

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and)	
DR. RACHEL TUDOR,)	
)	
Plaintiffs,)	
)	
v.)	Case No. CIV-15-324-C
)	
SOUTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA)	
STATE UNIVERSITY and)	
THE REGIONAL UNIVERSITY)	
SYSTEM OF OKLAHOMA,)	
)	
Defendants.)	

ORDER

Defendants and Plaintiff USA have reached a compromise settlement. Defendants wish to keep that settlement confidential. To that end, Defendants filed a Motion for Protective Order. Concerned that Plaintiff USA could release the details of the settlement before a ruling is made on the Motion for Protective Order, Defendants requested entry of a Temporary Restraining Order. The Court granted that request. Plaintiff Tudor now seeks clarification of the Court’s Order.

Plaintiff Tudor states that she has now received a copy of the settlement agreement and wishes to reference certain portions of that Agreement when responding to Defendants’ Motion for Protective Order. Plaintiff Tudor suggests that her response may necessarily require attaching the Settlement Agreement as an exhibit.

Plaintiff Tudor's Motion offers evidence that many of the concerns expressed by Defendants in their request for TRO are valid. It appears that Plaintiff Tudor is seeking to perform the very act that necessitated entry of the TRO – publicizing the terms of the Settlement Agreement prior to the time the Court rules on Defendants' Motion for Protective Agreement. The Court is wholly unpersuaded by Plaintiff Tudor's arguments regarding the public interest requiring some disclosure of the agreement prior to a ruling from the Court. Plaintiff Tudor's concerns regarding the need to reference or attach the Agreement to her Response can be adequately addressed by seeking leave to file her Response under seal (a practice Plaintiff Tudor has utilized previously in this matter). Upon a proper Motion, leave will be granted.

For the reasons set forth herein, Plaintiff/Intervenor Dr. Rachel Tudor's Request for Clarification of the August 31, 2017 Temporary Restraining Order (Dkt. No. 161) is DENIED.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 6th day of September, 2017.


ROBIN J. CAUTHRON
United States District Judge