

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF
FLORIDA

Toho Co., Ltd. v. The Individuals, Corporations, Limited Liability
Companies, Partnerships, and Unincorporated Associations
Identified in Schedule A

Toho Co. · No. 25-24712-CIV-MORENO · Decided January 21, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida denied Toho Co., Ltd.’s sealed ex parte motion because the plaintiff did not establish good cause to overcome the presumption of public access to court proceedings. The court granted leave to refile the motion on the open docket.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Federico A. Moreno
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida
DECIDED	January 21, 2026
DOCKET	25-24712-CIV-MORENO
DISPOSITION	denied
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Plaintiff filed a sealed ex parte motion seeking to seal the motion and related materials. The district court denied the motion, granting leave to refile it on the open docket.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The court applied the public-access presumption and examined whether Plaintiff established good cause to overcome that presumption by balancing the asserted right of access against the interest in confidentiality.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unknown

TOPICS

- civil procedure
- commercial litigation

PRACTICE AREAS

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether Plaintiff established good cause sufficient to overcome the presumption of public access to civil court filings and justify sealing its ex parte motion.

HOLDINGS

1. A party seeking to seal a civil court filing must establish good cause by addressing the character and nature of the information and balancing the asserted right of public access against the interest in confidentiality. Toho failed to make that showing, so the motion to seal was denied.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Once a matter is brought before a court for resolution, it is no longer solely the parties’ case, but also the public’s case.”” (at 1)

“There is a “general presumption that criminal and civil actions should be conducted publicly.”” (at 1)

“This requires the Court to “balance[] the asserted right of access against the other party’s interest in keeping the information confidential.”” (at 1)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Toho sought to keep its ex parte motion under seal. The court found that Toho had not met its burden to establish good cause for sealing the motion, but allowed Toho to refile it on the open docket.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Toho filed a sealed ex parte motion on December 11, 2025. The Southern District of Florida considered the motion and the pertinent record, denied sealing for failure to establish good cause, and granted leave to refile the motion publicly.

DISPOSITION

denied

CASES CITED

- *Brown v. Advantage Eng'g., Inc.*, 960 F.2d 1013, 1016 (11th Cir. 1992)
- *FTC v. AbbVie Prods., LLC*, 713 F.3d 54, 62 (11th Cir. 2013)
- *Chi. Tribune Co. v. Bridgestone/Firestone, Inc.*, 263 F.3d 1304, 1309, 1311, 1315 (11th Cir. 2001)
- *Romero v. Drummond Co., Inc.*, 480 F.3d 1234, 1246 (11th Cir. 2007)