

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

CASE NO. 06-14324-CIV-MARTINEZ/LYNCH

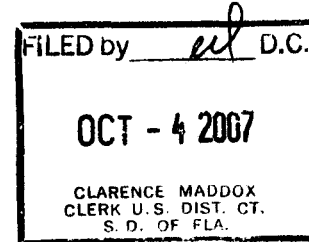
MELANIE BECKFORD, SUSAN BLACK, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

DEPT. OF CORRECTIONS, STATE OF FLA.,

Defendant.



**ORDER ON DEFENDANT'S MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER/DIRECTIVE
REGARDING PLAINTIFFS' ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY REQUESTS (DE 238)**

THIS CAUSE comes before this Court upon the above referenced Motion. Having reviewed the Motion, the Response thereto, and the Reply, this Court finds as follows:

1. The Plaintiffs' Response (DE 240) presents a persuasive argument why the Defendant's Motion should be denied. The parties have endeavored to narrow both the subject matter and geographical scope of the discovery search, and the results of that effort are reasonable. To this, the Plaintiffs present the affidavit of their electronic discovery expert who addresses the Defendant's concerns in detail.

2. It also appears that these discovery requests should not be new to the Defendant. This and related litigation has been underway since 2001, giving more than fair notice of the need to research and preserve relevant information.

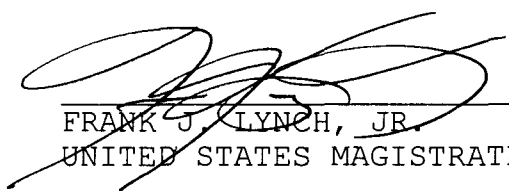
3. It does not appear however that the Defendant has begun the process of searching for the information the Plaintiffs request. This Court reminds the parties of the need to complete all of their discovery obligations in time before the upcoming discovery deadline.

Based on the foregoing, it is hereby,

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the Motion is **DENIED**.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Fort Pierce, Florida, this

4th day of October, 2007.


FRANK J. LYNCH, JR.
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

cc: Lee E. Muschott, Esq.
C. Wes Pittman, Esq.