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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
WESTERN DIVISION**

ALEJANDRO RODRIGUEZ, *et al.*,
Petitioners,
vs.
TIMOTHY S. ROBBINS, *in his
capacity as U.S. Immigration and
Customs Enforcement, Los Angeles
District Field Office Director*;
JANET NAPOLITANO, *in her
capacity as Secretary of Homeland
Security*; and ERIC H. HOLDER, JR.,
*in his capacity as Attorney General of
the United States*,
Respondents.

) Case No. CV 07-3239-TJH (RNBx)
)
) **DISCOVERY MATTER**
)
) ~~**PROPOSED**~~ **STIPULATED**
) **PROTECTIVE ORDER GOVERNING**
) **CONFIDENTIAL AND HIGHLY**
) **CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**
)
) Hon. Robert N. Block

1 This matter comes before this Court on the parties' joint stipulation for the
2 entry of a protective order governing confidential and highly confidential
3 information. The parties each submitted a proposed protective order following a
4 decision issued on May 3, 2012, in which the District Court ordered the
5 Government to disclose what is hereinafter designated as "Highly Confidential
6 Information," based on that court's factual and legal conclusions that such
7 disclosure is consistent with statutory and regulatory language found in 8 U.S.C. §
8 1367 and 8 C.F.R. § 208.6. Good cause exists for the entry of a protective order
9 because discovery in this action has and will result in the disclosure by the parties
10 of information from electronic databases, administrative files (or "A-Files"), and
11 other sources concerning members of the class certified in this action and other
12 individuals, including (1) confidential personal and non-privileged information
13 and (2) certain categories of highly confidential information generally restricted
14 from unauthorized disclosure by statute or regulation. The Court having found
15 that good cause exists for issuance of an appropriately-tailored confidentiality
16 order governing the pre-trial phase of this action, it is

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22 HEREBY ORDERED that this Court's July 6, 2011 Protective Order (ECF
23 188) is hereby superseded as follows:

24 I. Authorization to Produce Information Protected by the Privacy Act –
25 Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552a(b)(11), this Order authorizes Respondents to produce
26 private identifying information and other information discoverable pursuant to
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1 Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(c) that Petitioners seek without requiring officials of the United
2 States to pre-screen each document for objections under the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C.
3 § 552a, and present those objections to this Court for a decision regarding
4 disclosure.
5

6 II. Scope – The terms of this Order will govern the parties’ production
7 of information in response to discovery requests, to the extent that such production
8 contains information designated as “Confidential Information” or “Highly
9 Confidential Information” as defined in this Order. The terms of this Order shall
10 also govern the safeguarding of such information by all individuals referenced in
11 this Order.
12

13 III. Definitions and Designation of Protected Information –
14

15 (a). Definitions –
16

17 (1). “Confidential Information” – As used in this Order,
18 “Confidential Information” is defined as any information not publicly available
19 that is disclosed by the parties in this action and which at or before the time of
20 disclosure has been designated as “Confidential Information” by the parties in
21 accordance with paragraph III(b). The disclosure of all information that the
22 parties previously agreed to keep confidential, or which was designated as
23 “Confidential Information” under the July 6, 2011 Protective Order [ECF 188],
24 shall now be governed by this Order. “Confidential Information” is the following:
25 (1) the names, alien numbers, locations of, or any other identifying information
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1 which would allow the identification of the particular individual(s) to whom the
2 information relates, (2) individual medical information, (3) certain individual
3 financial and tax information, (4) non-public divorce decrees, (5) identity
4 information on law enforcement officials; (6) any information the parties
5 previously agreed to include within the definition of “Confidential Information,”
6 and (7) any other category of information hereinafter given confidential status by
7 the Court. If a designating party determines that information not described in this
8 paragraph should be included within the definition of “Confidential Information,”
9 the parties shall negotiate the appropriateness of that designation in good faith and
10 endeavor to resolve any dispute prior to the production of that information.
11

12 Information that is not “Confidential Information” includes, but is not limited to,
13 aggregate information concerning class members that does not permit the
14 identification of the particular individuals to whom the information relates.
15

16 (2). “Highly Confidential Information” – As used in this
17 Order, “Highly Confidential Information” is defined as any information not
18 publicly available that is disclosed by the parties in this action and which at or
19 before the time of disclosure has been designated as “Highly Confidential
20 Information” by the parties in accordance with paragraph III(b). “Highly
21 Confidential Information” is the following: (1) information contained in or
22 pertaining to asylum claims or applications, including applications for relief under
23 the Convention Against Torture (“CAT”) and refugee information; (2) information
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1 contained in or pertaining to legalization applications under 8 U.S.C. § 1255a; (3)
2 information contained in or pertaining to Special Agricultural Worker applications
3 under 8 U.S.C. § 1160; (4) information contained in or pertaining to applications
4 for temporary protected status (“TPS”) under 8 U.S.C. § 1254a; (5) information
5 contemplated by 8 U.S.C. § 1186a(c)(4)(C) concerning any abused alien spouse or
6 child, including information regarding the whereabouts of such spouse or child
7 (see 8 C.F.R. §§ 216.5(a)(1)(iii) and 1216.5(a)(1)(iii); 8 U.S.C. §
8 1154(a)(1)(A)(iii), (iv), (v), and (vi); 8 U.S.C. § 1154(a)(1)(B)(ii), (iii) and (iv));
9 and (6) any other category of information hereinafter given “Highly Confidential”
10 status by the Court. Information that is not “Highly Confidential Information”
11 includes, but is not limited to, aggregate information concerning class members
12 that does not permit the identification of the particular individuals to whom the
13 information relates. If a designating party determines that information not
14 described in this paragraph should be designated as “Highly Confidential
15 Information,” the parties shall negotiate the appropriateness of that designation in
16 good faith and endeavor to resolve any dispute prior to the production of that
17 information.
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24 (b). Designation – “Confidential Information” and “Highly
25 Confidential Information” may be designated by the parties in one or more of the
26 following ways:
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1 (1). “Confidential Information” set forth in a response to an
2 interrogatory may be so designated by including the word “Confidential” in the
3 response. “Highly Confidential Information” set forth in a response to an
4 interrogatory may be so designated by including the words “Highly Confidential
5 Information” in the response.
6

7
8 (2). “Confidential Information” contained in a document or
9 part thereof may be so designated by marking the production of any “Confidential
10 Information” with the words “CONFIDENTIAL.” “Highly Confidential
11 Information” contained in a document or part thereof shall be so designated by
12 marking the production of any “Highly Confidential Information” with the words
13 “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL – AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY”. The
14 designating party may also mark the production with the words “THIS
15 DOCUMENT IS SUBJECT TO A COURT ORDER IN RODRIGUEZ, ET AL. v.
16 ROBBINS, ET AL., No. 07-cv-3239 (C.D. Cal.). THIS DOCUMENT AND ITS
17 CONTENTS SHALL NOT BE USED, SHOWN OR DISTRIBUTED EXCEPT
18 AS PROVIDED IN THE PROTECTIVE ORDER ENTERED IN THIS
19 ACTION.”
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24 (3). “Confidential Information” or “Highly Confidential
25 Information” contained in any statement made during an oral deposition may be so
26 designated through a statement made on the record.
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1 (4). Information that is otherwise properly designated as
2 “Confidential Information” or “Highly Confidential Information” shall not be so
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4 designated or considered where the detainee to whom the information refers has
5 affirmatively consented to the non-confidential treatment of the disclosed
6 information, and that consent is presented in writing to the designating party prior
7
8 to disclosure.

9 (c). Contesting Designation– If a party disagrees with a designation
10 of “Confidential Information” or “Highly Confidential Information,” it shall
11 provide the designating party written notice of its challenge. If the parties cannot
12 resolve this dispute, a non-designating party may object to and challenge the
13 designation of any information as “Confidential Information” or “Highly
14 Confidential Information” in a manner that comports with Local Rules 37-1 and
15
16 37-2. The designating party bears the burden of showing that information is
17 confidential. Failure to challenge a designation immediately does not waive a
18
19 party’s ability to bring a later challenge.
20

21 IV. Permitted Disclosure of Protected Information –

22 (a). Information designated as “Confidential Information,”
23 including the portion of any document containing “Confidential Information,”
24 may be disclosed by a non-designating party only to the following persons:
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1 (1). Counsel – Counsel for the parties to this action and any
2 support staff and other employees of such counsel assisting in this action with an
3 appropriate need to know;
4

5 (2). Experts and Staff – Any expert as defined in Federal
6 Rule of Civil Evidence 702 who has been retained by a party or its counsel to
7 serve as an expert witness or as a consultant in this action, or support staff or
8 employees of such an expert. Any such expert or any support staff or employees
9 of such an expert shall first be required to read the terms of this Order and sign a
10 copy of the Acknowledgment of Protective Order form, attached hereto as Exhibit
11
12
13 A.

14 (3). Authorized Others – Any other person mutually authorized by
15 the parties’ counsel to examine such information. Any such person shall first be
16 required to read the terms of this Order and sign a copy of the Acknowledgment of
17 Protective Order form, attached hereto as Exhibit A.
18
19

20 (4). The Court – The Court and its personnel, including court
21 reporters.
22

23 (b). Permitted Disclosure of “Highly Confidential Information” –
24 Information designated as “Highly Confidential Information,” including the
25 portion of any document containing “Highly Confidential Information,” may be
26 disclosed by a non-designating party only to the following persons, and in the
27 following manner:
28

1 (1) Counsel for Respondents – Counsel for Respondents, and their
2 support staff and employees. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court and except
3 where disclosure is made by Respondents to counsel for Respondents, “Highly
4 Confidential Information” disclosed by a designating party to counsel for
5 Respondents shall be disclosed in an encrypted format other than through
6 electronic mail (e.g., DVD, CD, flash drive, etc.), accompanied by a cover letter of
7 transmittal from the designating party identifying the date of transmittal, the Bates
8 Numbers of the documents, and describing the medium of transmittal (e.g., DVD,
9 CD, flash drive, etc.), and shall be delivered by means permitting the tracking of
10 delivery (e.g., Federal Express, UPS, etc.).
11

12 (2). Class Counsel – Counsel for Petitioners who have entered their
13 appearance and whose appearance has not been terminated and support staff or
14 other employees of such counsel assisting in this action with an appropriate need
15 to know. Except for Class Counsel who entered their appearance as of June 12,
16 2012, any such counsel or support staff or employee of such counsel to whom
17 “Highly Confidential Information” is disclosed shall first be required to read the
18 terms of this Order and sign a copy of the Acknowledgment of Protective Order
19 form, attached hereto as Exhibit A. If any Class Counsel cease to represent
20 Petitioners, for whatever reason, such counsel shall no longer be cleared to access
21 any “Highly Confidential Information.” Unless otherwise ordered by the Court,
22 “Highly Confidential Information” produced by a designating party to Class
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1 Counsel shall be produced in an encrypted format other than through electronic
2 mail (e.g., DVD, CD, flash drive, etc.), accompanied by a cover letter of
3
4 transmittal from the designating party identifying the date of transmittal, the Bates
5 Numbers of the documents, and describing the medium of transmittal (e.g., DVD,
6 CD, flash drive, etc.), and shall be delivered by means permitting the tracking of
7
8 delivery (e.g., Federal Express, UPS, etc.). Class Counsel have a duty to
9 safeguard the information contained therein, from unauthorized disclosure. Class
10 counsel shall also maintain a copy of each and every signed Acknowledgment of
11
12 Protective Order required by this Order.

13 (3) Experts – An expert, as defined in Fed R. Evid. 702, who has
14
15 been retained by a party or its counsel to serve as an expert witness or as a
16
17 consultant in this action, and support staff or other employees of such expert
18
19 assisting in this action with an appropriate need to know. Any such expert or
20 support staff or employee of such expert to whom “Highly Confidential
21
22 Information” is disclosed shall first be required to read the terms of this Order and
23
24 sign a copy of the Acknowledgment of Protective Order form, attached hereto as
25
26 Exhibit A. Once the parties have identified their experts in accordance with
27
28 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26 and the Local Rules, each non-designating
party shall identify each of that party’s experts to whom “Highly Confidential
Information” has been disclosed and shall provide to the designating party copies

1 of each Acknowledgements of Protective Order, attached hereto as Exhibit A,
2 signed in accordance with this paragraph.
3

4 (4) Authorized Others – Any other person mutually authorized by the
5 parties’ counsel to examine such information. Any such person shall first be
6 required to read the terms of this Order and sign a copy of the Acknowledgment of
7 Protective Order form, attached hereto as Exhibit A.
8

9 (5) The Court – The Court and its personnel, including court
10 reporters.
11

12 V. Restrictions on Disclosure of Protected Information – All persons
13 listed in paragraphs 4(a)(1) and 4(b)(2) to whom “Confidential Information” or
14 “Highly Confidential Information” is disclosed are hereby prohibited from
15 disclosing to, or otherwise discussing with, any person other than those listed in
16 paragraphs IV(a)(2) to IV(a)(4); IV(b)(1); and IV(b)(3) to IV(b)(5) any
17 information designated as “Confidential Information” or “Highly Confidential
18 Information” except as otherwise provided in this Order.
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21 VI. Except as provided in this paragraph or elsewhere in this Order, all
22 discovery produced or exchanged that contains designated “Confidential
23 Information” or “Highly Confidential Information” shall be used solely for the
24 purposes of litigating this action and for no other purpose whatsoever and shall not
25 be disclosed, disseminated, or transmitted to any person, entity, or organization
26 except in accordance with the terms hereof.
27
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1 (a). Nothing in this Order shall preclude the disclosure of any
2 “Confidential Information” or “Highly Confidential Information” with respect to a
3 detainee who affirmatively consents to the disclosure of that information. Because
4 the exception in this paragraph permits a class member to disclose the
5 “Confidential Information” or “Highly Confidential Information” described in this
6 paragraph without restriction or limitation, including through class counsel with a
7 class member’s authorization or consent, the exception described in this paragraph
8 shall remain in effect only so long as counsel for Petitioners remain as counsel for
9 the certified class in this action.
10
11

12 (b). The limitations and restrictions on “Confidential Information”
13 or “Highly Confidential Information” in this Order shall not apply with respect to
14 information obtained through a third-party source other than through discovery
15 production.
16
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18 (c). This Order shall not preclude any party from disclosing
19 publicly-available information.
20

21 VII. The parties shall maintain “Confidential Information” and “Highly
22 Confidential Information” as follows:
23

24 (a). If the parties mutually agree that some “Confidential
25 Information” or “Highly Confidential Information” relates to individuals who
26 were never class members, Counsel for Petitioner shall destroy information related
27 to those people within ten (10) days of their mutual decision, and Counsel for
28

1 Petitioner shall certify in writing to Counsel for Respondents that such
2 information has been destroyed. If the parties do not agree, and if the Court
3 determines that “Confidential Information” or “Highly Confidential Information”
4 relates to individuals who were never class members, then within ten (10) days of
5 the Court’s having made that determination, counsel for Petitioners shall destroy
6 the “Confidential Information” or “Highly Confidential Information” related to
7 non-class members, and certify in writing to Counsel for Respondents that such
8 information has been destroyed.
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11 (b). Counsel for either party shall notify the other of any
12 inadvertent disclosure of “Confidential Information” or “Highly Confidential
13 Information” and concerning any individual who is not a class member and shall
14 destroy information related to such individuals consistent with the terms of
15 paragraph VII(a).
16
17

18 (c). Petitioners and anyone to whom “Confidential Information” or
19 “Highly Confidential Information” has been disclosed in accordance with
20 paragraph III shall maintain all remaining “Confidential Information” or “Highly
21 Confidential Information” pursuant to the terms of this Order, subject to further
22 order by this Court (this provision does not apply to “Confidential Information” or
23 “Highly Confidential Information” disclosed to and maintained by the Court and
24 its personnel, including court reporters). Within ten (10) days after the final
25 disposition of this action, including any and all appeals, all discovery and copies
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1 thereof in the possession of Petitioners and anyone to whom “Confidential
2 Information” or “Highly Confidential Information” has been disclosed in
3
4 accordance with paragraph III shall be returned to the producing parties or
5 destroyed, at the option of the disclosing party, except as this Court may otherwise
6 order, and, if destroyed, certify in writing to Counsel for Respondents that such
7
8 information has been destroyed.

9 (d). Notwithstanding paragraphs VII(a)-(c), counsel of record may
10 maintain a complete set of discovery for their records, provided that such counsel
11
12 maintain the confidential nature of the discovery.

13 VIII. In the event a party wishes to use any “Confidential Information” or
14 “Highly Confidential Information” produced under this Stipulated Protective
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16 Order to move the Court to resolve a matter arising from litigating this action
17 only, or to oppose such motion, such pleadings shall be filed in accordance with
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19 Local Rule 79-5. If a party expects to use “Confidential Information” or “Highly
20 Confidential Information” at any hearing, trial, or appellate proceeding in this
21
22 action, the non-designating party shall provide the designating party with
23
24 sufficient opportunity to allow the parties to prepare a joint stipulation, or for the
25
26 designating party to otherwise request that the Court exclude the information from
27
28 the public record. Any Document filed with the Court that contains “Confidential
Information” or “Highly Confidential Information” must have a cover page clearly
marked with the words “CONFIDENTIAL – AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL

1 ONLY” and each page of the Document in which “Confidential Information”
2 appears must be marked with the same designation at the top of the page.
3

4 IX. Nothing in this Order shall be construed as a waiver of any defense,
5 right or claim by either party, nor shall this Order affect the right of Respondents
6 to seek additional protection against the disclosure of any documents or materials,
7 or of Petitioner to seek additional disclosures.
8

9 X. Any party may apply to this Court at any time, upon proper notice,
10 for a modification of this Order with respect to the handling or designation of any
11 document or for any other purpose.
12

13 XI. Nothing in this Order shall be taken to authorize the disclosure of
14 information otherwise barred from disclosure pursuant to Local Rule 79-5.4.
15

16 XII. This Order shall be binding upon any present or future party to the
17 *Rodriguez, et al. v. Robbins, et al.*, No. 07-cv-3239-TJH (RNBx) (C.D. Cal.),
18 litigation.
19

20 XIII. This Order shall be effective and enforceable upon entry by the
21 Court, except that the Parties may agree to abide by its terms prior to entry of any
22 order.
23

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1 XIV. The terms of this Order shall survive the termination of this action
2 proceeding after its final disposition for purposes of enforcing this Order.
3

4 Dated: June 15, 2012

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert N. Block", is written over a light-colored rectangular background.

5
6 ROBERT
7 United

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9 N. BLOCK
10 States Magistrate Judge
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1 **EXHIBIT A**

2 ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF STIPULATED PROTECTIVE ORDER

3
4 I, _____, am associated with the litigation in
5 Rodriguez, et al. v. Robbins, et al., No. 07-cv-3239-TJH (RNBx) (C.D. Cal.) in
6 the capacity of _____. I acknowledge reading
7
8 and understanding the Protective Order Governing Confidential Information
9 issued in Rodriguez on _____, and agree to be bound by all provisions
10 thereof.

11
12 I also understand that information defined as “Highly Confidential
13 Information” under the Protective Order, which I have received and read, may be
14 disclosed to me. I understand that information designated as “Highly Confidential
15 Information” may be particularly serious and may carry with it identifiable risks
16 and dangers if disclosed to anyone not authorized to receive “Highly Confidential
17 Information” in accordance with paragraph IV of the Protective Order Governing
18 Confidential Information.
19
20

21 **For these reasons, I specifically acknowledge the disclosure limits and**
22 **restrictions of paragraph IV of the Protective Order, and specifically agree to**
23 **follow that provision** and all other provisions of the Protective Order.
24

25
26 Executed this ___ day of _____ at _____.

27 SIGNATURE: _____
28

1 PRESENTED BY:
2 STUART F. DELERY
Acting Assistant Attorney General
3 DAVID J. KLINE
Director,
4 Office of Immigration Litigation
District Court Section
5 VICTOR M. LAWRENCE
Principal Assistant Director
6 By: /s/ Theodore W. Atkinson
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10 Attorneys for Respondents
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AHILAN T. ARULANANTHAM
12 ACLU OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

13 Attorneys for Petitioners

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