

Cas	2:08-cv-00635-PMP-GWF Document 181 Filed 09/01/2009 Page 2 of 14				
1 2 3	of a scanning error, was inadvertently omitted from the document electronically filed with the Court. A corrected version of the reply (without exhibits) which includes the omitted page 2 is attached as Exhibit "A" to this Errata.				
4	DATED this 1 st day of September, 2008.				
5	BAILUS COOK & KELESIS, LTD.				
6	The second of th				
7					
8	MARK B. BAILUS, ESO.				
9	Nevada Bar No. 2284 GEORGE P. KELESIS, ESQ.				
10	Nevada Bar No. 0069 400 South Fourth Street, Suite 300				
11	Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 Attorneys for Defendant/Crossclaimant Lisa Rizzolo				
12					
13					
14	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE				
15	I hereby certify that on the 1st day of September, 2009, I electronically filed a true and				
16	correct copy of the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court for the United States District Court,				
17	District of Nevada by using the appellate CM/ECF system. All parties were served by the				
18	CM/ECF system except the following:				
19					
20	Rick Rizzolo 1760 Amarone Way				
21	Las Vegas, NV 89012				
22					
23	/s/ Sherrill Grotheer				
24	Employee of Bailus Cook & Kelesis, Ltd.				
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EXHIBIT 1

Case	2:08-cv-00635-PMP-GWF Document 18	1	Filed 09/01/2009	Page 4 of 14		
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	MARK B. BAILUS, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 2284 GEORGE P. KELESIS, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 0069 BAILUS COOK & KELESIS, LTD. 400 South Fourth Street, Suite 300 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 Telephone (702) 737-7702 Telecopier (702) 737-7712 law@bckltd.com Attorneys for Defendant/Crossclaimant Lisa Rizzolo					
8	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT					
9	DISTRICT OF NEVADA					
10	* * *					
11	KIRK and AMY HENRY,					
12	Plaintiffs,		Case No. 2:08-CV-6	335_PMP_GWE		
13	VS.		Case No. 2:08-CV-635-PMP-GWF			
14	FREDRICK RIZZOLO aka RICK RIZZOLO, an individual; LISA RIZZOLO, individually					
15	and as trustee of The Lisa M. Rizzolo Separate Property Trust and as successor trustee of The		REPLY TO PI	AINTIFFS		
16	Rick J. Rizzolo Separate Property Trust; THE RICK AND LISA RIZZOLO FAMILY TRUS	T:	OPPOSITION RIZZOLO'S M	TO LISA		
17	THE RICK J. RIZZOLO SEPARATE PROPERTY TRUST; and THE LISA M.	- '		OTECTIVE ORDER		
18	RIZZOLO SEPARATE PROPERTY TRUST,					
19	Defendants.					
20	LISA RIZZOLO,					
21	Crossclaimant,					
22	VS.					
23	FREDRICK RIZZOLO aka RICK					
24	RIZZOLO, DOES I through X and ROE CORPORATIONS I through					
25	X, inclusive,					
26	Crossdefendant.					
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Case 2:08-cv-00635-PMP-GWF Document 181 Filed 09/01/2009 Page 5 of 14

Defendant, LISA RIZZOLO ("Defendant" or "Ms. Rizzolo"), by and through her attorneys of record, BAILUS COOK & KELESIS, LTD., and submits her reply to Plaintiffs' opposition to Ms. Rizzolo's motion to enforce the protective order. This Reply is made and based on all pleadings and papers on file herein, the attached Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the Affidavit of Ms. Rizzolo and such evidence and argument as may be adduced at any hearing on this matter.

DATED this 20th day of August, 2009.

BAILUS COOK & KELESIS, LTD.

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/s/ MARK B. BAILUS, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 2284 GEORGE P. KELESIS, ESQ.

Nevada Bar No. 0069 400 South Fourth Street, Suite 300

Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

Attorneys for Defendant/Crossclaimant Lisa Rizzolo

POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I.

ARGUMENT

Defendant, Lisa Rizzolo, did not engage in any fraudulent conduct in divorcing her former husband, Rick Rizzolo. She has made good faith efforts to comply with each and every broad and arduous request for her personal information and to answer truthfully every question posed to her at her deposition in support of her desire to show as much. And for her good faith efforts, she finds headlines in the newspaper, not only revealing her private financial information, but inferring that she is engaging in fraud and a suggestion from a well-read editorial columnist that she should be investigated for criminal wrongdoing. (See Exhibit A, editorial column of John L. Smith, dated June 7, 2009, "JOHN L. SMITH: Deposition of Rizzolo's wife generates more questions than answers."). That editorial columnist, John L. Smith of Stephens Media, admits in his column that he was giving his interpretation of transcript excerpts from a Plaintiff's motion. He also discloses specifics with regard to assets, net worth and location of assets.

Plaintiffs' attorney, Donald Campbell has an apparent attorney-client relationship with

Stephens Media, LLC. Stephens Media owns the Las Vegas Review-Journal. Not only does Plaintiffs' counsel represent the Stephens Media group in many ongoing affairs, but he has also represented the columnist at issue, John L. Smith. (See Exhibit B, Registers of Action in civil cases within the Eighth Judicial District Court of Nevada; Exhibit C, article of Las Vegas Review Journal, November 9, 2008, "THOMAS MITCHELL: "False, vindictive claims"; Exhibit D, article of March 2, 2009, Las Vegas Review Journal, "Court hears media challenges over OJ jury secrecy (Don Campbell referred to as "representing the AP and Stephens Media LLC, the owner of the Review-Journal")).

Further, Plaintiffs' counsel has before made use of confidential information in an effort to resolve cases. In a November 9, 2008 article in his client's daily newspaper, the Las Vegas Review Journal, the editor-in-chief of that publication touted Mr. Campbell for his unprecedented "legal skill and audacity" in another matter involving the use of confidential information garnered from discovery. (Exhibit C). The verbatim editorial of his client makes it very clear as to why the Review-Journal believes Campbell so "skillful":

"What prompted (Venetian Hotel owner Sheldon) Adelson to suddenly settle? As a part of the discovery process while preparing for a scheduled trial in December, Smith's attorney, Don Campbell, managed to gain access to confidential Gaming Control Board records relating to Adelson's gaming license."

Of course, the "Smith" referred to is the same columnist, John L. Smith, whose article exposed Ms. Rizzolo to public humiliation and embarrassment regarding her private finances and the outlandish suggestion that she be criminally investigated for fraud - not coincidentally, the theory of liability by Plaintiffs.

In reality, there is no culpability on the part of Ms. Rizzolo and none of the documents and/or personal information are probative of any other conclusion. Plaintiffs have not offered any cogent argument as to why Ms. Rizzolo's desire to keep her private and financial information confidential is not, as represented, made with good cause. Even though not required under the SPO, Ms. Rizzolo's affidavit clearly demonstrates "good cause" for keeping her personal, financial and/or asset information confidential. See, Fed. R. Civ. P. 26 (c) That rule is designed to protect parties, like Ms. Rizzolo, from "annoyance, embarrassment and oppression."

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It is not a numbers game as Plaintiffs would suggest in referring to cases like *THK America*, *Inc. v. NSK Co.*, 157 F.R.D. 637, 645 (N.D. Ill. 1993), where a designation of "79 per cent of the produced documents was found to be "absurdly high". In the case, *sub judice*, it just so happens that a high percentage of documents relates to private or personal financial information that would serve no purpose in making public at this stage of the proceedings. Whether it is 1 per cent, 79 per cent, or 100 per cent, if the documents are rightfully in good faith, confidential, then they are confidential. The Plaintiffs are clearly wrong in hoping to convince this court that the high percentage of documents marked confidential are not marked with good cause simply because of the numbers.

Likewise, the Plaintiffs reliance on the Court's language concerning public policy inuring to public access of information in the Protective Order Governing Confidentiality of Documents (#65) is inapposite. The issue is not about necessary documents attached to dispositive motions, but an effort by the Plaintiff to challenge the mere fact that Ms. Rizzolo has marked any of her private and/or personal finance documents "confidential" pursuant to the SPO.

Moreover, Plaintiffs make broad allegations and essentially argue, "how can all these documents be confidential" but make no effort whatsoever to point out which documents so marked are not confidential. In other words, it cannot be gleaned which of Lisa Rizzolo's voluminous production of confidential, and frankly sensitive, documents are *not* confidential or why Plaintiffs want the designation lifted.

Inasmuch as this Court stated that any presumptions in favor of public access can be overcome by "sufficiently important countervailing interests" regarding proper attachments to dispositive motions (citing *San Jose Mercury News v. United States District Court*, 187 F. 3d 1096, 1102 (9th Cir. 1999), the Plaintiff can show no interest in challenging Ms. Rizzolo's designation of her private and/or personal documents as confidential at this stage of the proceedings. (#65). If for no other reason, Ms. Rizzolo has been forced to take the step in filing the instant motion to preclude the Plaintiffs' effort to sidestep the procedures designated in the SPO concerning confidential information.

In its Opposition (at 5), Plaintiffs' argue that Ms. Rizzolo is seeking an "unprecedented and likely unconstitutional sealing of *all* the documents and *all* the deposition testimony given in this

action." Simply put, Plaintiffs are wrong. Contrary to Plaintiffs' assertions, the deposition testimony

of Ms. Rizzolo was not designated as "Confidential." Further, during the deposition of Dean Patti,

Esq., the Defendant only designated certain portions of Mr. Patti's testimony as "Confidential."

Obviously, Plaintiffs have misconstrued Ms. Rizzolo's motion. Ms. Rizzolo is not seeking to have

all the documents and all the deposition testimony sealed, but until such time as the Plaintiffs stop

almost exclusively requesting confidential information regarding Ms. Rizzolo, especially as it relates

to her private financial and/or asset information, she will keep marking this specific information in

good faith and for good cause as "Confidential" as provided for in the Stipulation and Protective

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Order ("SPO").

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For example, on June 18, 2009, Defendant served on Plaintiffs her Third Supplemental Response to Kirk Henry's First Set of Requests for Production. Plaintiffs' do not dispute that the documents produced by Defendant in this supplement consisted primarily of account statements from

various banking and investment accounts, closing documents relevant to the purchase of a condominium in Chicago, and insurance policies. All contained personal, private financial and asset

information regarding Ms. Rizzolo.

The SPO (\P 1(b)) provides:

"Confidential Information" means any information that is designated as confidential in the manner specified in this Order by the party supplying the information. Confidential Information may be contained in documents produced, exhibits, interrogatory answers, responses to requests for admission or otherwise. A party designating information as Confidential Information will make such designation only as to that information that it reasonably believes contains confidential, private or trade secret information.

Accordingly, Defendant appropriately designated all documents produced in her third supplement as "Confidential" as subject to the provisions of the SPO. The exact documents which the Plaintiff now complains of as lacking good cause is impossible to glean; the public disclosure of which would be even harder to justify. On the other hand, there is ample legal authority and public policy for keeping the confidential information just that. See In re Boston Herald, Inc. 321 F. 3rd 174 91st Cir. 2003)(citations omitted).

Plaintiffs' counsel, Jack DeGree's letter of July 8, 2008, which is the impetus for the instant

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motion does not constitute an appropriate objection under the requirements for specificity or grounds. In his letter, Mr. DeGree failed to identify any specific documents that Plaintiffs' counsel felt were not subject to protection, but rather made a blanket objection to the, "Confidential' designations in [the] most recent supplemental production of documents (Bate nos. L400825-L401643)." (Exhibit "3" to Plaintiff's Opposition to Lisa Rizzolo's Motion to Enforce Protective Order (# 164-2)). Mr. Degree further stated only that the confidential designations were, in Plaintiffs' counsel's opinion, "unreasonable and improper," which are not sufficient legal bases and/or lacking the specificity required under the SPO for objecting to the designations. *Id.*

Each of the documents produced in Ms. Rizzolo's third supplement to her discovery responses contained private financial and/or asset information regarding Ms. Rizzolo which, although only arguably relevant to the instant litigation, and which have no legitimate use outside that context. Under the SPO (¶4), Plaintiffs have wide latitude in using confidential documents within the confines of the litigation; they are permitted to disclose or make available that information to:

(I) this court, (ii) any appellate court, (iii) members of any jury panel or jury that hears this case, (iv) the party that designated the document or information as Confidential Information, (v) counsel for the parties and the professional, secretarial and clerical personnel of such counsel to whom disclosure of Confidential Information is necessary for purposes of this Proceeding and to be used exclusively for purposes anticipated within this Proceeding, (vi) the Plaintiffs or Defendants, (vii) Deponents during a deposition, (viii) Witnesses during a trial or hearing (ix) independent third party consultants and experts and their staff retained by a party or by a party's counsel in connection with this Proceeding, (x) authorized persons taking or recording testimony involving Confidential Information and necessary stenographic, and clerical personnel therefore, and (xi) persons identified by counsel, acting in good faith, as potential fact witnesses, after any such fact witness has executed and delivered to counsel a statement in the form annexed hereto as Exhibit "A."

Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c) states that when a party or a motion asserting good cause for a protective order, "the court in which the action is pending ... may make any order which justice requires to protect a party or person from annoyance, embarrassment, oppression, or undue burden or expense." Accordingly, Rule 26(c) authorizes the district court to issue "any order which justice requires to protect a party or person from annoyance, embarrassment, oppression, or undue burden." The Supreme Court in Seattle Times Co. v. Rhinehart, 467 U.S. 20, 104 S.Ct. 2199, 81

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L.Ed.2d 17 (1984), has interpreted the foregoing language as conferring "broad discretion on the trial court to decide when a protective order is appropriate and what degree of protection is required" Id at 36. The Supreme Court continued, by noting that the "trial court is in the best position to weigh the fairly competing needs and interests of the parties affected by discovery. The unique character of the discovery process requires that the trial court have substantial latitude to fashion protective orders" Id. Ms. Rizzolo's humiliation, embarrassment and feelings of oppression is not prospective, it is real, and her designation of private and personal information as confidential reflects good cause. (See Exhibit E, Affidavit of Lisa Rizzolo).

The public's interest in access to unfiled discovery materials is even less substantial than its interest in court filings and evidence presented at trial. In the Seattle Times case, the Supreme Court stated that "pretrial depositions and interrogatories are not public components of a civil trial. Such proceedings were not open to the public at common law ... and, in general, they are conducted in private as a matter of modern practice." Id. at 33; see also Union Oil Co. v. Leavell, 220 F.3d 562, 568 (7th Cir.2000) (observing that "[m]uch of what passes between the parties remains out of public sight because discovery materials are not filed with the court."); Citizens First National Bank of Princeton v. Cincinnati Ins. Co., 178 F.3d 943, 944 (7th Cir.1999) (stating "[i]t is true that pretrial discovery, unlike the trial itself, is usually conducted in private.").

There should be no quarrel that the district court has a duty and the discretion to oversee the discovery process. Pretrial discovery "has a significant potential for abuse." Id. at 34. Discovery "may seriously implicate privacy interests of litigants and third parties." Seattle Times Co. v. Rhinehart, 467 U.S. at 35. "There is an opportunity, therefore, for litigants to obtain-incidentally or purposefully-information that not only is irrelevant but if publicly released could be damaging to reputation and privacy." Id. This Court has a substantial interest in preventing any abuse of the discovery process. Id. See, e.g., Baker v. Buffenbarger, 2004 WL 2124787 (N.D.Ill. Sept.22, 2004) (granting defendant's motion for protective order prohibiting the use of deposition testimony for purposes other than the lawsuit because plaintiffs intended to misuse defendants' deposition testimony to criticize and embarrass the defendants and possibly influence an upcoming union election).

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In its Opposition (at 7-8), Plaintiffs relies heavily upon Kamakana v. City and County of Honolulu, 447 F.3d 1172 (9th Cir. 2006). Such reliance is misplaced. A careful reading of the Kamakana case reveals that it is factually and/or legally distinguishable from the instant case. In Kamakana, the Ninth Circuit examined the presumption of public access to judicial files and records and held that, parties seeking to maintain secrecy of documents attached to dispositive motions must show "compelling reasons" to overcome the presumption of public access. *Id* at 1182. In the case sub judice, the "compelling reasons" standard is not applicable as the subject documents are not attached to a dispositive motion. In fact, Plaintiffs acknowledge in their opposition that the appropriate standard is "good cause" which Defendant has met. Even though applying the more demanding "compelling reasons" standards, the Court stated:

> Even so, the magistrate judge did not summarily order the production of the City's documents. Rather, she conducted an "exhausting if not exhaustive" in camera review of the materials. After this review, the magistrate judge noted that "the testimony and documents attached to the dispositive motions do not contain information that could be used for 'scandalous or libelous' purposes," and that these documents did not contain sensitive personal information. She also determined that deposition testimony on confidential informants and criminal investigations was "years old" and "largely resulted in criminal indictments which were made public over three years ago." She found, however, that the personal information of Kamakana and various law enforcement officers (home addresses and social security numbers) met the "compelling reason" standard. Id. at 1182. (Emphasis added.)

In her order, the magistrate judge acknowledged the nature of Kamakana's claims and concluded that "the testimony and documents concerning this matter are of significant public concern. She also determined that the testimony and documents did not contain "sensitive personal information" or information that would be used for "scandalous or libelous" purposes. Finally, as to the documents she ordered to remain sealed, the magistrate judge concluded that disclosure of the officers' home address and social security numbers could expose the officers and their families to harm or identity theft. Id at 1184. (Emphasis added.)

Unlike the Kamakana case, the documents that Ms. Rizzolo has sought to keep "Confidential" contain sensitive personal information.

In the case sub judice Ms. Rizzolo has objected to the discovery of her private financial information. Notwithstanding these objections, Ms. Rizzolo has, in good faith, produced documents that contain information regarding her private assets, under the premise that such matters would be

2:08-cv-00635-PMP-GWF Document 181 Filed 09/01/2009 Page 12 of 14							
subject to the Stipulation and Protective Order. Ms. Rizzolo's good faith compliance with discovery should not be punished by further invasion of her right to privacy, and the restrictive disclosure provisions of the Protective Order should apply to all of her personal, financial and/or asset							
information.							
II.							
CONCLUSION							
For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully requested that Defendant's designations o							
confidentiality be determined appropriate and subject to the Protective Order, and that Plaintiffs							
counsel be enjoined from disclosure of said documents other than that specifically ordered by th							
Court.							
DATED this 20th day of August, 2009.							
BAILUS COOK & KELESIS, LTD.							
MARK B. BAILUS, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 2284 GEORGE P. KELESIS, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 0069 400 South Fourth Street, Suite 300 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 Attorneys for Defendant/Crossclaimant Lisa Rizzolo							
Page 9 of 11							

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE WITH LOCAL RULE 26-7 AND/OR WITH PROVISIONS OF THE STIPULATION AND PROTECTIVE ORDER

The undersigned counsel hereby certifies that the parties have attempted to promptly resolve the matter informally and/or have conferred in a good faith effort to amicably resolve the issues raised in the motion without the necessity of court action, but to no avail.

DATED this 20th day of August, 2009.

BAILUS COOK & KELESIS, LTD.

/s/

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Document 181

Filed 09/01/2009

Page 14 of 14

Case 2:08-cv-00635-PMP-GWF