

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA

Sheikh v. Spinnaker Ins. Co.

Sheikh · No. 2:23-cv-01582-TLN-SCR · Decided March 3, 2025

SUMMARY

This document is a stipulated protective order entered in Sheikh v. Spinnaker Insurance Company, No. 2:23-cv-01582-TLN-SCR, in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California. It governs the designation, use, disclosure, challenge, filing, and disposition of confidential discovery materials, and includes an acknowledgment and agreement to be bound as Exhibit A.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Sean C. Riordan
DECIDED	March 3, 2025
DOCKET	2:23-cv-01582-TLN-SCR
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The parties stipulated to entry of a protective order governing confidential discovery material, and the court entered the order for good cause shown.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	nonprecedential

TOPICS

- discovery dispute
- civil procedure
- sanctions
- insurance

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- insurance

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

- Whether good cause existed to enter the parties' stipulated protective order governing confidential discovery material.
- What procedures and limitations should govern designation, use, challenge, filing, and final disposition of protected discovery material.

HOLDINGS

1. For good cause shown, the court entered the parties' stipulated protective order governing the designation, disclosure, use, challenge, filing, and disposition of confidential discovery material.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN, IT IS SO ORDERED.” (at 17)

“Once a case proceeds to trial, all of the information that was designated as confidential or maintained pursuant to this Protective Order becomes public and will be presumptively available to all members of the public, including the press, unless compelling reasons supported by specific factual findings to proceed otherwise are made to the trial judge in advance of the trial.” (at 5)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The litigation was expected to involve discovery of confidential or proprietary information, including liability insurance agreements, trade secrets, customer and pricing lists, commercial and financial information, and technical information. Plaintiff was also expected to produce private medical or mental-health information and personally identifiable information. The parties sought protection to facilitate discovery while limiting confidentiality designations to material qualifying for protection under applicable law.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

This order was entered during the pendency of a federal diversity action alleging breach of an insurance contract. The parties submitted a stipulated protective order on February 26, 2025, and Magistrate Judge Sean C. Riordan entered it on March 3, 2025.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- *Kamakana v. City and County of Honolulu*, 447 F.3d 1172, 1180-81 (9th Cir. 2006)