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### NIGH GOLDENBERG RASO & VAUGHN

# SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NEW YORK

IN RE: DEPO-PROVERA LITIGATION

INDEX NO. 788000/2025

## PRETRIAL ORDER NO. 1 Stipulated Order Governing Confidentiality

Plaintiffs and Defendants Pfizer Inc., Pharmacia & Upjohn Co. LLC, Pharmacia LLC, Greenstone LLC, Viatris, Inc., and Prasco LLC (collectively "Defendants") anticipate that documents, testimony, or information that are protected by the attorney-client privilege or work product doctrine or that contain or reflect confidential, proprietary, trade secret and/or commercially sensitive information could be requested, disclosed or produced during the course of discovery, initial disclosures, and/or supplemental disclosures in this litigation and therefore request that the Court enter this Order setting forth the conditions for treating, obtaining, and using such information.

Pursuant to New York Civil Practice Law and Rules ("NY CPLR") and its inherent authority, the Court hereby orders the entry of the following Order Governing Confidentiality and Privilege ("Order" or "Protective Order") in this matter:

### I. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS

A. Disclosure and discovery activity in this action could involve requests for and production of certain privileged, confidential, proprietary, or private information, provided from this or related litigation(s), for which special protection from public disclosure and from use for

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and assigned hereto.

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any purpose other than prosecuting this litigation may be warranted. Accordingly, the Parties hereby stipulate to and petition the Court to enter this Order. The Parties acknowledge that this Order governs discovery in the Coordinated Proceeding *In re: Depo-Provera Litigation*, 788000/2025. This Order applies to all cases currently pending in the Coordinating Proceeding and to all related actions that have been or will be originally filed in or transferred to this Court

- B. This Order is binding on all Parties and their counsel in all cases currently pending or subsequently made part this Coordinated Proceeding and will govern each case in the proceedings. The purpose of this Order is to expedite the flow of discovery material, facilitate the prompt resolution of disputes over confidentiality and privilege, and protect material to be kept confidential or privileged, pursuant to the Court's inherent authority, its authority under the NY CPLR and the judicial opinions interpreting such Rules.
- C. The Parties also acknowledge that this Order does not confer blanket protections on all disclosures or responses to discovery and that the protection it affords from public disclosure and use extends only to the information or items that are entitled to confidential treatment under the applicable legal principles. The Parties further acknowledge that this Order creates no entitlement to file Confidential Information<sup>1</sup> under seal.
- D. This Order does not abrogate or diminish any contractual, statutory, or other legal obligation or right of any party or person with respect to any Confidential Information.
- E. The recipient of any Confidential Information hereby agrees to subject himself/herself to the jurisdiction of this Court for the purpose of any proceedings related to the performance under, compliance with, or violations of this Order.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Confidential Information is defined in Section III.D.

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II. PROCEEDINGS AND FORM OF INFORMATION GOVERNED

A. This Order governs any document, information, or other thing which is designated

as containing "Confidential Information" and "Highly Confidential Information - Outside

Counsel's Eyes Only," (collectively referred to as "Confidential Information" unless specifically

states otherwise), as defined herein, and is furnished by any party in this Coordinated Proceeding

in which various Plaintiffs allege that depot medroxyprogesterone acetate ("DMPA") contributed

to their development of meningioma and/or allege that they are at an increased risk of the

development of meningioma.

B. The form of information protected includes, but is not limited to, documents and

things, responses to requests to produce documents or other things, interrogatories, responses to

interrogatories, requests for admissions, responses to requests for admissions, and responses to

subpoenas, deposition testimony, and exhibits, and all copies, extracts, summaries, compilations,

designations, and portions of the foregoing.

C. For purposes of this Order, "document" will be accorded its broadest possible

meaning, and includes, without limitation, the whole page or file or any portion thereof of any

written, printed or graphic matter, and any computer file, record or tape produced by or obtained

from any party or non-party, any electronically stored information, or any copy, extract, or

complete or partial summary prepared therefrom, and any document or thing covered by NY CPLR

§ 3120.

III. DEFINITIONS

A. Action: In re: Depo-Provera Litigation, 788000/2025, presently pending in the

Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of New York.

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B. <u>Party</u>: Any party to this Action, including all of their members, officers, directors,

employees, and Counsel (and their support staff).

C. <u>Discovery Material</u>: All items or information, regardless of the medium or the

manner in which it is generated, stored or maintained, that is produced or generated in disclosures

or responses to discovery in this matter.

D. <u>Confidential Information or Items</u>: Any disclosure or Discovery Material that the

Producing Party designates as "CONFIDENTIAL." The Producing Party may designate as

"CONFIDENTIAL" Discovery Material that the Producing Party reasonably believes constitutes,

reflects, discloses, or contains (i) trade secret or other confidential research, development, or

commercial information subject to protection under NY CPLR § 3103; (ii) material protected by

federal, state, or foreign data protection laws or other privacy obligations subject to protection

under NY CPLR § 3103; or (iii) other information subject to protection under NY CPLR § 3103.

E. Outside Counsel of Record: Attorneys who are not employees of a Party but

retained to represent or advise a party to the Action and have appeared on the pleading as counsel

for a Party in this Action or who are affiliated with or contracted by law firms who have appeared

on the pleading as counsel for a Party in this Action.

F. <u>In-House Counsel</u>: Attorneys who are employees of a Party.

G. Counsel (without qualifier): Outside Counsel of Record and In-House Counsel (as

well as their support staff).

H. <u>Designating Party</u>: A Party that designates information or items that it produces in

disclosures or in responses to discovery as "CONFIDENTIAL."

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I. Expert: A person with specialized knowledge or experience in a matter pertinent to the litigation who has been retained by a Party or its Counsel to serve as an expert witness or

consultant in this Coordinated Proceeding.

J. Non-Party: Any natural person, partnership, corporation, association, or other legal

entity not named as a Party to this Coordinated Proceeding.

K. Professional Vendors: Persons or entities that provide litigation support services

(e.g., document and ESI processing, hosting, review, and production, photocopying, videotaping,

translating, preparing exhibits or demonstrations, and organizing, storing, or retrieving data in any

form or medium) and their employees and subcontractors.

L. Receiving Party: A Party that receives Disclosure or Discovery Material from a

Producing Party.

Producing Party: A Party or non-Party that provides, produces, or makes available M.

for inspection Disclosure or Discovery Material in the course of this Action.

N. Highly Confidential Information: "Highly Confidential Information," including

"Highly Confidential Information - Outside Counsel's Eyes Only," (collectively referred to as

"Highly Confidential Information" unless specifically states otherwise), as used herein, means

Confidential Information that the Producing Party believes in good faith relates to mergers and/or

acquisitions, contains Protected Health Information ("PHI"), the disclosure of which may be

prohibited under federal or state regulation, including HIPAA, or would, if disclosed, cause a

substantial risk of a significant competitive or commercial disadvantage to the Producing Party,

including but not limited to information that reflects: the Producing Party's competitiveness in the

market; sales or marketing strategies; or research and development materials.

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IV. TYPES OF MATERIALS THAT MAY BE DESIGNATED "CONFIDENTIAL – SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER"

A. A Party may designate any portion of Discovery Material (as defined in Section III.C above) as "Confidential – Subject to Protective Order" as permitted herein (*see* Section III.D).

- B. Confidential Information includes any Discovery Material that the designating party reasonably and in good faith believes not to be in the public domain and to contain materials defined as Confidential (*see* Section III.D above).
- C. Medical records of the Plaintiffs are presumptively Confidential and it is not necessary that they be designated as "Confidential Subject to Protective Order."
- V. ACCESS TO AND USE OF INFORMATION DESIGNATED AS "CONFIDENTIAL SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER" AND "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION OUTSIDE COUNSEL'S EYES ONLY"
- A. If a Party reasonably and in good faith believes that information produced in these actions contains Confidential Information, that Party may designate the information as "Confidential Subject to Protective Order" or "Highly Confidential Information Outside Counsel's Eyes Only," as appropriate.
- B. Access to information marked "Confidential Subject to Protective Order" must be limited to, and only to, the following "qualified persons":
  - 1. The Parties listed in Paragraph III.B, including the employees and staff of such Parties;
  - 2. The Receiving Party's Outside Counsel of Record in this Coordinated Proceeding and, if the attorney of record is a member of a law firm, the employees and staff of the law firm (collectively "Outside Counsel"):
  - 3. Special Masters, professional jury or trial consultants, mock jurors, and Professional Vendors to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for purposes of the Action;
  - 4. Experts and consultants (including both testifying and non-testifying experts), who must be informed of the existence and contents of this Protective Order;

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The Court, its personnel, and any court reporters, stenographers, and 5. videographers involved in taking or transcribing testimony in these actions;

- Mediators and their staff enlisted by the parties to assist in the resolution of 6. this matter;
- A person identified in the document marked "Confidential Subject to 7. Protective Order" as an author, source, addressee, or recipient of the communication or document, or who already has a copy of the document marked "Confidential - Subject to Protective Order";
- A deponent or witness at a deposition or pre-trial hearing; and 8.
- Such other persons as hereafter may be designated by written agreement in 9. these actions or by order of the Court.
- Nothing in this Order precludes a Party from introducing into evidence at an C. evidentiary hearing, motion hearing, or trial any Confidential Material that is admissible under applicable law, subject to the provisions of this Order.
- Information specifically designated as "Highly Confidential Information Outside D. Counsel's Eyes Only" may be shared only with (i) Plaintiffs' attorneys of record in the Litigation, including clerical, secretarial, and other staff employed or retained by Plaintiffs' counsel, (ii) outside counsel for a party, including counsel's clerical, secretarial, and other staff employed or retained by such counsel and (iii) the persons listed in Section V.B paragraphs 3-9 above.

The designation of information as "Confidential - Subject to Protective Order" and "Highly Confidential Information – Outside Counsel's Eyes Only – Subject to Protective Order" must be made at the following times:

- 1. For documents and things, at the time of the production of the documents or things.
- For written responses to interrogatories or requests for admissions, at the 2.. time of the written response;
- 3. For deposition testimony and exhibits, at the time of the testimony or within 30 days after receipt by the Designating Party of the final transcript of the deposition.
- E. The designation of Confidential Information must be made as follows:

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For documents, by placing a conspicuous legend on each page or portion of 1. such document entitled to such protection, reading "Confidential - Subject to Protective Order" or "Highly Confidential Information - Outside Counsel's Eyes Only," as appropriate;

- For tangible objects, by placing a label or tag on the object or the container 2. therefore, or if not practicable, as otherwise agreed;
- 3. For written responses to any individual interrogatory or individual request for admission, in writing in the text of the individual response thereto;
- Deposition testimony and the transcripts and video recordings thereof 4. obtained during pretrial discovery must be treated as "Confidential Subject to Protective Order" for a period of 30 days, or as many days as the parties agree, after receipt of the final deposition transcript to allow time for the deponent or counsel for the deponent, or any party or counsel to any party, to notify all Parties of any Confidential Information contained therein. Such Confidential Information contained in deposition testimony may be designated by any party, within 30 days of receipt of the final deposition transcript, by page and line number, and video cassettes, DVDs, or other storage media must be labeled in accordance with the provisions of this Order. The court reporter must include on the cover page of each deposition a clear indication that the deposition contains Confidential Information. Any document designated as "Confidential - Subject to Protective Order" or "Highly Confidential Information - Outside Counsel's Eyes Only" that is marked as an exhibit in any deposition must be treated according to the designation of that document prior to the deposition.
- F. Protected Health Information. In addition to the provisions herein applicable to Highly Confidential documents, the use or disclosure of Protected Heath Information ("PHI") will not be permitted. If the Receiving Party has any question about whether a document contains PHI, in addition to the provisions applicable to Highly Confidential, it will treat that information in a HIPAA compliant manner.

#### VI. FILING CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION OR ITEMS /FILING UNDER SEAL

Without written permission from the Designating Party or a court order, a Party may not file any Confidential Information into the public record as part of these Actions. All Parties must make reasonable efforts to avoid requesting the filing of Confidential Information under seal by, for example, redacting or otherwise excluding from a submission to the Court any such

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Information not directly pertinent to the submission. Where redaction is not reasonably possible,

any Party wishing to file a document or paper containing Confidential Information under seal must

first file a motion and obtain leave of Court. The Court will approve this Stipulated Order

Governing Confidentiality, as modified herein, on the condition and understanding that by entering

it, the Court is not making any findings regarding the confidentiality of any particular document.

VII. INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF SUBSEQUENTLY CLAIMED PRIVILEGED

**INFORMATION** 

A. The production of privileged or work-product protected Discovery Material

("Disclosed Protected Information") in this Coordinated Proceeding, whether inadvertent or

otherwise, is not a waiver of the privilege or protection from discovery in this case or in any other

state or federal proceeding. This Protective Order must be interpreted to provide the maximum

protection allowed by Federal Rule of Evidence 502(d). Nothing contained herein is intended to,

or will, serve to limit a Party's right to conduct a review of any Discovery Material for relevance,

responsiveness, and/or segregation of privileged and/or protected information before production.

Additionally, the inadvertent production of Discovery Material without an appropriate designation

of confidentiality will not be deemed a waiver or acknowledgment as to the confidentiality of any

inadvertently produced document and any related material.

B. Upon discovery that a document has been produced, which it believes to contain

privileged and/or work product material, the Producing Party must notify the Receiving Party

within 30 days, in writing, asserting either the attorney-client privilege or work product protection

with respect to Disclosed Protected Information. The written notice of the recall of privileged

material must be accompanied by a log articulating the privilege basis for each privileged

document.

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C. The Receiving Party must—unless it contests the claim of attorney-client privilege

or work product protection in accordance with paragraph VII.D-within five business days of

receipt of that writing and, to the extent applicable, any replacement media containing a

reproduction of the documents that formerly included (and now omits) the purportedly privileged

or protected document: (i) return or destroy all copies of the Disclosed Protected Information and

(ii) provide a certification of counsel that all of the Disclosed Protected Information has been

returned or destroyed. Within five business days of receipt of the notification that the Disclosed

Protected Information has been returned or destroyed, the Producing Party must produce a

privilege log with respect to the Disclosed Protected Information, articulating the privilege basis

for each privileged document.

D. If the Receiving Party of inadvertently produced records contests the claim of

attorney-client privilege or work product protection, the Receiving Party must-within ten

business days of receipt of the claim of privilege or protection-move the Court for an Order

compelling disclosure of the Disclosed Protected Information (a "Disclosure Motion"). The

Receiving Party must seek to file the Disclosure Motion under seal and must not assert as a ground

for compelling disclosure the fact or circumstances of the disclosure, and may not disclose, rely

on, or refer to any of the Disclosed Protected Information. Pending resolution of the Disclosure

Motion, the Receiving Party must sequester the Disclosed Protected Information and not use the

Disclosed Protected Information or disclose it to any person other than as required by law.

E. Disclosed Protected Information that is sought to be reclaimed by the Parties to this

case pursuant to this Order must not be used as grounds by any third party to argue that any waiver

of privilege or protection has occurred by virtue of any production in this case.

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be filed, the Producing Party will retain the burden of establishing its privilege or work product claims. Nothing in this paragraph limits the right of any Party to petition the Court for an in camera review of the Disclosed Protected Information. Nothing in this Order relieves counsel for any

Should any motion compelling production of the Disclosed Protected Information

Receiving Party of any existing duty or obligation, whether established by case law, rule of court,

regulation or other source, to return, and not to review, any privileged or work product materials

without being requested by the Producing Party to do so.

VIII. RESOLUTION **OF DISPUTES** REGARDING DESIGNATION OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

If any Party disagrees with the designation of any Discovery Material as

"Confidential - Subject to Protective Order" "Highly Confidential Information - Outside

Counsel's Eyes Only," that Party will provide written notice to all other Parties to these actions,

and the Parties will attempt first to resolve the dispute on an informal basis before presenting the

dispute to the Court. All items objected to must continue to be treated as initially designated by the

Designating Party pending resolution of the Parties' dispute. If the dispute can be resolved, all

Parties must promptly be informed of the resolution.

B. If the dispute cannot be resolved informally, the Designating Party must file a

motion with the Court seeking an order that the Confidential Information subject to the dispute

remain confidential. The designating Party bears the burden of persuading the Court that the

information is in fact "Confidential - Subject to Protective Order" or "Highly Confidential

Information - Outside Counsel's Eyes Only," within the definition of that term set forth above.

Failure of the designating Party to file such a motion within 30 days from receipt of the written

notice waives the designating Party's designation on the subject Discovery Material.

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Entering into, agreeing, and/or complying with the terms of this Order does not: (a) C.

operate as an admission by any Party that any particular documents, material, or information

contain(s) or reflect(s) currently valuable trade secrets or proprietary or commercial information;

or (b) prejudice in any way the right of a Party at any time: (i) to seek a determination by the Court

of whether any particular document, item of material or piece of information should be subject to

the terms of this Order; (ii) to seek relief on appropriate notice from any provision(s) of this Order,

either generally or as to any particular document, item or piece of information; (iii) to object to

any discovery request, including the right to assert that no discovery should be had of certain

documents or information; or (iv) to seek documents or other information from any source.

IX. REDACTIONS

> Pursuant to 21 C.F.R. §§ 314.430(e) & (f) and 20.63(f), the names of any person or A.

persons reporting adverse experiences of patients and the names of any patients that are not

redacted must be treated as Confidential, regardless of whether the document containing such

names is designated as Confidential Information.

В. Notwithstanding any of the foregoing provisions, nothing contained herein will be

construed as a waiver of a Party's ability to challenge such redactions. The burden as to the

propriety of any redaction remains on the Producing Party at all times.

X. PRIVILEGE LOG PRODUCTION

> A. Unless otherwise provided in this Protective Order or as otherwise agreed by the

parties, any document falling within the scope of any request for production or subpoena that is

responsive to the search criteria required by the Order for Production of Documents and

Electronically Stored Information (including custodians, search terms, and date ranges) and that is

withheld on the basis of a claim of attorney-client privilege, work product, or any other claim of

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privilege or immunity from discovery is to be identified by the Producing Party on a cumulative privilege log<sup>2</sup>, which the Producing Party must produce in an Excel format with separate categories of information sufficient to describe the nature of the documents, communications or tangible things withheld as to enable the receiving party to access the claims of privilege, including Custodial Source, To, From, Carbon Copy, Date, reason for privilege or immunity and a description. The privilege log must also identify the production date of the document, or the production wave associated with the document. Individuals who are In-House Counsel or Outside Counsel of Record must be noted, and the name of the law firm or entity employing such Counsel must be identified. Privilege log production must be phased such that substantially all documents withheld from a production pursuant to an attorney-client, work product, or other applicable privilege or immunity, will be identified on a privilege log, which must be provided by the Producing Party consistent with the operative confidentiality/protective order in the Depo-Provera MDL, MDL No. 3140.

### XI. REQUEST FOR DOCUMENTS OR INFORMATION SUBJECT TO THIS ORDER IN ACTIONS OTHER THAN THIS COORDINATED PROCEEDING

A. If any Party has obtained Confidential Information under the terms of this Protective Order and receives a subpoena or other compulsory process commanding the production of such Confidential Information, such party must promptly notify the designating Party, including in such notice the date set for the production of such subpoenaed information along with copies of the requests, subpoena, or order. The subpoenaed party must not produce any Confidential Information so received in response to the subpoena prior to the date specified for production in the subpoena unless in response to an order of a court of competent jurisdiction (other than the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The most current privilege log tendered by a party shall include the information noted in the subsection regarding documents withheld from that party's most recent production together with such information regarding documents withheld from all prior productions.

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subpoena or other compulsory process) compelling the subpoenaed party to produce the

Confidential Information. The party subject to subpoena or compulsory process, however, will

have no duty to appear or resist any application or motion seeking to compel production of such

Confidential Information.

XII. PARTY'S OWN INFORMATION

A. The restrictions on the use of Confidential Information established by this

Protective Order are applicable only to the use of Confidential Information received by a Party

from another Party or from a non-party. A Party is free to do whatever it desires with its own

Confidential Information, provided that any dissemination of Confidential Information by the

Party that owns the Confidential Information may lead to the loss of that information's confidential

status.

B. Nothing herein imposes any restrictions on the use or disclosure by a Party or

witness of documents, material or information obtained by such Party or witness independently of

the discovery proceedings in these actions, whether or not such documents, material or information

are also obtained through discovery proceedings in these actions.

XIII. APPLICABILITY OF ORDER TO THIRD PARTIES

A. In the course of these actions, the Parties may attempt to discover documents and

information from Third Parties. Any Third Party from whom discovery is sought by the Parties

may avail itself upon the protections and limitations of disclosure provided for in this Order by

signing this order prior to production. The Third Party must identify any Confidential Information

produced in accordance with this Order. By so availing itself of the protections and limitations

provided for in this Order, any such Third Party must submit to the jurisdiction of the Court for all

matters relating to or arising out of this Order.

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B. The Parties hereby agree to treat any material properly designated Confidential

produced by a Third Party in accordance with the terms of this Order. The Parties must reference

this Order in any subpoena or discovery request they serve or otherwise provide to any Third Party.

XIV. VIOLATIONS

A. In the event that any person or party violates the terms of this Protective Order, the

aggrieved Producing Party should apply to the Court to obtain relief against any such person or

party violating or threatening to violate any of the terms of this Protective Order. In the event that

the aggrieved Producing Party seeks injunctive relief, it must direct the petition for such relief to

this Court. The Parties and any other person subject to the terms of this Protective Order agree that

this Court will retain jurisdiction over it and them for the purpose of enforcing this Protective

Order.

XV. MODIFICATION OF THIS PROTECTIVE ORDER

This Protective Order will remain in force and effect until modified, superseded, or A.

terminated by order of the Court made upon reasonable written notice. Unless otherwise ordered,

or agreed upon by the Parties, this Protective Order will survive the termination of this action. The

Court retains jurisdiction even after termination of this action to enforce this Protective Order and

to make such amendments, modifications, deletions, and additions to this Protective Order as the

Court may from time to time deem appropriate.

Dated: October 29, 2025

SO ORDERED:

Justice Sabrina Kraus

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# SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NEW YORK

IN RE: DEPO-PROVERA LITIGATION	INDEX NO. 788000/2025
I, , declare that:	

2. My title is \_\_\_\_\_.

present employer is \_\_\_\_\_\_.

3. I have received a copy of the Stipulated Protective Order (the "Protective Order") in these actions.

My address is , and the name and address of my

- 4. I have carefully read and understand the provisions of the Protective Order, agree to be bound by them, and specifically agree I will not use or disclose to anyone any of the contents of any Confidential Information received under the protection of the Protective Order in violation thereof.
- 5. I understand that I am to retain all copies of any of the materials that I receive which have been so designated as Confidential Information in a container, cabinet, drawer, room, or other safe place in a manner consistent with the Protective Order and that all copies are to remain in my custody until I have completed my assigned or legal duties. I will return all Confidential Information which comes into my possession or which I have prepared relating thereto to counsel for the party by whom I am retained. I acknowledge that such return or the subsequent destruction

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of such materials shall not relieve me from any of the continuing obligations imposed upon me by the Protective Order.

- 6. I consent to the exercise of personal jurisdiction by this Court in connection with this Declaration and my obligations under the Protective Order.
  - 7. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this day of 20	at	in the State of	·
Ву: _		(SIGNATU	RE)