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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

IN RE: MCKINSEY & CO., INC.  
NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION OPIATE  
CONSULTANT LITIGATION

Case No. 21-md-02996-CRB (SK)

**PRETRIAL ORDER NO. 4:  
PROTECTIVE ORDER**

This Order Relates to:  
ALL ACTIONS

1. Disclosure and discovery activity in this proceeding may involve production of confidential, proprietary, and/or private information for which special protection from public disclosure and from use for any purpose other than prosecuting this litigation would be warranted. Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the Court to enter the following Stipulated Protective Order (“Protective Order” or “Order”). Unless otherwise noted, this Order is also subject to the Local Rules of this District and the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure on matters of procedure and calculation of time periods. Unless otherwise stated, all periods of time provided for in this Order are calculated as calendar days.

2. This Protective Order concerns this proceeding, captioned as *In re McKinsey & Co., Inc. National Prescription Opiate Litigation* (Case No. 21-md-02996-CRB) (“the Litigation”). This Protective Order shall govern all hard copy and electronic Discovery Material produced or adduced in the course of discovery by any Producing Party to any Receiving Party in this Litigation, as those terms are defined herein. This Protective Order is binding upon all the

1 Parties to this Litigation, including their respective corporate parents, subsidiaries and affiliates  
2 and their respective attorneys, principals, agents, experts, consultants, representatives, directors,  
3 officers, and employees, and others as set forth in this Protective Order.

4 3. Third parties who so elect may avail themselves of, and agree to be bound by, the  
5 terms and conditions of this Protective Order and thereby become a Producing Party for purposes  
6 of this Protective Order.

7 4. The entry of this Protective Order does not preclude any party from seeking a  
8 further order of this Court pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c).

9 5. Nothing herein shall be construed to affect in any manner the admissibility at trial  
10 or any other court proceeding of any document, testimony, or other evidence.

11 6. This Protective Order does not confer blanket protection on all disclosures or  
12 responses to discovery and the protection it affords extends only to the specific information or  
13 items that are entitled to protection under the applicable legal principles for treatment as  
14 Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information, as defined herein.

15 **II. Definitions**

16 7. Party. “Party” means any of the parties in this Litigation at the time this Protective  
17 Order is entered, including officers and directors of such parties. If additional parties are added  
18 other than parents, subsidiaries or affiliates of current parties to this Litigation, then those  
19 additional parties shall also be subject to this Protective Order.

20 8. Discovery Material. “Discovery Material” means any information, document, or  
21 tangible thing, response to discovery requests, deposition testimony or transcript, and any other  
22 similar materials, or portions thereof. To the extent that matter stored or recorded in the form of  
23 electronic or magnetic media (including information, files, databases, or programs stored on any  
24 digital or analog machine-readable device, computers, Internet sites, discs, networks, or tapes)  
25 (“Computerized Material”) is produced by any Party in such form, the Producing Party may  
26 designate such matters as confidential by a designation of “CONFIDENTIAL—SUBJECT TO  
27 PROTECTIVE ORDER” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL—SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE  
28 ORDER” on the media. To the extent that matter is produced by any Party in hard copy form, the

1 Producing Party may designate such matters as confidential by marking the hardcopy form with  
2 the corresponding “CONFIDENTIAL—SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER” or “HIGHLY  
3 CONFIDENTIAL—SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER” designation.

4 9. Confidential Information. “Confidential Information” is defined herein as  
5 information that the Producing or Designating Party in good faith believes would be entitled to  
6 protection on a motion for a protective order pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(c) on the basis that it  
7 constitutes, reflects, discloses, or contains information protected from disclosure by statute or that  
8 should be protected from disclosure as confidential personal information, medical or psychiatric  
9 information, personnel records, Confidential Protected Health Information, protected law  
10 enforcement materials (including investigative files, overdose records, narcane, coroner’s records,  
11 court records, and prosecution files), research, technical, commercial or financial information that  
12 the Producing or Designating Party has maintained as confidential, or such other proprietary or  
13 sensitive business and commercial information that is not publicly available. Public records and  
14 other information or documents that are publicly available may not be designated as Confidential  
15 Information; however, Confidential Information that has been redacted from a publicly available  
16 document will remain confidential notwithstanding the public availability of the redacted  
17 document. In designating discovery materials as Confidential Information, the Producing or  
18 Designating Party shall do so in good faith consistent with the provisions of this Protective Order  
19 and rulings of the Court.

20 10. Highly Confidential Information. “Highly Confidential Information” is defined  
21 herein as information which, if disclosed, disseminated, or used, could reasonably result in  
22 possible antitrust violations or commercial, financial, or business harm. In designating discovery  
23 materials as Highly Confidential Information, the Producing or Designating Party shall do so in  
24 good faith consistent with the provisions of this Protective Order and rulings of the Court.  
25 Nothing herein shall be construed to allow for global designations of all documents as Highly  
26 Confidential Information.

1           11.    Receiving Party. “Receiving Party” means a Party to this Litigation, and all  
2 employees, agents, and directors (other than Counsel) of the Party that receives Discovery  
3 Material from a Producing Party.

4           12.    Producing Party. “Producing Party” means a Party to this Litigation, and all  
5 directors, employees, and agents (other than Counsel) of the Party, or any third party that  
6 produces or otherwise makes available Discovery Material to a Receiving Party, subject to  
7 Paragraph 3.

8           13.    Designating Party. “Designating Party” means a Party or third-party to this  
9 Litigation, and all directors, employees, and agents (other than Counsel) of the Party or third-  
10 party, that did not produce certain Discovery Material but nevertheless designates such material  
11 as Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information in accordance with this Protective  
12 Order.

13           14.    Challenging Party. “Challenging Party” means a Party or Non-Party that  
14 challenges the designation of information or items under this Order.

15           15.    Protected Material. “Protected Material” means any Discovery Material, and any  
16 copies, abstracts, summaries, or information derived from such Discovery Material, and any notes  
17 or other records regarding the contents of such Discovery Material, that is designated as  
18 Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information in accordance with this Protective  
19 Order.

20           16.    Outside Counsel. “Outside Counsel” means any law firm or attorney who  
21 represents any Party for purposes of this litigation.

22           17.    In-House Counsel. “In-House Counsel” means attorney employees of any Party.

23           18.    Counsel. “Counsel,” without another qualifier, means Outside Counsel and In-  
24 House Counsel.

25           19.    Independent Expert. “Independent Expert” means an expert and/or independent  
26 consultant formally retained, and/or employed to advise or to assist Counsel in the preparation  
27 and/or trial of this Litigation, and their staff who are not employed by a Party to whom it is  
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1 reasonably necessary to disclose Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information for  
2 the purpose of this Litigation.

3 20. This Litigation. “This Litigation” or “the Litigation” means all actions in MDL  
4 No. 2996, *In re McKinsey & Co., Inc. National Prescription Opiate Litigation* or hereafter  
5 subject to transfer to MDL No. 2996.

6 **III. Designation and Redaction of Confidential Information**

7 21. For each document produced by the Producing Party that contains or constitutes  
8 Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information pursuant to this Protective Order,  
9 each page shall be marked “CONFIDENTIAL—SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER”, or  
10 “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL—SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER” or comparable notices.

11 22. Specific discovery responses produced by the Producing Party shall, if appropriate,  
12 be designated as Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information by marking the  
13 pages of the document that contain such information with the notation “CONFIDENTIAL—  
14 SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER”, or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL—SUBJECT TO  
15 PROTECTIVE ORDER” or comparable notices.

16 23. Information disclosed through testimony at a deposition taken in connection with  
17 this Litigation may be designated as Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information  
18 by designating the portions of the transcript in a letter to be served on the court reporter and all  
19 counsel of record within thirty (30) days of the Producing or Designating Party’s receipt of the  
20 certified transcript of a deposition. The court reporter will indicate the portions designated as  
21 Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information and segregate them as appropriate.  
22 Designations of transcripts will apply to audio, video, or other recordings of the testimony. The  
23 court reporter shall clearly mark any transcript released prior to the expiration of the 30-day  
24 period as “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL—SUBJECT TO FURTHER CONFIDENTIALITY  
25 REVIEW.” Such transcripts will be treated as Highly Confidential Information until the  
26 expiration of the 30-day period. If the Producing or Designating Party does not serve a  
27 designation letter within the 30-day period, then the entire transcript will be deemed not to  
28 contain Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information and the “HIGHLY

1 CONFIDENTIAL—SUBJECT TO FURTHER CONFIDENTIALITY REVIEW” legend shall be  
2 removed.

3 24. In accordance with this Protective Order, only the persons identified under  
4 Paragraphs 31 and 32, below, along with the witness and the witness’s counsel may be present at  
5 a deposition if any questions regarding Confidential Information or Highly Confidential  
6 Information are asked. This paragraph shall not be deemed to authorize disclosure of any  
7 document or information to any person to whom disclosure is prohibited under this Protective  
8 Order.

9 25. A Designating Party may designate as “CONFIDENTIAL—SUBJECT TO  
10 PROTECTIVE ORDER” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL—SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE  
11 ORDER” any document, material, or other information produced by, or testimony given by, any  
12 other person or entity that the Designating Party reasonably believes qualifies as the Designating  
13 Party’s Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information pursuant to this Protective  
14 Order by sending a letter to all counsel of record detailing such designations. Any such  
15 Designating Party shall have the same rights as a Producing Party under this Protective Order  
16 with respect to such Confidential Information and Highly Confidential Information.

17 26. This Protective Order shall not be construed to protect from production or to  
18 permit the “Confidential Information” or “Highly Confidential Information” designation of any  
19 document that (a) the party has not made reasonable efforts to keep confidential, or (b) is at the  
20 time of production or disclosure, or subsequently becomes, through no wrongful act on the part of  
21 the Receiving Party or the individual or individuals who caused the information to become public,  
22 generally available to the public through publication or otherwise.

23 27. In order to protect against unauthorized disclosure of Confidential Information and  
24 Highly Confidential Information, a Producing Party may redact certain Confidential Information  
25 or Highly Confidential Information from produced documents, materials or other things. The  
26 basis for any such redaction shall be stated in the Redaction field of the metadata produced  
27 pursuant to the Document Production Protocol (to be addressed by separate Order) or, in the  
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1 event that such metadata is not technologically feasible, a log of the redactions. Specifically, the  
2 Producing Party may redact:

3 a. Personal Identifying Information. The names, home addresses, personal  
4 email addresses, home telephone numbers, Social Security or tax identification numbers, and  
5 other private information protected by law of (a) current and former employees (other than  
6 employees' names and business contact information), (b) individuals in clinical studies or adverse  
7 event reports whose identity is protected by law, and (c) individual patients of health care  
8 providers.

9 b. Privileged Information. Information protected from disclosure by the  
10 attorney-client privilege, work product doctrine, or other such legal privilege protecting  
11 information from discovery in this Litigation. The obligation to provide, and form of, privilege  
12 logs will be addressed by separate Order.

13 c. Third Party Confidential Information. If agreed to by the Parties or ordered  
14 by the Court under Paragraph 74, information that is protected pursuant to confidentiality  
15 agreements between Producing or Designating Parties and third parties.

16 28. To the extent any document, materials, or other things produced contain  
17 segregated, non-responsive Confidential or Highly Confidential Information concerning a  
18 Producing Party's non-opioid related services (or, in the case of Plaintiffs, concerning programs,  
19 services, or agencies not at issue in this litigation), the Producing Party may redact that  
20 segregated, non-responsive, Confidential or Highly Confidential Information except (a) that if a  
21 Producing Party's non-opioid related service is mentioned in direct comparison to the Producing  
22 Party's opioid related service, then the name and information about that service may not be  
23 redacted or (b) if the redaction of the name and information about the Producing Party's non-  
24 opioid related services would render the information pertaining to Producing Party's opioid  
25 related services meaningless or would remove the context of the information about Producing  
26 Party's opioid related services, the name and information about the other services may not be  
27 redacted. Nothing in this paragraph shall restrict Plaintiffs' right and ability to request  
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1 information about such other services nor restrict Defendant's right to object to or otherwise seek  
2 protection from the Court concerning any such request.

3 29. Pursuant to 21 C.F.R. §§ 314.430(e) & (f) and 20.63(f), the names of any person or  
4 persons reporting adverse experiences of patients and the names of any patients who were  
5 reported as experiencing adverse events that are not redacted shall be treated as confidential,  
6 regardless of whether the document containing such names is designated as Confidential  
7 Information or Highly Confidential Information. No such person shall be contacted, either  
8 directly or indirectly, based on the information so disclosed without the express written  
9 permission of the Producing Party.

10 **IV. Access to Confidential and Highly Confidential Information**

11 30. General. The Receiving Party and counsel for the Receiving Party shall not  
12 disclose or permit the disclosure of any Confidential or Highly Confidential Information to any  
13 third person or entity except as set forth in Paragraphs 31 and 32.

14 31. In the absence of written permission from the Producing or Designating Party or  
15 an order of the Court, any Confidential Information produced in accordance with the provisions  
16 of this Protective Order shall be used solely for purposes of this Litigation and its contents shall  
17 not be disclosed to any person unless that person falls within at least one of the following  
18 categories:

19 a. Outside Counsel and In-House Counsel, and the attorneys, paralegals,  
20 stenographic, and clerical staff employed by such counsel;

21 b. Vendor agents retained by the parties or counsel for the parties, provided  
22 that the vendor agrees to be bound by this Protective Order and completes the certification  
23 contained in Exhibit A, Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound;

24 c. Individual Parties;

25 d. Former officers, directors, and employees of a Party, provided that former  
26 officers, directors, or employees of the Party may be shown documents prepared after the date of  
27 his or her departure only to the extent counsel for the Receiving Party determines in good faith  
28 that the employee's assistance is reasonably necessary to the conduct of this Litigation and



1 provided that such persons have completed the certification contained in Exhibit A,  
2 Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound;

3 e. Stenographic employees and court reporters recording or transcribing  
4 testimony in this Litigation;

5 f. The Court, any Special Master appointed by the Court, and any members  
6 of their staffs to whom it is necessary to disclose the information;

7 g. Formally retained independent experts and/or consultants, provided that the  
8 recipient agrees to be bound by this Protective Order and completes the certification contained in  
9 Exhibit A, Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound;

10 h. Any individual(s) who authored, prepared, or previously reviewed or  
11 received the information;

12 i. Liability insurance companies from which any defendant has sought or  
13 may seek insurance coverage to (i) provide or reimburse for the defense of the Litigation and/or  
14 (ii) satisfy all or part of any liability in the Litigation.

15 j. State or federal law enforcement agencies, but only after such persons have  
16 completed the certification contained in Exhibit A, Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be  
17 Bound. Disclosure pursuant to this subparagraph will be made only after the Designating Party  
18 has been given ten (10) days' notice of the Receiving Party's intent to disclose, and a description  
19 of the materials the Receiving Party intends to disclose. If the Designating Party objects to  
20 disclosure, the Designating Party may request a meet and confer and may seek a protective order  
21 from the Court.

22 k. Plaintiff's counsel of record to any Plaintiff with a case pending in MDL  
23 2996 shall be permitted to receive the Confidential Information of any Producing Party regardless  
24 of whether that attorney is counsel of record in any individual action against the Producing Party  
25 and there shall be no need for such counsel to execute such acknowledgement because such  
26 counsel is bound by the terms of this Protective Order; or

27 l. Witnesses during deposition, who may be shown, but shall not be  
28 permitted to retain, Confidential Information; provided, however, that, unless otherwise agreed by

1 the relevant Parties or ordered by the Court, no Confidential Information of one manufacturer,  
2 distributor, or retailer may be shown to any witness who is a current employee of another  
3 manufacturer, distributor, or retailer who is not otherwise authorized to receive the information  
4 under this Order.

5 32. In the absence of written permission from the Producing or Designating Party or  
6 an order of the Court, any Highly Confidential Information produced in accordance with the  
7 provisions of this Protective Order shall be used solely for purposes of this Litigation and its  
8 contents shall not be disclosed to any person unless that person falls within at least one of the  
9 following categories:

10 a. Outside Counsel and In-House Counsel, and the attorneys, paralegals,  
11 stenographic, and clerical staff employed by such counsel; provided, however, that any  
12 information designated as Highly Confidential Information shall be disclosed to an In-House  
13 Counsel for any Plaintiff only to the extent Outside Counsel for that Plaintiff determines in good  
14 faith that disclosure to the In- House Counsel for any Plaintiff is reasonably necessary to the  
15 Litigation;

16 b. Vendor agents retained by the parties or counsel for the parties, provided  
17 that the vendor agrees to be bound by this Protective Order and completes the certification  
18 contained in Exhibit A, Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound;;

19 c. Individual Parties that have produced the designated information;

20 d. Former officers, directors, and employees of a Party, provided that former  
21 officers, directors, or employees of the Party may be shown documents prepared after the date of  
22 his or her departure only to the extent counsel for the Receiving Party determines in good faith  
23 that the employee's assistance is reasonably necessary to the conduct of this Litigation and  
24 provided that such persons have completed the certification contained in Exhibit A,  
25 Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound

26 e. Stenographic employees and court reporters recording or transcribing  
27 testimony in this Litigation;

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1 f. The Court, any Special Master appointed by the Court, and any members  
2 of their staffs to whom it is necessary to disclose the information;

3 g. Formally retained independent experts and/or consultants, provided that the  
4 recipient agrees to be bound by this Protective Order and completes the certification contained in  
5 Exhibit A, Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound;

6 h. Any individual(s) who authored, prepared or previously reviewed or  
7 received the information;

8 i. State or federal law enforcement agencies, but only after such persons have  
9 completed the certification contained in Exhibit A, Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be  
10 Bound. Disclosure pursuant to this subparagraph will be made only after the Designating Party  
11 has been given ten (10) days' notice of the Receiving Party's intent to disclose, and a description  
12 of the materials the Receiving Party intends to disclose. If the Designating Party objects to  
13 disclosure, the Designating Party may request a meet and confer and may seek a protective order  
14 from the Court.

15 j. Liability insurance companies from which any defendant has sought or  
16 may seek insurance coverage to (i) provide or reimburse for the defense of the Litigation and/or  
17 (ii) satisfy all or part of any liability in the Litigation;

18 k. Plaintiff's counsel of record to any Plaintiff with a case pending in MDL  
19 2996 shall be permitted to receive the Highly Confidential Information of any Producing Party  
20 regardless of whether that attorney is counsel of record in any individual action against the  
21 Producing Party and there shall be no need for such counsel to execute such acknowledgement  
22 because such counsel is bound by the terms of this Protective Order; or

23 l. Witnesses during deposition, who may be shown, but shall not be  
24 permitted to retain, Highly Confidential Information; provided, however, that, unless otherwise  
25 agreed by the relevant Parties or ordered by the Court, no Highly Confidential Information of one  
26 manufacturer, distributor, or retailer may be shown to any witness who is a current employee of  
27 another manufacturer, distributor, or retailer who is not otherwise authorized to receive the  
28 information under this Order.

1           33. With respect to documents produced to Plaintiffs, documents designated as  
2 “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL” will be treated in the same manner as documents designated  
3 “CONFIDENTIAL,” except as otherwise provided in this Order or any other Order in this  
4 Litigation.

5 **V. Confidentiality Acknowledgment**

6           34. Each person required under this Order to complete the certification contained in  
7 Exhibit A, Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound, shall be provided with a copy of this  
8 Protective Order, which he, she, or they shall read, and, upon reading this Protective Order, shall  
9 sign an Acknowledgment, in the form annexed hereto as Exhibit A, acknowledging that he, she,  
10 or they has/have read this Protective Order and shall abide by its terms. These Acknowledgments  
11 are strictly confidential. Unless otherwise provided in this Order, Counsel for each Party shall  
12 maintain the Acknowledgments without giving copies to the other side. The Parties expressly  
13 agree, and it is hereby ordered that, except in the event of a violation of this Protective Order,  
14 there will be no attempt to seek copies of the Acknowledgments or to determine the identities of  
15 persons signing them. If the Court finds that any disclosure is necessary to investigate a violation  
16 of this Protective Order, such disclosure will be pursuant to separate court order. Persons who  
17 come into contact with Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information for clerical  
18 or administrative purposes, and who do not retain copies or extracts thereof, are not required to  
19 execute Acknowledgements, but must comply with the terms of this Protective Order.

20 **VI. Litigation Experts and Consultants.**

21           35. Formally Retained Independent Experts and Consultants. Subject to the provisions  
22 of this Protective Order, all Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information may be  
23 disclosed to any formally retained independent expert or consultant who has agreed in writing  
24 pursuant to Paragraph 34 or on the record of a deposition to be bound by this Protective Order.

25 **VII. Protection and Use of Confidential and Highly Confidential Information**

26           36. Persons receiving or having knowledge of Confidential Information or Highly  
27 Confidential Information by virtue of their participation in this Litigation, or by virtue of  
28 obtaining any documents or other Protected Material produced or disclosed pursuant to this

1 Protective Order, shall use that Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information only  
2 as permitted by this Protective Order. Counsel shall take reasonable steps to assure the security of  
3 any Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information and will limit access to such  
4 material to those persons authorized by this Protective Order.

5 37. Nothing herein shall restrict a person qualified to receive Confidential Information  
6 and Highly Confidential Information pursuant to this Protective Order from making working  
7 copies, abstracts, digests and analyses of such information for use in connection with this  
8 Litigation and such working copies, abstracts, digests and analyses shall be deemed to have the  
9 same level of protection under the terms of this Protective Order. Further, nothing herein shall  
10 restrict a qualified recipient from converting or translating such information into machine-  
11 readable form for incorporation in a data retrieval system used in connection with this Litigation,  
12 provided that access to such information, in whatever form stored or reproduced, shall be deemed  
13 to have the same level of protection under the terms of this Protective Order.

14 38. All persons qualified to receive Confidential Information and Highly Confidential  
15 Information pursuant to this Protective Order shall at all times keep all notes, abstractions, or  
16 other work product derived from or containing Confidential Information or Highly Confidential  
17 Information in a manner to protect it from disclosure in accordance with this Protective Order,  
18 and shall be obligated to maintain the confidentiality of such work product and shall not disclose  
19 or reveal the contents of said notes, abstractions or other work product after the documents,  
20 materials, or other thing, or portions thereof (and the information contained therein) are returned  
21 and surrendered pursuant to Paragraph 45. Nothing in this Protective Order requires the  
22 Receiving Party's Counsel to disclose work product at the conclusion of the case.

23 39. Notwithstanding any other provisions hereof, nothing herein shall restrict any  
24 Party's Counsel from rendering advice to that Counsel's clients with respect to this proceeding or  
25 a related action in which the Receiving Party is permitted by this Protective Order to use  
26 Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information and, in the course thereof, relying  
27 upon such information, provided that in rendering such advice, Counsel shall not disclose any  
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1 other Party's Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information other than in a manner  
2 provided for in this Protective Order.

3 40. Nothing contained in this Protective Order shall prejudice in any way the rights of  
4 any Party to object to the relevancy, authenticity, or admissibility into evidence of any document  
5 or other information subject to this Protective Order, or otherwise constitute or operate as an  
6 admission by any Party that any particular document or other information is or is not relevant,  
7 authentic, or admissible into evidence at any deposition, at trial, or in a hearing.

8 41. Nothing contained in this Protective Order shall preclude any Party from using its  
9 own Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information in any manner it sees fit,  
10 without prior consent of any Party or the Court.

11 42. To the extent that a Producing Party uses or discloses to a third party its designated  
12 confidential information in a manner that causes the information to lose its confidential status, the  
13 Receiving Party is entitled to notice of the Producing Party's use of the confidential information  
14 in such a manner that the information has lost its confidentiality, and the Receiving Party may  
15 also use the information in the same manner as the Producing Party.

16 43. If a Receiving Party learns of any unauthorized disclosure of Confidential  
17 Information or Highly Confidential Information, it shall immediately (a) inform the Producing or  
18 Designating Party in writing of all pertinent facts relating to such disclosure; (b) make its best  
19 effort to retrieve all copies of the Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information;  
20 (c) inform the person or persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the terms of  
21 this Protective Order; and (d) request such person or persons execute the Acknowledgment that is  
22 attached hereto as Exhibit A.

23 44. Unless otherwise agreed or ordered, this Protective Order shall remain in force  
24 after dismissal or entry of final judgment not subject to further appeal of this Litigation.

25 45. Within ninety (90) days after dismissal or entry of final judgment not subject to  
26 further appeal of this Litigation, or such other time as the Producing or Designating Party may  
27 agree in writing, the Receiving Party shall return all Confidential Information and Highly  
28 Confidential Information under this Protective Order unless: (1) the document has been offered

1 into evidence or filed without restriction as to disclosure; (2) the Parties agree to destruction to  
2 the extent practicable in lieu of return;<sup>1</sup> or (3) as to documents bearing the notations, summations,  
3 or other mental impressions of the Receiving Party, that Party elects to destroy the documents and  
4 certifies to the producing party that it has done so.

5 46. Notwithstanding the above requirements to return or destroy documents, Plaintiffs'  
6 outside counsel and Defendants' outside counsel may retain (1) any materials required to be  
7 retained by law or ethical rules, (2) one copy of their work file and work product, and (3) one  
8 complete set of all documents filed with the Court including those filed under seal, deposition and  
9 trial transcripts, and deposition and trial exhibits. Any retained Confidential or Highly  
10 Confidential Discovery Material shall continue to be protected under this Protective Order. An  
11 attorney may use his or her work product in subsequent litigation, provided that the attorney's use  
12 does not disclose or use Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information.

13 **VIII. Changes in Designation of Information**

14 47. If a Producing Party through inadvertence produces any Confidential Information  
15 or Highly Confidential Information without labeling or marking or otherwise designating it as  
16 such in accordance with the provisions of this Protective Order, the Producing Party may give  
17 written notice to the Receiving Party that the document or thing produced is deemed  
18 "CONFIDENTIAL" or "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL" and should be treated as such in  
19 accordance with the provisions of this Protective Order, and provide replacement media, images,  
20 and any associated production information to conform the document to the appropriate  
21 designation and facilitate use of the revised designation in the production. The Receiving Party  
22 must treat such documents and things with the noticed level of protection from the date such  
23 notice is received. Disclosure, prior to the receipt of such notice of such information, to persons  
24 not authorized to receive such information shall not be deemed a violation of this Protective  
25

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26 <sup>1</sup> The parties may choose to agree that the Receiving Party shall destroy documents containing  
27 Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information and certify the fact of destruction,  
28 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 Highly Confidential  
Information, or Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information contained in  
deposition transcripts or drafts or final expert reports.

1 Order. Any Producing Party may designate as “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY  
2 CONFIDENTIAL” or withdraw a “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL”  
3 designation from any material that it has produced consistent with this Protective Order, provided,  
4 however, that such redesignation shall be effective only as of the date of such redesignation. Such  
5 redesignation shall be accomplished by notifying Counsel for each Party in writing of such  
6 redesignation and providing replacement images bearing the appropriate description, along with  
7 the replacement media, images, and associated production information referenced above. Upon  
8 receipt of any redesignation and replacement image that designates material as  
9 “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL”, the Receiving Party shall (i) treat such  
10 material in accordance with this Protective Order; (ii) take reasonable steps to notify any persons  
11 known to have possession of any such material of such redesignation under this Protective  
12 Order; and (iii) promptly endeavor to procure all copies of such material from any persons known  
13 to have possession of such material who are not entitled to receipt under this Protective Order. It  
14 is understood that the Receiving Party’s good faith efforts to procure all copies may not result in  
15 the actual return of all copies of such materials.

16 48. A Receiving Party does not waive its right to challenge a confidentiality  
17 designation by electing not to mount a challenge promptly after the original designation is  
18 disclosed. If the Receiving Party believes that portion(s) of a document are not properly  
19 designated as Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information, the Receiving Party  
20 will identify the specific information that it believes is improperly designated and notify the  
21 Producing or Designating Party in writing of its good faith belief that the confidentiality  
22 designation was not proper. The parties shall attempt to resolve each challenge in good faith and  
23 must begin the process by conferring directly (in voice to voice dialogue; other forms of  
24 communication are not sufficient) within 14 days of the date of service of notice. In conferring,  
25 the Challenging Party must explain the basis for its belief that the confidentiality designation was  
26 not proper and must give the Designating Party an opportunity to review the designated material,  
27 to reconsider the circumstances, and, if no change in designation is offered, to explain the basis  
28 for the chosen designation. A Challenging Party may proceed to the next stage of the challenge



1 process only if it has engaged in this meet and confer process first or establishes that the  
2 Designating Party is unwilling to participate in the meet and confer process in a timely manner. If  
3 the Parties cannot resolve a challenge without court intervention, the Designating Party shall file  
4 and serve a motion to retain confidentiality under Civil Local Rule 7 (and in compliance with  
5 Civil Local Rule 79-5, if applicable) within 21 days of the initial notice of challenge or within 14  
6 days of the parties agreeing that the meet and confer process will not resolve their dispute,  
7 whichever is earlier. Each such motion must be accompanied by a competent declaration  
8 affirming that the movant has complied with the meet and confer requirements imposed in the  
9 preceding paragraph. Failure by the Designating Party to make such a motion including the  
10 required declaration within 21 days (or 14 days, if applicable) shall automatically waive the  
11 confidentiality designation for each challenged designation. In addition, the Challenging Party  
12 may file a motion challenging a confidentiality designation at any time if there is good cause for  
13 doing so, including a challenge to the designation of a deposition transcript or any portions  
14 thereof. Any motion brought pursuant to this provision must be accompanied by a competent  
15 declaration affirming that the movant has complied with the meet and confer requirements  
16 imposed by the preceding paragraph. The burden of persuasion in any such challenge proceeding  
17 shall be on the Designating Party. Frivolous challenges, and those made for an improper purpose  
18 (e.g., to harass or impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may expose the  
19 Challenging Party to sanctions. Unless the Designating Party has waived the confidentiality  
20 designation by failing to file a motion to retain confidentiality as described above, all parties shall  
21 continue to afford the material in question the level of protection to which it is entitled under the  
22 Producing Party's designation until the court rules on the challenge.

23 **IX. Inadvertent Production of Documents**

24 49. Non-Waiver of Privilege. The parties agree that they do not intend to disclose  
25 information subject to a claim of attorney-client privilege, attorney work product protection,  
26 common-interest privilege, or any other privilege, immunity or protection from production or  
27 disclosure ("Privileged Information"). If, nevertheless, a Producing Party discloses Privileged  
28 Information, such disclosure (as distinct from use) shall be deemed inadvertent without need of

1 further showing under Federal Rule of Evidence 502(b) and shall not constitute or be deemed a  
2 waiver or forfeiture of the privilege or protection from discovery in this case or in any other  
3 federal or state proceeding by that party (the “Disclosing Party”). This Section shall be interpreted  
4 to provide the maximum protection allowed by Federal Rule of Evidence 502(d).

5 50. Notice of Production of Privileged Information. If a Party or non-Party discovers  
6 that it has produced Privileged Information, it shall promptly notify the Receiving Party of the  
7 production in writing, shall identify the produced Privileged Information by Bates range where  
8 possible, and may demand that the Receiving Party return or destroy the Privileged Information.  
9 In the event that a Receiving Party receives information that it believes is subject to a good faith  
10 claim of privilege by the Disclosing Party, the Receiving Party shall immediately refrain from  
11 examining the information and shall promptly notify the Disclosing Party in writing that the  
12 Receiving Party possesses potentially Privileged Information. The Disclosing Party shall then  
13 have seven (7) days to assert privilege over the identified information. If the Disclosing Party  
14 does not assert a claim of privilege within the 7-day period, the information in question shall be  
15 deemed non-privileged.

16 51. Recall of Privileged Information. If the Disclosing Party has notified the Receiving  
17 Party of production of Privileged Information, or has confirmed the production of Privileged  
18 Information called to its attention by the Receiving Party, the Receiving Party shall within  
19 fourteen (14) days of receiving such notification or confirmation: (1) destroy or return to the  
20 Disclosing Party all copies or versions of the produced Privileged Information requested to be  
21 returned or destroyed; (2) delete from its work product or other materials any quoted or  
22 paraphrased portions of the produced Privileged Information; and (3) ensure that produced  
23 Privileged Information is not disclosed in any manner to any Party or non-Party. The following  
24 procedures shall be followed to ensure all copies of such ESI are appropriately removed from the  
25 Receiving Party’s system:

26 a. Locate each recalled document in the document review/production  
27 database and delete the record from the database;

1           b.       If there is a native file link to the recalled document, remove the native file  
2 from the network path;

3           c.       If the database has an image load file, locate the document image(s) loaded  
4 into the viewing software and delete the image file(s) corresponding to the recalled documents.  
5 Remove the line(s) corresponding to the document image(s) from the image load file;

6           d.       Apply the same process to any additional copies of the document or  
7 database, where possible;

8           e.       Locate and destroy all other copies of the document, whether in electronic  
9 or hardcopy form. To the extent that copies of the document are contained on write-protected  
10 media, such as CDs or DVDs, these media shall be discarded, with the exception of production  
11 media received from the recalling party, which shall be treated as described herein;

12          f.       If the document was produced in a write-protected format, the party  
13 seeking to recall the document shall, at its election, either (i) provide a replacement copy of the  
14 relevant production from which the document has been removed, in which case the Receiving  
15 Party shall discard the original production media; or (ii) allow the Receiving Party to retain the  
16 original production media, in which case the Receiving Party shall take steps to ensure that the  
17 recalled document will not be used; and

18          g.       Confirm that the recall of electronically-stored information (“ESI”) under  
19 this procedure is complete by way of letter to the party seeking to recall ESI.

20       52.       Notwithstanding the above, the Receiving Party may segregate and retain one copy  
21 of the clawed back information solely for the purpose of disputing the claim of privilege. The  
22 Receiving Party shall not use any produced Privileged Information in connection with this  
23 Litigation or for any other purpose other than to dispute the claim of privilege. The Receiving  
24 Party may file a motion disputing the claim of privilege and seeking an order compelling  
25 production of the material at issue; the Disclosing Party may oppose any such motion, including  
26 on the grounds that inadvertent disclosure does not waive privilege.

27       53.       Within fourteen (14) days of the notification that such Privileged Information has  
28 been returned, destroyed, sequestered, or deleted (“Clawed-Back Information”), the Disclosing

1 Party shall produce a privilege log with respect to the Clawed-Back Information. Within fourteen  
2 (14) days after receiving the Disclosing Party's privilege log with respect to such Clawed-Back  
3 Information, a receiving party may notify the Disclosing Party in writing of an objection to a  
4 claim of privilege or work-product protection with respect to the Clawed-Back Information.  
5 Within fourteen (14) days of the receipt of such notification, the Disclosing Party and the  
6 objecting party shall meet and confer in an effort to resolve any disagreement concerning the  
7 Disclosing Party's privilege or work-product claim with respect to such Clawed-Back  
8 Information. The parties may stipulate to extend the time periods set forth in this paragraph.

9 54. If, for any reason, the Disclosing Party and Receiving Party (or parties) do not  
10 resolve their disagreement after conducting the mandatory meet and confer, the Receiving Party  
11 may request a conference with the Court pursuant to Magistrate Judge Sallie Kim's Standing  
12 Order. The Disclosing Party bears the burden of establishing the privileged or protected nature of  
13 any Privileged Information.

14 55. Nothing contained herein is intended to or shall serve to limit a party's right to  
15 conduct a review of documents, ESI or information (including metadata) for relevance,  
16 responsiveness and/or segregation of privileged and/or protected information before production.  
17 Nothing in this Order shall limit the right to request an in-camera review of any Privileged  
18 Information.

19 56. In the event any prior order or agreement between the parties and/or between the  
20 parties and a non-party concerning the disclosure of privileged and/or work product protected  
21 materials conflicts with any of the provisions of this Order, the provisions of this Stipulated Order  
22 shall control.

23 57. Nothing in this Order overrides any attorney's ethical responsibilities to refrain  
24 from examining or disclosing materials that the attorney knows or reasonably should know to be  
25 privileged and to inform the Disclosing Party that such materials have been produced.

26 **X. Filing and Use at Trial of Protected Material**

27 58. Only Confidential or Highly Confidential portions of relevant documents are  
28 subject to sealing. To the extent that a brief, memorandum, or pleading references any document

1 designated as Confidential or Highly Confidential, then the brief, memorandum or pleading shall  
2 refer the Court to the particular exhibit filed under seal without disclosing the contents of any  
3 confidential information. If, however, the confidential information must be intertwined within the  
4 text of the document, a party may timely move the Court for leave to file both a redacted version  
5 for the public docket and an unredacted version for sealing.

6 59. Absent a Court-granted exception based upon extraordinary circumstances, any  
7 and all filings made under seal shall be submitted electronically and shall be linked to this  
8 Protective Order or other relevant authorizing order. If both redacted and unredacted versions are  
9 being submitted for filing, each version shall be clearly named so there is no confusion as to why  
10 there are two entries on the docket for the same filing.

11 60. If the Court has granted an exception to electronic filing, a sealed filing shall be  
12 placed in a sealed envelope marked "CONFIDENTIAL - SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE  
13 ORDER." The sealed envelope shall display the case name and number, a designation as to what  
14 the document is, the name of the party on whose behalf it is submitted, and the name of the  
15 attorney who has filed the sealed document. A copy of this Protective Order, or other relevant  
16 authorizing order, shall be included in the sealed envelope.

17 61. A Party that intends to present Confidential Information or Highly Confidential  
18 Information at a hearing shall bring that issue to the Court's and Parties' attention without  
19 disclosing the Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information. The Court may  
20 thereafter make such orders, including any stipulated orders, as are necessary to govern the use of  
21 Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information at the hearing. The use of any  
22 Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information at trial shall be governed by a  
23 separate stipulation and/or court order.

24 **XI. Confidential or Highly Confidential Information Requested by Third Party;**  
25 **Procedure Following Request.**

26 62. If any person receiving Discovery Material covered by this Protective Order (the  
27 "Receiver") is served with a subpoena, a request for information from any State or Federal law  
28 enforcement agency, or any other form of legal process that purports to compel disclosure of any

1 Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information that was produced to the Receiver  
2 by a Producing Party and that is covered by this Protective Order (“Request”), the Receiver must,  
3 to the extent permitted by law, so notify the Producing or Designating Party, in writing,  
4 immediately and in no event more than five (5) days after receiving the Request. Such  
5 notification must include a copy of the Request.

6 63. The Receiver also must immediately inform the party who made the Request  
7 (“Requesting Party”) in writing that some or all the requested material is the subject of this  
8 Protective Order. In addition, the Receiver must deliver a copy of this Protective Order promptly  
9 to the Requesting Party.

10 64. The purpose of imposing these duties is to alert the interested persons to the  
11 existence of this Protective Order and to afford the Producing or Designating Party in this case an  
12 opportunity to protect its Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information. The  
13 Producing or Designating Party shall bear the burden and the expense of seeking protection of its  
14 Confidential Information or Highly Confidential Information, and nothing in these provisions  
15 should be construed as authorizing or encouraging the Receiver in this Litigation to disobey a  
16 lawful directive from another court. The obligations set forth in this paragraph remain in effect  
17 while the Receiver has in its possession, custody or control Confidential Information or Highly  
18 Confidential Information by the other Producing or Designating Party in this Litigation.

19 65. If a party to this Litigation receives a request for disclosure of any Confidential  
20 Information or Highly Confidential Information pursuant to any public records act, or any similar  
21 federal, state or municipal law (collectively, the “Public Disclosure Laws”), it shall (i) provide a  
22 copy of this Protective Order to the Requesting Party, and (ii) promptly inform the Producing or  
23 Designating Party that has produced or designated the requested material that the request has been  
24 made, identifying the name of the Requesting Party and the particular materials sought. If the  
25 Producing or Designating Party seeks a protective order, the Receiving Party shall not disclose  
26 such material until the Court has ruled on the request for a protective order. The restrictions in  
27 this paragraph shall not apply to materials that (i) the Producing or Designating Party expressly  
28 consents in writing to disclosure; or (ii) this Court has determined by court order to have been

1 improperly designated as Confidential or Highly Confidential Discovery Material. The provisions  
2 of this section shall apply to any entity in receipt of Confidential or Highly Confidential  
3 Discovery Material governed by this Protective Order. Nothing in this Protective Order shall be  
4 deemed to (1) foreclose any Party from arguing that Discovery Material is not a public record for  
5 purposes of the Public Disclosure Laws; (2) prevent any Party from claiming any applicable  
6 exemption to the Public Disclosure Laws; or (3) limit any arguments that a Party may make as to  
7 why Discovery Material is exempt from disclosure.

## 8 **XII. HIPAA-Protected Information**

9 66. General. Discovery in this Litigation may involve production of “Protected Health  
10 Information” as that term is defined and set forth in 45 C.F.R. § 160.103, for which special  
11 protection from public disclosure and from any purpose other than prosecuting this Litigation is  
12 warranted.

13 67. “Protected Health Information” shall encompass information within the scope and  
14 definition set forth in 45 C.F.R. § 160.103 that is provided to the Parties by a covered entity as  
15 defined by 45 C.F.R. § 160.103 (“Covered Entities”) or by a business associate of a Covered  
16 Entity as defined by 45 C.F.R. § 160.103 (“Business Associate”) in the course of the Litigation,  
17 as well as information covered by the privacy laws of any individual states, as applicable.

18 68. Any Party who produces Protected Health Information in this Litigation shall  
19 designate such discovery material “CONFIDENTIAL PROTECTED HEALTH  
20 INFORMATION” in accordance with the provisions of this Protective Order.

21 69. Unless otherwise agreed between counsel for the Parties, the designation of  
22 discovery material as “CONFIDENTIAL PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION” shall be  
23 made at the following times: (a) for documents or things at the time of the production of the  
24 documents or things; (b) for declarations, correspondence, expert witness reports, written  
25 discovery responses, court filings, pleadings, and other documents, at the time of the service or  
26 filing, whichever occurs first; (c) for testimony, at the time such testimony is given by a statement  
27 designating the testimony as “CONFIDENTIAL PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION”  
28 made on the record or within thirty (30) days after receipt of the transcript of the deposition. The



1 designation of discovery material as “CONFIDENTIAL PROTECTED HEALTH  
2 INFORMATION” shall be made in the following manner: (a) on documents, by placing the  
3 notation “CONFIDENTIAL PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION” or similar legend on  
4 each page of such document; (b) for tangible things, by placing the notation “CONFIDENTIAL  
5 PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION” on the object or container thereof or if impracticable,  
6 as otherwise agreed by the parties; (c) for declarations, correspondence, expert witness reports,  
7 written discovery responses, court filings, pleadings, and any other documents containing  
8 Protected Health Information, by placing the notation “CONFIDENTIAL PROTECTED  
9 HEALTH INFORMATION” both on the face of such document and on any particular designated  
10 pages of such document; and (d) for testimony, by orally designating such testimony as being  
11 “CONFIDENTIAL PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION” at the time the testimony is given  
12 or by designating the portions of the transcript in a letter to be served on the court reporter and  
13 opposing counsel within thirty (30) days after receipt of the certified transcript of the deposition.

14         70. Pursuant to 45 C.F.R. § 164.512(e)(1), all Covered Entities and their Business  
15 Associates (as defined in 45 C.F.R. § 160.103), or entities in receipt of information from such  
16 entities, are hereby authorized to disclose Protected Health Information pertaining to the  
17 Litigation to those persons and for such purposes as designated in herein. Further, all Parties that  
18 are entities subject to state privacy law requirements, or entities in receipt of information from  
19 such entities, are hereby authorized to disclose Protected Health Information pertaining to this  
20 Litigation to those persons and for such purposes as designated in herein. The Court has  
21 determined that disclosure of such Protected Health Information is necessary for the conduct of  
22 proceedings before it and that failure to make the disclosure would be contrary to public interest  
23 or to the detriment of one or more parties to the proceedings.

24         71. The Parties shall not use or disclose Protected Health Information for any purpose  
25 other than the Litigation, including any appeals. The Parties may, inter alia, disclose Protected  
26 Health Information to (a) counsel for the Parties and employees of counsel who have  
27 responsibility for the Litigation; (b) the Court and its personnel; (c) Court reporters; (d) experts  
28 and consultants; and (e) other entities or persons involved in the Litigation.



1           72.     Within ninety (90) days after dismissal or entry of final judgment not subject to  
2 further appeal, the Parties, their counsel, and any person or entity in possession of Protected  
3 Health Information received pursuant to this Order shall destroy or return to the Covered Entity or  
4 Business Associate such Protected Health Information.

5           73.     Nothing in this Order authorizes the parties to obtain Protected Health Information  
6 through means other than formal discovery requests, subpoenas, depositions, pursuant to a patient  
7 authorization, or any other lawful process.

8     **XIII. Information Subject to Existing Obligation of Confidentiality Independent of this**  
9     **Protective Order.**

10           74.     In the event that a Party is required by a valid discovery request to produce any  
11 information held by it subject to an obligation of confidentiality in favor of a third party, the Party  
12 shall, promptly upon recognizing that such third party's rights are implicated, provide the third  
13 party with a copy of this Protective Order and (i) inform the third party in writing of the Party's  
14 obligation to produce such information in connection with this Litigation and of its intention to do  
15 so, subject to the protections of this Protective Order; (ii) inform the third party in writing of the  
16 third party's right within fourteen (14) days to seek further protection or other relief from the  
17 Court if, in good faith, it believes such information to be confidential under the said obligation  
18 and either objects to the Party's production of such information or regards the provisions of this  
19 Protective Order to be inadequate; and (iii) seek the third party's consent to such disclosure if that  
20 third party does not plan to object. Thereafter, the Party shall refrain from producing such  
21 information for a period of fourteen (14) days in order to permit the third party an opportunity to  
22 seek relief from the Court, unless the third party earlier consents to disclosure. If the third party  
23 fails to seek such relief, the Party shall promptly produce the information in question subject to  
24 the protections of this Protective Order, or alternatively, shall promptly seek to be relieved of this  
25 obligation or for clarification of this obligation by the Court.

1 **XIV. Miscellaneous Provisions**

2 75. Nothing in this Order or any action or agreement of a party under this Order limits  
3 the Court's power to make any orders that may be appropriate with respect to the use and  
4 disclosure of any documents produced or use in discovery or at trial.

5 76. Nothing in this Protective Order shall abridge the right of any person to seek  
6 judicial review or to pursue other appropriate judicial action to seek a modification or amendment  
7 of this Protective Order.

8 77. In the event anyone shall violate or threaten to violate the terms of this Protective  
9 Order, the Producing or Designating Party may immediately apply to obtain injunctive relief  
10 against any person violating or threatening to violate any of the terms of this Protective Order,  
11 and in the event the Producing or Designating Party shall do so, the respondent person, subject to  
12 the provisions of this Protective Order, shall not employ as a defense thereto the claim that the  
13 Producing or Designating Party possesses an adequate remedy at law.

14 78. This Protective Order shall not be construed as waiving any right to assert a claim  
15 of privilege, relevance, or other grounds for not producing Discovery Material called for, and  
16 access to such Discovery Material shall be only as provided for by separate agreement of the  
17 Parties or by the Court.

18 79. This Protective Order may be amended without leave of the Court by agreement of  
19 Outside Counsel for the Parties in the form of a written stipulation filed with the Court. The  
20 Protective Order shall continue in force until amended or superseded by express order of the  
21 Court, and shall survive and remain in effect after the termination of this Litigation.

22 80. Notwithstanding any other provision in the Order, nothing in this Protective Order  
23 shall affect or modify Defendant's ability to review Plaintiffs' information and report such  
24 information to any applicable regulatory agencies.

25 81. This Order is entered based on the representations and agreements of the parties  
26 and for the purpose of facilitating discovery. Nothing herein shall be construed or presented as a  
27 judicial determination that any documents or information designated as Confidential or Highly  
28 Confidential by counsel or the parties is subject to protection under Rule 26(c) of the Federal

1 Rules of Civil Procedure or otherwise until such time as the Court may rule on a specific  
2 document or issue.

3  
4 **SO STIPULATED AND AGREED:**

5  
6 Dated: September 10, 2021

/s/Elizabeth J. Cabraser

Elizabeth J. Cabraser  
LIEFF CABRASER HEIMANN &  
BERNSTEIN, LLP  
Lead Counsel for Plaintiffs

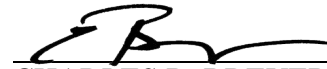
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9 Dated: September 10, 2021

/s/Josh A. Cohen

Josh A. Cohen  
CLARENCE DYER & COHEN  
Counsel for Defendant McKinsey & Co., Inc.

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14 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

15  
16 Dated: September 21, 2021



CHARLES R. BREYER  
United States District Judge

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

IN RE: MCKINSEY & CO., INC.  
NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION OPIATE  
CONSULTANT LITIGATION

Case No. 21-md-02996-CRB (SK)

**EXHIBIT A TO PRETRIAL ORDER NO. 4**

This Order Relates to:  
ALL ACTIONS

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND  
AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND BY  
PROTECTIVE ORDER**

The undersigned agrees:

I declare under penalty of perjury that I have read in its entirety and understand the Protective Order (Pretrial Order No. 4) that was issued by the United States District Court for the Northern District of California on \_\_\_\_\_, 2021 in *In re McKinsey & Co., Inc. National Prescription Opiate Litigation* (Case No. 21-md-02996-CRB).

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

City and State where sworn and signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_