

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA

Estate of Christopher Temple and Amber Smith v. County of Placer,
Placer County Sheriff's Office, Wayne Woo, Cody Michael, Melissa
Adams, and Claudell Vaughan

Estate of Temple · No. 2:23-cv-01713-JAM-CKD · Decided August 7, 2025

SUMMARY

This document is a stipulated protective order in Estate of Christopher Temple and Amber Smith v. County of Placer and others, pending in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California, case no. 2:23-cv-01713-JAM-CKD. It identifies specified Placer County Sheriff’s Office investigative and incident records concerning officer-involved shootings and mental-health crises as potentially confidential, establishes permitted uses and disclosures, and provides procedures for challenging confidentiality designations. The proposed order was stipulated to in July 2025 and granted by Magistrate Judge Carolyn K. Delaney on August 6, 2025.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Carolyn K. Delaney
DECIDED	August 7, 2025
DOCKET	2:23-cv-01713-JAM-CKD
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The parties submitted a stipulated protective order concerning specified officer-involved-shooting and mental-health-crisis records in the pending civil-rights action. The court granted the stipulated protective order.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	nonprecedential

TOPICS

- discovery dispute civil procedure section 1983 police misconduct

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure civil rights discovery

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the court should approve the parties' stipulated protective order for the specifically identified discovery materials.
2. Whether the stipulated order adequately limits confidentiality protections and preserves the parties' obligations under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c) and applicable local rules.

HOLDINGS

1. The court granted the parties' stipulated protective order governing the specifically identified discovery materials.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“The parties’ stipulated protective order is GRANTED.” (Order at 1)

“this stipulated protective order does not entitle any party to file information designated herein as protected or confidential under seal” (Protective Order at 1)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The protective order covers specifically identified Placer County Sheriff's Office internal-affairs files concerning officer-involved shootings and incident reports involving mental-health crises. The order limits use of covered information to the litigation, restricts disclosure to specified persons, and establishes procedures for challenging confidentiality designations. It also clarifies that confidential designation does not automatically authorize filing documents under seal.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiffs Estate of Christopher Temple and Amber Smith sued the County of Placer, the Placer County Sheriff's Office, and individual defendants. During discovery, the parties negotiated a stipulated protective order under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c) and the Eastern District of California's local rules. Magistrate Judge Carolyn K. Delaney entered the order on August 6, 2025.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- In re Roman Catholic Archbishop of Portland, 661 F.3d 417, 424 (9th Cir. 2011)
- Cipollone v. Liggett Group, Inc., 785 F.2d 1108, 1122 (3d Cir. 1986)

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