

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA  
ORLANDO DIVISION

JOHN DOE, a minor, by his parents and  
next friends, SUSAN DOE and JACK  
DOE,

Plaintiffs,

v.

Case No. 6:18-cv-102-Orl-37GJK

VOLUSIA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD,

Defendant.

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**ORDER**

This matter comes before the Court on Plaintiffs' Motion to Proceed Under Pseudonyms (Doc. 2).

Plaintiff is a transgender minor who is represented in this Title IX sex discrimination action against the Volusia County School Board ("**VCSB**") by his parents. (See Doc. 1.) The Complaint, identifies Plaintiff and his parents as John Doe, Susan Doe, and Jack Doe ("**Pseudonyms**"). (See *id.*) With their Complaint, Plaintiffs filed a Motion to Proceed Under Pseudonyms ("**Motion**") for the following reasons: (1) John Doe is a minor with two minor siblings; (2) the facts of the case are "highly sensitive and private;" (3) public disclosure of such facts pose a "risk of stigma and retaliation;" (4) use of the Pseudonyms "will protect Plaintiff and his family's privacy as well as his mental and physical wellbeing;" (5) VCSB's ability to defend itself will be unaffected by use of the Pseudonyms; and (6) "no public interest is served by knowing the true identity of John Doe and his parents. (Doc. 2, p. 1.)

Upon consideration, the Court is persuaded that use of the Pseudonyms is appropriate at this time. Nonetheless, because VCSB has not yet appeared in this action and has not had an opportunity to respond to the Motion, the Court finds that the Motion is due to be granted without prejudice to VCSB's right to file oppose use of the Pseudonyms.

**CONCLUSION**

Accordingly, it is hereby **ORDERED AND ADJUDGED**:

1. Plaintiffs' Motion to Proceed Under Pseudonyms (Doc. 2) is **GRANTED** in accordance with the provisions of this Order.
2. Within twenty days of Defendant Volusia County School Board's initial appearance in this action, it may file a motion challenging the use of Pseudonyms. Absent such a timely motion, this Order will continue in effect until the final disposition of this action—including any appellate proceedings.

**DONE AND ORDERED** in Chambers in Orlando, Florida, on January 29th, 2018.



  
ROY B. DALTON JR.  
United States District Judge

Copies to:

Counsel of Record