U.S. Department of
Homeland Security; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
HOMELAND SECURITY,
et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 19-cv-6334

Judge Gary Feinerman

JOINT MOTION FOR CONFIDENTIALITY ORDER

Plaintiffs and Defendants (“The Parties”), pursuant to Rules 26(c) and 37 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Local Rules 26.2 and 37.2, move for entry of a confidentiality order. In support thereof, the Parties state as follows:

1. The parties have agreed on the terms of a protective order, with the exception of one provision, detailed below. Pending the Court’s resolution of the one disputed provision, the parties have agreed to tentatively abide by the terms of the draft protective order attached as Exhibit A and by email in accordance with the Court’s case management procedures.

2. The parties have had multiple meet-and-confers over the protective order, and successfully resolved disputes concerning several provisions. However, the Parties were unable to resolve one particular dispute.

3. Defendants object to Plaintiffs including within the category of third-parties allowed to review Confidential Information parties to a common interest agreement in the parallel public charge cases who have also been granted discovery.

i. *Plaintiffs' Position.* Plaintiffs submit that sharing Confidential Information produced in this litigation, on the condition that those parties execute Attachment A to the proposed confidentiality order, is appropriate. Plaintiffs in the public charge cases have been coordinating their efforts to efficiently litigate these cases and conserve judicial resources across the country. Confidential Information that is produced because it is relevant to the claims brought here is inherently useful for all plaintiffs bringing virtually identical claims against the Defendants, regardless of in which federal district court the claims are pending. Discovery gamesmanship, on the other hand, does not advance any legitimate goal. Just because information that is relevant to an APA and EPC claim constitutes Confidential Information does not make it any less relevant or useful to other plaintiffs that agree to abide by the Confidentiality Order, and no good faith basis exists for preventing Plaintiffs from sharing this information with such plaintiffs. The purpose for this Confidentiality Order should be to protect certain information from being made publicly available—not to prohibit plaintiffs pursuing the same claims against Defendants from sharing, on a confidential basis, relevant information that Defendants have in their possession, custody and control. This sharing is also limited to only those plaintiffs in the parallel public charge cases who have been granted discovery. Ultimately, such disclosure will provide federal district and appellate courts with the benefit of a full record when reaching their respective decisions.

ii. *Defendants' Position.* In any litigation, the standard practice is that only the parties to that case may view produced documents bearing a confidential designation. Although parties in other courts are litigating similar claims, the Judges in those cases should determine the propriety and scope of discovery. If those Judges authorize analogous discovery, it is highly likely that Defendants will produce to the parties in those cases any documents produced in this case. But until then, there is no sound reason why Plaintiffs must have the right to freely share confidential documents with non-parties in order to properly litigate their claims here. Further, contrary to Plaintiffs' assertion, *Plaintiffs' position allows for unnecessary "gamesmanship."* Under Plaintiffs' position, parties can can freely share any and all produced documents with non-parties, and spare those parties the obligation of successfully securing this discovery before the Judges presiding over their cases. This would effectively allow the parties across the different cases to strategically move for discovery in a forum they find particularly favorable, and then share the fruits. The Court should decline to facilitate this type of behavior.

4. Upon the Court's resolution of the one aforementioned dispute, the parties will abide by the protective order attached as Exhibit A and sent via email in accordance with the Court's case management procedures, as modified consistent with the Court's order.

WHEREFORE, the Parties respectfully request the Court issue an order regarding the disputed terms of the confidentiality order.

Dated: September 28, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

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COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

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Counsel for Defendants

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned, an attorney, certifies that on September 28, 2020, she caused the attached **Joint Motion For A Confidentiality Order** to be served via the Court's ECF system and by email upon:

Keri L. Berman (Keri.L.Berman@usdoj.gov)

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/s/ Marlow Svatek

EXHIBIT A

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION

COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, an Illinois governmental)
entity, and ILLINOIS COALITION FOR IMMIGRANT)
AND REFUGEE RIGHTS, INC.,) 19 C 6334
)
Plaintiffs,) Judge Gary Feinerman
)
vs.)
)
CHAD F. WOLF, in his official capacity as Acting)
Secretary of U.S. Department of Homeland)
Security, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND)
SECURITY, a federal agency, KENNETH T.)
CUCCINELLI II, in his official capacity as Senior)
Official Performing the Duties of the)
Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services,)
and U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION)
SERVICES, a federal agency,)
)
Defendants.)

[Proposed] Confidentiality Order

The Plaintiffs and Defendants to this action move that the Court enter a confidentiality order. The Court has determined that the terms set forth herein are appropriate to protect the respective interests of the parties, the public, and the Court. Accordingly, it is ORDERED:

1. Scope. All materials produced or adduced in the course of discovery, including initial disclosures, responses to discovery requests, deposition testimony and exhibits, and information derived directly therefrom (hereinafter collectively "documents"), shall be subject to this Order concerning Confidential Information as defined below. This Order is subject to the Local Rules of this District and the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure on matters of procedure and calculation of time periods.

2. **Confidential Information.** As used in this Order, “Confidential Information” means information designated as “CONFIDENTIAL-SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER” by the producing party that falls within one or more of the following categories: (a) information prohibited from disclosure by statute, including the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552a, et seq., and federal regulations (including non-public information that is For Official Use Only or is Law Enforcement Sensitive), or information that would be covered by the Privacy Act if the subject of the information had been a U.S. citizen or a person lawfully admitted for permanent residence;¹ (b) information protected from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, et seq., (c) information that may disclose or contain information of certain of Plaintiffs’ witnesses who may have a fear of removal or immigration enforcement, (d) the personally identifying information of current or former government employees below the senior executive level; (e) contact information, including email addresses and telephone numbers, of current or former government employees; (f) any other documents or information that qualify for protection under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c). Information or documents that are available to the public may not be designated as Confidential Information.

3. **Designation.**

(a) A party may designate a document as Confidential Information for protection under this Order by placing or affixing the words “CONFIDENTIAL - SUBJECT

¹ Subject to the requirements of this Order, in connection with the production of records in this case, Defendants are authorized to release government records, documents, and other information, including computerized or electronic information, that are protected from disclosure by the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. § 522a, or whose disclosure might otherwise intrude upon the privacy interests of third parties, without obtaining the prior written consent of the individuals to whom the records or information pertain.

TO PROTECTIVE ORDER" on the document and on all copies in a manner that will not interfere with the legibility of the document. As used in this Order, "copies" includes electronic images, duplicates, extracts, summaries or descriptions that contain the Confidential Information. The marking "CONFIDENTIAL - SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER" shall be applied prior to or at the time of the documents are produced or disclosed. Applying the marking "CONFIDENTIAL - SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER" to a document does not mean that the document has any status or protection by statute or otherwise except to the extent and for the purposes of this Order. Any copies that are made of any documents marked "CONFIDENTIAL - SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER" shall also be so marked, except that indices, electronic databases or lists of documents that do not contain substantial portions or images of the text of marked documents and do not otherwise disclose the substance of the Confidential Information are not required to be marked.

(b) The designation of a document as Confidential Information is a certification by an attorney or a party appearing pro se that the document contains Confidential Information as defined in this order.

4. Depositions.

Unless all parties agree on the record at the time the deposition testimony is taken, all deposition testimony taken in this case shall presumptively be treated as Confidential Information until no later than the fourteenth day after the transcript is delivered to any party or the witness. Within this time period, a party may serve a Notice of Designation to all parties of record as to specific portions of the testimony that are designated Confidential Information, and thereafter only those portions identified in the Notice of Designation shall be protected by the terms of this Order. The failure to serve a timely Notice of Designation shall waive any

designation of testimony taken in that deposition as Confidential Information, unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

5. Protection of Confidential Material.

(a) General Protections. Confidential Information shall not be used or disclosed by the parties, counsel for the parties or any other persons identified in subparagraph (b) for any purpose whatsoever other than for use by the parties in this litigation, including any appeal thereof.

(b) Limited Third-Party Disclosures. The parties and counsel for the parties shall not disclose or permit the disclosure of any Confidential Information to any third person or entity except as set forth in subparagraphs (1)-(9). Subject to these requirements, the following categories of persons may be allowed to review Confidential Information, but only if they have executed Attachment A:

- (1) Counsel. Counsel for the parties and employees of counsel who have responsibility for the action;
- (2) Parties. Individual parties and employees of a party but only to the extent counsel determines in good faith that the employee's assistance is reasonably necessary to the conduct of the litigation in which the information is disclosed;
- (3) The Court and its personnel;
- (4) Court Reporters and Recorders. Court reporters and recorders engaged for depositions;
- (5) Contractors. Those persons specifically engaged for the limited purpose of making copies of documents or organizing or processing documents, including outside vendors hired to process electronically stored documents;
- (6) Consultants and Experts. Consultants, investigators, or experts employed by the parties or counsel for the parties to assist in the

Commented [A1]: (10)

preparation and trial of this action but only after such persons have completed the certification contained in Attachment A,
Acknowledgment of Understanding and Agreement to Be Bound;

- (7) Witnesses at depositions. During their depositions, witnesses in this action to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary. Witnesses shall not retain a copy of documents containing Confidential Information, except witnesses may receive a copy of all exhibits marked at their depositions in connection with review of the transcripts. Pages of transcribed deposition testimony or exhibits to depositions that are designated as Confidential Information pursuant to the process set out in this Order must be separately bound by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to anyone except as permitted under this Order.
- (8) Author or recipient. The author or recipient of the document (not including a person who received the document in the course of litigation);
- (9) Parties to a common interest agreement, including the parties and employees of a party that are members of a parallel Inadmissibility on Public Charge Grounds rule case, where the party or parties have been granted discovery; and
- (10) Others by Consent. Other persons only by written consent of the producing party or upon order of the Court and on such conditions as may be agreed or ordered.

(c) Control of Documents. Counsel for the parties shall make

reasonable efforts to prevent unauthorized or inadvertent disclosure of Confidential Information. Counsel shall maintain the originals of the forms signed by persons acknowledging their obligations under this Order for a period of three years after the termination of the case.

6. Inadvertent Failure to Designate. An inadvertent failure to designate a document as Confidential Information does not, standing alone, waive the right to so designate the document; provided, however, that a failure to serve a timely Notice of Designation of deposition testimony as required by this Order, even if inadvertent, waives any

protection for deposition testimony. If a party designates a document as Confidential Information after it was initially produced, the receiving party, on notification of the designation, must make a reasonable effort to assure that the document is treated in accordance with the provisions of this Order. No party shall be found to have violated this Order for failing to maintain the confidentiality of material during a time when that material has not been designated Confidential Information, even where the failure to so designate was inadvertent and where the material is subsequently designated Confidential Information.

7. Filing of Confidential Information. This Order does not, by itself, authorize the filing of any document under seal. Any party wishing to file a document designated as Confidential Information in connection with a motion, brief or other submission to the Court must comply with LR 26.2.

8. No Greater Protection of Specific Documents. Except on privilege grounds not addressed by this Order, no party may withhold information from discovery on the ground that it requires protection greater than that afforded by this Order unless the party moves for an order providing such special protection.

9. Challenges by a Party to Designation as Confidential Information. The designation of any material or document as Confidential Information is subject to challenge by any party. The following procedure shall apply to any such challenge.

(a) Meet and Confer. A party challenging the designation of Confidential Information must do so in good faith and must begin the process by conferring directly with counsel for the designating party. In conferring, the challenging party must explain the basis for its belief that the confidentiality designation was not proper and must give the designating party an opportunity to review the designated material, to reconsider the designation, and, if

no change in designation is offered, to explain the basis for the designation. The designating party must respond to the challenge within five (5) business days.

(b) **Judicial Intervention.** A party that elects to challenge a confidentiality designation may file and serve a motion that identifies the challenged material and sets forth in detail the basis for the challenge. Each such motion must be accompanied by a competent declaration that affirms that the movant has complied with the meet and confer requirements of this procedure. The burden of persuasion in any such challenge proceeding shall be on the designating party. Until the Court rules on the challenge, all parties shall continue to treat the materials as Confidential Information under the terms of this Order.

10. **Action by the Court.** Applications to the Court for an order relating to materials or documents designated Confidential Information shall be by motion. Nothing in this Order or any action or agreement of a party under this Order limits the Court's power to make orders concerning the disclosure of documents produced in discovery or at trial.

11. **Use of Confidential Documents or Information at Trial.** Nothing in this Order shall be construed to affect the use of any document, material, or information at any trial or hearing. A party that intends to present or that anticipates that another party may present Confidential information at a hearing or trial shall bring that issue to the Court's and parties' attention by motion or in a pretrial memorandum without disclosing the Confidential Information. The Court may thereafter make such orders as are necessary to govern the use of such documents or information at trial.

12. **Confidential Information Subpoenaed or Ordered Produced in Other Litigation.**

(a) If a receiving party is served with a subpoena or an order issued in other

litigation that would compel disclosure of any material or document designated in this action as Confidential Information, the receiving party must so notify the designating party, in writing, immediately and in no event more than three court days after receiving the subpoena or order. Such notification must include a copy of the subpoena or court order.

(b) The receiving party also must immediately inform in writing the party who caused the subpoena or order to issue in the other litigation that some or all of the material covered by the subpoena or order is the subject of this Order. In addition, the receiving party must deliver a copy of this Order promptly to the party in the other action that caused the subpoena to issue.

(c) The purpose of imposing these duties is to alert the interested persons to the existence of this Order and to afford the designating party in this case an opportunity to try to protect its Confidential Information in the court from which the subpoena or order issued. The designating party shall bear the burden and the expense of seeking protection in that court of its Confidential Information, and nothing in these provisions should be construed as authorizing or encouraging a receiving party in this action to disobey a lawful directive from another court. The obligations set forth in this paragraph remain in effect while the party has in its possession, custody or control Confidential Information by the other party to this case.

13. Challenges by Members of the Public to Sealing Orders. A party or interested member of the public has a right to challenge the sealing of particular documents that have been filed under seal, and the party asserting confidentiality will have the burden of demonstrating the propriety of filing under seal.

14. Inadvertent Production.

(a) The production of a document, or part of a document, shall not constitute a

waiver of any privilege or protection as to any portion of that document, or as to any undisclosed privileged or protected communications or information concerning the same subject matter, in this or in any other proceeding. This Order applies to the attorney-client privilege, work-product protections, and all other protections afforded by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b) and governmental privileges including any information or material that has been determined by the United States Government pursuant to an Executive order, statute, or regulation, to require protection against unauthorized disclosure for reasons of national security.

(b) The procedures applicable to a claim of privilege with respect to a produced document and the resolution thereof shall be as follows:

(1) If a party discovers a document, or part thereof, produced by another party that is privileged or otherwise protected, the receiving party shall promptly notify the producing party and then return the document or destroy it and certify that it has been destroyed to the producing party. Nothing in this Order is intended to shift the burden to identify privileged and protected documents from the producing party to the receiving party.

(2) If the producing party determines that a document produced, or part thereof, is subject to a privilege or privileges, the producing party shall promptly give the receiving party notice of the claim of privilege (“privilege notice”).

(3) The privilege notice must contain information sufficient to identify the document including, if applicable, a Bates number as well as an identification of the privilege asserted and its basis.

(4) Upon receiving the privilege notice, if the receiving party agrees with the privilege assertion made, the receiving party must promptly return the specified document(s) and any copies or destroy the document(s) and copies and certify to the producing

party that the document(s) and copies have been destroyed. The receiving party must sequester and destroy any notes taken about the document. If a receiving party disclosed the document or information specified in the notice before receiving the notice, it must take reasonable steps to retrieve it, and so notify the producing party of the disclosure and its efforts to retrieve the document or information.

(5) Upon receiving the privilege notice, if the receiving party wishes to dispute a producing party's privilege notice, the receiving party shall promptly meet and confer with the producing party. The document(s) shall be sequestered—and if applicable securely stored—and not be used by the receiving party in the litigation (e.g., filed as an exhibit to a pleading or used in deposition) while the dispute is pending. If the parties are unable to come to an agreement about the privilege assertions made in the privilege notice, the receiving party may make a sealed motion for a judicial determination of the privilege claim.

(6) Pending resolution of the judicial determination, the parties shall both preserve and refrain from using the challenged information for any purpose and shall not disclose it to any person other than those required by law to be served with a copy of the sealed motion. The receiving party's motion challenging the assertion must not publicly disclose the information claimed to be privileged. Any further briefing by any party shall also not publicly disclose the information claimed to be privileged if the privilege claim remains unresolved or is resolved in the producing party's favor.

(7) If a document must be returned or destroyed as determined by the process above, that document, along with copies and notes about the document, that exist on back-up tapes, systems, or similar storage need not be immediately deleted or destroyed, and, instead, such materials shall be overwritten and destroyed in the normal course of business. Until

they are overwritten in the normal course of business, the receiving party will take reasonable steps to limit access, if any, to the persons necessary to conduct routine IT and cybersecurity functions. In the case of the inadvertent disclosure of information or material that has been determined by the United States Government pursuant to an Executive order, statute, or regulation, to require protection against unauthorized disclosure for reasons of national security, additional procedures may be required as specified by the United States Government.

15. Obligations on Conclusion of Litigation.

(a) Order Continues in Force. Unless otherwise agreed or ordered, this Order shall remain in force after dismissal or entry of final judgment not subject to further appeal.

(b) Obligations at Conclusion of Litigation. Within sixty-three days after dismissal or entry of final judgment not subject to further appeal, all Confidential Information and documents marked “CONFIDENTIAL - SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER” under this Order, including copies as defined in ¶ 3(a), shall be returned to the producing party unless: (1) the document has been offered into evidence or filed without restriction as to disclosure; (2) the parties agree to destruction to the extent practicable in lieu of return;² or (3) as to documents bearing the notations, summations, or other mental impressions of the receiving party, that party elects to destroy the documents and certifies to the producing party that it has done so.

² The parties may choose to agree that the receiving party shall destroy documents containing Confidential Information and certify the fact of destruction, and that the receiving party shall not be required to locate, isolate and return e-mails (including attachments to e-mails) that may include Confidential Information, or Confidential Information contained in deposition transcripts or drafts or final expert reports.

(c) Retention of Work Product and one set of Filed Documents.

Notwithstanding the above requirements to return or destroy documents, counsel may retain (1) attorney work product, including an index that refers or relates to designated Confidential Information so long as that work product does not duplicate verbatim substantial portions of Confidential Information, and (2) one complete set of all documents filed with the Court including those filed under seal. Any retained Confidential Information shall continue to be protected under this Order. An attorney may use his or her work product in subsequent litigation, provided that its use does not disclose or use Confidential Information. With respect to documents, testimony, and/or information designated "CONFIDENTIAL" and maintained by the parties' counsel in electronic form ("Electronically Stored Information") the parties' counsel shall make reasonable efforts to remove such Electronically Stored Information from counsels' active systems, specifically, active email servers, active document management systems, and active litigation support databases.

(d) Deletion of Documents filed under Seal from Electronic Case

Filing (ECF) System. Filings under seal shall be deleted from the ECF system only upon order of the Court.

15. Order Subject to Modification. This Order shall be subject to modification by the Court on its own initiative or on motion of a party or any other person with standing concerning the subject matter.

16. No Prior Judicial Determination. This Order is entered based on the representations and agreements of the parties and for the purpose of facilitating discovery. Nothing herein shall be construed or presented as a judicial determination that any document or material designated Confidential Information by counsel or the parties is entitled to protection

under Rule 26(c) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure or otherwise until such time as the Court may rule on a specific document or issue.

17. Persons Bound. This Order shall take effect when entered and shall be binding upon all counsel of record and their law firms, the parties, and persons made subject to this Order by its terms or by the execution of Attachment A.

So Ordered.

Dated:

U.S. District Judge

WE SO MOVE
and agree to abide by the
terms of this Order

WE SO MOVE
and agree to abide by the
terms of this Order

Signature

Signature

Printed Name

Printed Name

Counsel for: _____

Counsel for: _____

Dated:

Dated:

ATTACHMENT A

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION

COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, an Illinois governmental)
entity, and ILLINOIS COALITION FOR IMMIGRANT)
AND REFUGEE RIGHTS, INC.,) 19 C 6334
)
Plaintiffs,) Judge Gary Feinerman
)
vs.)
)
CHAD F. WOLF, in his official capacity as Acting)
Secretary of U.S. Department of Homeland)
Security, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND)
SECURITY, a federal agency, KENNETH T.)
CUCCINELLI II, in his official capacity as Senior)
Official Performing the Duties of the)
Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services,)
and U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION)
SERVICES, a federal agency,)
)
Defendants.)

ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND
AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND

The undersigned hereby acknowledges that he/she has read the Confidentiality Order
dated _____ in the above-captioned action and attached
hereto, understands the terms thereof, and agrees to be bound by its terms. The undersigned
submits to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois
in matters relating to the Confidentiality Order and understands that the terms of the
Confidentiality Order obligate him/her to use materials designated as Confidential Information in
accordance with the Order solely for the purposes of the above-captioned action, and not to
disclose any such Confidential Information to any other person, firm or concern.

The undersigned acknowledges that violation of the Confidentiality Order may result in penalties for contempt of court.

Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Employer: _____

Business Address: _____

Date: _____

Signature