No. 141, Original

STATE OF TEXAS,

Plaintiff,

v.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO and STATE OF COLORADO,

Defendants. \_\_\_\_\_◆\_\_\_\_

# OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL MASTER

**\_\_\_\_** 

# JOINT MOTION TO ENTER AMENDMENT TO NOVEMBER 14, 2018 STIPULATION

**\_\_\_\_** 

The State of New Mexico, State of Texas, State of Colorado, and the United States (together, "Parties") respectfully request that the Special Master sign and enter the attached Amendment to the November 14, 2018 Stipulation Regarding Procedure for Production of Documents and Electronically Stored Information ("Amendment").

The Amendment reflects agreement among the Parties to exchange documents and evidence through Box.com, the sharefile authorized for use by the United States, and eliminate the use of the intermediary sharefile, Veritext Vault. This change will

result in greater efficiency and less cost. No party will be prejudiced by this change, and the *amici* will have the same complete access as they had to the Veritext Vault.

WHEREFORE, the Parties respectfully request the Special Master enter the attached Amendment to the November 14, 2018 Stipulation.

Respectfully submitted,

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Case: 24-141 Document: 40 Page: 3 Date Filed: 04/10/2025

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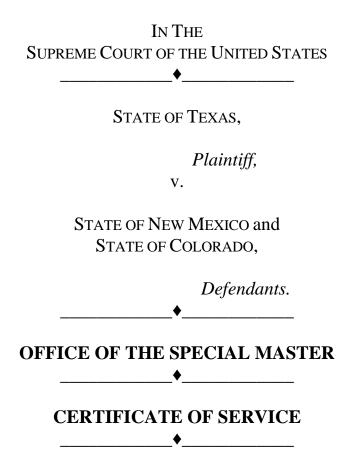
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No. 141, Original



This is to certify that on April 10, 2025, I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing document to be filed and served upon all parties and *amici curiae*, by and through the attorneys of record and/or designated representatives for each party and *amicus curiae* in this original action and the Special Master through the Third Circuit Case Management and Electronic Case Filing (CM/ECF) System.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jeffrey J. Wechsler

No. 141, Original

STATE OF TEXAS,

Plaintiff,

v.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO and STATE OF COLORADO,

Defendants. \_\_\_\_\_•

# OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL MASTER

AMENDMENT TO NOVEMBER 14, 2018 STIPULATION REGARDING PROCEDURE FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS AND ELECTRONICALLY STORED INFORMATION

\_\_\_\_\_**\_**\_\_\_\_

This amendment to the Stipulation Regarding Procedure for Production of Documents and Electronically Stored Information (ESI), filed by the States of Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, and the United States of America (collectively, "the Parties") on November 14, 2018 (Doc. No.<sup>1</sup> 142, "Stipulation," attached as Exhibit A), is entered into by the Parties.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> All docket numbers referenced hereto are to the official court Docket of Special Master Michael J. Melloy of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit.

The Stipulation was approved by the Special Master in its Amendment to Case Management Plan on November 21, 2018. Doc. No. 145, at ¶ 2. The Stipulation and its appendices are intended to remain the same with one exception: the amendment substitutes the use of the Veritext Vault<sup>2</sup> as a document exchange repository with Box.com.

Box.com is the currently authorized file transfer protocol repository for use by the United States of America ("U.S."). Doc. No. 128, at ¶ 5. To date, the process has been for the U.S. to upload its productions to Box.com, then those productions were downloaded into the Veritext Vault for access by all other Parties and Amici. *Id.*; *see* Stipulation at 16:3-7, ¶ 18(c).

The Parties agree that efforts and costs will be decreased if there is only one document repository, accessible to all Parties and to the Amici. Further, unlike the Veritext Vault, the United States is authorized to upload documents to Box.com and has determined that (a) all Parties and Amici may be granted access to Box.com, and (b) there will be no costs to the Parties or Amici for the use of Box.com. The Parties have therefore agreed to discontinue the use of the Veritext Vault and exchange documents solely through Box.com.

Accordingly, the Stipulation is amended as follows at 16:3-7, ¶ 18(c):

Service of ESI Productions. Unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, the Images must be produced and served via upload to Box.com, and must

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Exhibit A, 4:17, 4:27-28, 5:5, 5:19-24, 16:5, 17:16.

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be followed by a Notice of Production, served upon all Parties in accordance with the CMP. Uploads to Box.com are deleted from Box.com after 365 days. The Parties shall be separately responsible for downloading the Images prior to their deletion from Box.com.

In addition, the following language referencing the Veritext Vault is stricken from the Stipulation:

- the final Whereas recital at 4:17 (the language stating: "and uploaded to the VeritextVault (as defined in paragraph (1)(a) herein)");
- 4:27-28; ¶1.a) (the entirety of this paragraph);
- 5:4-5, ¶ 1.c. (the language stating, "and designated to have access to the VeritextVault pursuant to section 7.2.1.1 of the CMP:");
- 5:19-24, ¶1.f. (the entirety of this paragraph); and
- 17:16, ¶18.f).2) (the language stating "to the VeritextVault or other FTP").

In all other respects the Stipulation and its appendices remain the same.

This amendment may be signed in counterparts and is fully executed on the date of the last signature. The below signatories affirm that they have the right to bind their respective Parties to this amendment.

Honorable D. Brooks Smith Special Master United States Circuit Judge 1798 Plank Road, Suite 203 Duncansville, PA 16635 Tel: (814) 693-0570 Case: 24-141 Document: 40 Page: 8 Date Filed: 04/10/2025

#### SUBMITTED AND APPROVED:

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Case: 24-141 Document: 40 Page: 9 Date Filed: 04/10/2025

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Case: 24-141

Document: 40 EX1498110A Date Filed: 04/10/2025

HON. MICHAEL J. MELLOY

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This Stipulation is entered into by the State of Texas (Texas), the United States of America (United States), the State of New Mexico (New Mexico), and the State of Colorado (Colorado) (individually a "Party" and collectively, "the Parties"):

WHEREAS, the Special Master, Honorable Judge Michael J. Melloy (Special Master) has requested that the Parties meet and confer to formalize a procedure for productions of documents and other discoverable information served and responded to in this matter, related to all stages of discovery, including expert disclosures, reports, and rebuttals thereto, as well as data and electronically stored information ("ESI", as defined in paragraph (1)(e) herein) exchanged among the Parties in support, and wish to better define the scope of their obligations with the respect to collecting, preserving, and producing such information and materials;

WHEREAS, the Parties to the aforementioned original action mutually seek to reduce the time, expense, and other burdens of discovery related to the disclosure of certain electronically stored information, voluminous productions of documents, and expert reports, rebuttals, and data collected and disclosed related to expert discovery; and

WHEREAS, the Parties mutually seek to reduce the time, expense, and other burdens of importing productions of Documents (as defined in Paragraph (1)(e) herein) exchanged among the Parties and uploaded to the VeritextVault (as defined in paragraph (1)(a) herein), into each respective Party's eDiscovery Platform database (hereinafter "Database").

Therefore, the Parties stipulate to the following terms for the production of Documents for initial disclosure and in response to written and expert discovery, and hereby request that the Special Master enter as a Case Management Order, the following agreement:

#### I. **DEFINITIONS**

- 1. The terms used in this stipulation and order that are also used in the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and have the same meaning that they have under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, unless otherwise provided in this stipulation and order. Whenever the terms set forth below are used in this stipulation and order, the following definitions apply:
- a) "VeritextVault" as used herein, shall refer to the repository service provided by Veritext, accessible to those Accessing Entities listed in item (d), below.

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- b) "Parties" as used herein, shall collectively refer to the State of Texas, the State of New Mexico, the State of Colorado, and the United States of America. "Amici" shall refer to the following amici curiae, as defined in section 3 of c)
- the September 6, 2018 Case Management Plan (CMP), and designated to have access to the VeritextVault pursuant to section 7.2.1.1 of the CMP: Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority, the City of El Paso, the City of Las Cruces, Elephant Butte Irrigation District, El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1, Hudspeth County Reclamation and Improvement District No. 1, the New Mexico Pecan Growers, New Mexico State University, and the State of Kansas<sup>1</sup>.
- d) "Accessing Entities" as used herein, shall refer to both the Parties to this litigation as defined in item (b) above, as well as the Amici listed in item (c) above, and acknowledged in the CMP, including their designated employees and agents.
- e) "Documents" as used herein, shall refer to all discoverable documents and ESI, which is defined in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 34(a)(1)(A), and shall include metadata, Database load files (identifiable by the following file extensions: \*.dat, \*.csv, \*.lfp, \*.opt, or \*txt) or other usable formats as agreed among the Parties, or as agreed in any subsequent stipulation concerning productions of ESI (collectively "Load Files"), native files, or other materials and/or media constituting responsive and discoverable information.
- "TXNM VeritextVault Manager" as used herein, shall refer to the individual or team of individuals assigned to the management of the VeritextVault repository for the Texas v. New Mexico matter, hosted by Veritext, whose contact information is as follows: E-mail: TXNM@veritext.com; Tel. 1-800-336-4000; or by transmitting Documents or media to any Veritext location, and which has been duly provided to all Accessing Entities via the case setup document circulated to the Parties on September 4, 2018.

<sup>1</sup> Colorado reserves the right to object to the scope of participation by certain Amici. To the extent that Colorado decides to seek a modification of the scope of participation by any Amici as set forth in the CMP, Colorado will present the issue to the Special Master by way of motion or otherwise and the remaining parties reserve all rights to respond accordingly.

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g)	"Draft," when used to describe either an electronic or hard copy document,
means "a preliminary	version of a document that has been shared by the author with another
person (by e-mail, pr	int, or otherwise) or that the author no longer intends to finalize or to share
with another person.	,

- h) "Duplicate," when used to describe either an electronic or hard copy document, means that the document does not show any facial differences, such as the inclusion of highlights, underlining, marginalia, total pages, attachments, markings, revisions, or the inclusion of tracked changes. Differences in system metadata fields, such as date created or modified, that do not affect the face of the document, are not relevant to determining whether the document is a duplicate.
  - "Gigabyte" means one billion bytes or 1,024 megabytes. i)
- i) "Policy" means a regular practice at an entity that managers know about and expect to be carried out.
- "Source" means the entity retaining, storage location, or, if known, the k) custodian of, any particular type(s) of Documents, ESI, and/or data.

#### II. **PRESERVATION**

- 2. ESI That Is Not Reasonably Accessible. The following categories of ESI listed below are not reasonably accessible in this litigation and need not be produced or included in a privilege log:
- a) Data stored in a backup system for the purpose of system recovery or information restoration, including, but not limited to, disaster recovery backup tapes, continuity of operations systems, and data or system mirrors or shadows, if such data are routinely deleted or written over in accordance with an established routine system maintenance practice;
  - Voicemail messages; b)
- Instant messages, such as messages sent on AOL Instant Messenger, Slack, c) Skype for Business, Google Talk, or Microsoft Communicator;
  - d) Text messages, such as cell phone to cell phone SMS or MMS messages;

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	e)	Electronic mail sent to or from a personal digital assistant (PDA),
smartphone (e.	g., App	le iPhone, Android), or tablet (e.g., iPad or Android tablet) provided that a
copy of such e-	-mail is	routinely saved elsewhere;

- f) Other electronic data stored on a PDA, smartphone, or tablet, such as calendar or contact data or notes, provided that a copy of such information is routinely saved elsewhere;
  - g) Logs of calls made from cellular phones;
- h) Deleted computer files, whether fragmented or whole (nothing in this order authorizes the intentional deletion of ESI after the duty arose to preserve such ESI);
- i) Data stored in random access memory (RAM), cache memory, or in temporary or cache files, including internet history, web browser cache and cookie files, wherever located;
- j) Data that is not accessible through the operating system installed on the same device;
  - k) Server, system, or network logs;
- 1) Electronic data temporarily stored by scientific equipment or attached devices, provided that the data that is ordinarily preserved as part of a scientific, technical, or expert report is, in fact, preserved in its ordinary location and form;
- m) Metadata associated with any electronic storage device, electronic storage program, or any data contained therein. As used herein, the terms "electronic storage device" and "electronic storage program" do not include programs such as Outlook and Exchange. Electronic data contained on Outlook and Exchange must be preserved in the same manner as all other ESI not exempted by paragraph 2 herein;
  - n) Mirror or shadow copies of files or disk drives; and
- o) Electronic data temporarily stored by scanners, copiers, and/or fax machines; and
- p) Personal Information that, as defined and pursuant to applicable state or federal law, restricts storage, retention, or sharing by a Party.

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- 3. Nothing in this Stipulation and Order prevents any Party from asserting, in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, that other categories of ESI are not reasonably accessible.
- 4. The Parties need not preserve, for this litigation, the categories of ESI listed in paragraph 2 unless, on the date that this stipulation and order is entered by the Special Master, either Party has a Policy that results in the routine preservation of such ESI, in which case such Party shall continue to preserve such ESI in accordance with its Policy.
- 5. No Discovery of Material Not Required To Be Preserved. The Parties shall not seek discovery of items that need not be preserved pursuant to paragraphs 2-4 above. If any discovery request is susceptible of a construction that calls for the production of items that need not be preserved pursuant to paragraphs 2-4, such items need not be searched for, produced, or identified on a privilege log pursuant to the CMP and relevant and incorporated sections of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
- 6. The Parties may continue to work, in the ordinary course of business, on Documents that do not meet the definition of Draft in paragraph (1)(g) herein, and preserve any Draft Documents in the normal course of business.
- 7. <u>Use of Documents During Litigation</u>. Notwithstanding any other provision of this stipulation and order, the Parties may take any of the following actions with respect to Documents and ESI without breaching their duty to preserve Documents and ESI.
- a) The Parties may move loose Documents or those which are contained in a folder or subfolder or ESI into files or folders that adhere to an organizational scheme that was created before this case was initiated. Nothing in this paragraph prevents the Parties from implementing an organizational scheme that applies only to documents or ESI created after this case was initiated.

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<b>ACH SIMMONS &amp; DUNN</b>	Professional Corporation
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	b)	The Parties may delete, overwrite, or wipe ESI from devices that are being
replaced, upg	graded, r	reimaged, disposed of, or returned at the end of lease, provided that the
potentially re	levant E	ESI is first copied to a new location in a manner that preserves the data,
including me	tadata, t	hat must be produced in accordance with section V, infra, of this stipulation
and order		

- c) The Parties may move data from one device to another, or from one location to another, provided that a copy of the ESI remains accessible in the first location or the new copy is created in a manner that preserves the data, including metadata, which must be produced in accordance with section V, *infra*, of this stipulation and order.
- The Parties may load loose ESI into an enterprise content management d) system, provided that: (1) the enterprise content management system captures all of the metadata fields that must be produced under this order and does not convert the format of the ESI in a way that makes it significantly less accessible; or (2) the Parties maintain a copy of the ESI in its native format and make their production from this native file collection.
- The Parties may upgrade, patch, reprogram, or customize software that e) stores relevant data, even if such actions alter the way data is maintained, stored, or viewed.
- f) The Parties may take any of the following actions with respect to data in a database provided that it is part of the routine use of the database: input additional data; access data; update the software running the database; append new data; and modify existing data.
- The Parties may edit or take down any data on a publicly accessible g) internet site.
- The Parties may compress, decompress, encrypt, or decrypt data subject to h) preservation in this matter provided that any data losses during such processes do not result in loss of the metadata required to be produced under this stipulation and order or significantly degrade the quality of the data.
- i) The Parties may update social media sites, but may not take affirmative steps to delete relevant data posted before this case was initiated.

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- 8. <u>Preservation Does Not Affect Discoverability or Claims of Privilege</u>. By preserving Documents or ESI for the purpose of this litigation, the Parties are not conceding that such material is discoverable, nor are they waiving any claim of privilege.
- 9. Other Preservation Obligations Not Affected. Nothing in this agreement affects any obligations of the Parties to preserve documents or information for purposes other than this litigation, such as pursuant to court order, administrative order, statute, or in response to other anticipated litigation.

#### III. COLLECTION AND PROCESSING

## 10. Filtering.

- a) The Parties may de-NIST electronic files, removing known, traceable software applications in the National Software Reference Library ("NIST List"), available at: https://www.nsrl.nist.gov/software-quality-group/national-software-reference-library-NSRL.
- b) If a Producing Party proposes to apply other filters to limit ESI that is collected for processing and review (e.g., that identify system files, non-user generated files, or zero-byte files), the Producing Party shall provide information to the other Parties regarding the filters, how they work, and what impact they will have on the collections or productions. The Parties shall meet and confer regarding such additional filters. The Parties may agree upon additional filters in writing without further action from the Court. If the Parties cannot agree, the Party seeking to apply the filter may file a motion for a protective order.

# 11. <u>Deduplication</u>.

- a) Deduplication of e-mail. The parties shall make reasonable efforts to de-duplicate e-mail ESI. To the extent possible, e-mail ESI shall be de-duplicated across all Sources and/or e-mail custodians, and non-custodial Sources. E-mails may be considered exact duplicates if either of the following conditions are met:
  - 1) The e-mail shares the exact MD5 or SHA-1 hash value as another e-mail;
  - 2) The e-mail shares the exact MessageID or UNID metadata field value as another e-mail or e-mails; or

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- 3) The e-mail shares the exact numeric and text values in the following fields, if available: date sent, time sent, to, from, cc, bcc, subject, body (i.e., Extracted Text and/or OCR Text), and attachment names.
- b) The Parties hereby stipulate and agree that in this matter there is a rebuttable presumption of evidence that an e-mail correctly addressed to a recipient was actually delivered to that recipient's e-mail inbox. This stipulation does not apply to drafts.
- c) *E-mail Threading*. Where multiple e-mail messages are part of a single chain or "thread," a Party is only required to produce the most inclusive message and need not produce earlier, less inclusive e-mail messages within that e-mail family that are fully contained, including E-mail Attachments and including identical senders and recipients, within the most inclusive e-mail message. For the purposes of this Stipulation, the term "E-mail Attachment" shall refer to any substantive Document(s) and/or ESI which has been attached to and transmitted with an e-mail communication. If a later message contains different text, senders, or recipients, or does not include an E-mail Attachment that was part of the earlier message, this message must be also be produced.
- d) Deduplication of ESI other than e-mail. To the extent possible, the Parties agree to take all reasonable and practicable steps to avoid duplication, and produce only one copy for each entity Source or individual custodian in possession of, or maintaining custody or control over the Document or file. The Parties may identify duplicate Documents based upon a comparison the MD5 or SHA-1 hash values, or by comparing Document metadata, OCR or Extracted Text, or by any other reasonable method of review that will identify exact duplicates of ESI and electronic files other than e-mails. It should be noted that where Documents do not contain metadata as a result of their age, method of collection, or other factors outside of the producing Party's control, the Parties are not able to reliably de-duplicate these Documents using automated processes or metadata field values. In such instances, the Parties agree to make reasonable efforts to manually review proposed production Documents and to reduce duplication as is reasonably practicable.

# 12. <u>Search Technology</u>

- a) On November 20, 2018, the Parties shall confer to agree upon search terms and protocols for each Party's broadly-based search across all potentially relevant custodians, locations, and Sources, with the intent that each Party collect, review, and produce all discoverable Documents and ESI relevant to the claims, defenses, and disputed facts alleged with particularity in the pleadings. No later than November 13, 2018, seven (7) days prior to the date the Parties agree to confer, each Party shall distribute a table describing: (i) the collections of ESI including Source(s) and/or individual custodian(s) for which it proposes to use search terms; (ii) the search terms that it proposes to use for each collection; and the computer software or technologies it proposes to use to carry out the search(es) in each collection.
- (RFP) pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 34 and CMP section 7.2, believes that any particular RFP requires an additional electronic search of custodians, locations, or sources because responsive materials are reasonably unlikely to be included within the collection of responsive Documents and/or ESI collected or produced pursuant to paragraph 11(a) in order to meet obligations of diligence, that Party shall confer with the requesting Party or Parties and provide, in writing, its proposed search terms, custodians, locations and sources within fourteen (14) business days of receipt of the RFP. If the requesting Party wishes to obtain more information about the proposed search(es) or objects to some or all of the proposed search protocol, the Parties must confer within seven (7) days of receipt of the information provided. Any unresolved dispute must be brought to the Special Master's attention with seven (7) days of the Parties' conferral.
- c) Nothing in this provision requires a Party to accept the results of an electronic search alone conducted under paragraph 11(b) as a sufficient response to a discovery response, although the Parties may agree to do so in any particular situation.

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13. <u>Privileged Materials Located in the Offices of Counsel</u> . The Parties agree that, in
response to general discovery requests, the Parties need not collect any privileged or work-
product material that is located in the offices of the United States Department of Justice, the
Office of the Solicitor for the United States Department of the Interior, or the Department of
Commerce Office of General Counsel, Office of General Counsel for the Department of
Agriculture, Office of General Counsel for the Department of Defense, Office of General Counse
for the State Department, and the General Counsel or Attorney General offices of any State
agency (collectively, "Offices of Counsel"). The Parties understand that such materials will not
be produced or placed on a privilege log. This paragraph does not apply to any documents, ESI,
or tangible things located outside of the Offices of Counsel, even if they are duplicates of
materials located inside the Offices of Counsel. The Parties need not search collections of
documents and ESI gathered solely for litigation in another matter.

#### IV. REVIEW

# A. Technology Assisted Review

Review (TAR), such as predictive coding, in determining or limiting which documents should be produced. If any Party wishes to use TAR, it shall notify the other Parties and provide to them a proposed TAR protocol. The Parties shall then meet and confer in an attempt to negotiate an agreed-upon protocol. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, the Parties shall not use TAR except in conformance with an agreed-upon protocol. This section does not preclude any party from using TAR, predictive coding, or other analytics methods, for the internal review, analysis, or evaluation of those Documents and data produced by *other* Parties. This provision specifically relates to TAR review for the purposes of filtering, culling, and limiting Documents produced in response to written discovery. A protocol is therefore required to ensure each party's TAR method is based upon the same set of parameters.

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## B. 502(d) Order

15. The Parties to this original action have agreed to provisions regarding Requests for Production of Documents/Inspections to Parties in CMP section 7.2. This stipulation hereby incorporates CMP section 7.2.3 regarding the operative effect of Rule 502(d) of the Federal Rules of Evidence (Rule 502(d)) and those provisions shall be controlling. In the event the Parties agree to a stipulation regarding Rule 502(d) orders, the terms of any such future stipulation shall be controlling, as agreed.

#### C. Privilege Log

- 16. <u>E-mail Threads or Chains</u>. An e-mail may be treated as a single document regardless of the number of e-mails contained within the e-mail thread or chain. To the extent required, the privilege log entry for an e-mail withheld under a claim of privilege, may identify the author, recipient(s), subject, dates, and times based on the metadata from the top-level message, and is not required to include metadata from any e-mail in the underlying e-mail thread or chain. If an e-mail contains both privileged and non-privileged communications, the non-privileged communications must be produced. This requirement may be satisfied by producing the original of the embedded, non-privileged e-mail, but if the original is not available, it may be satisfied by producing a redacted version of the privileged e-mail. The Parties agree that, in addition to the limitations set forth in paragraphs 2 and 12, the following documents need not be included on a privilege log:
- a) Communications between the Parties and their counsel (including internal communications within a law firm or within a legal department of the Party) on and after the filing of this lawsuit and before the lawsuit in anticipation of this litigation regarding the litigation or litigation strategy.
- b) Work product created by or for counsel in this matter after commencement of this lawsuit and before the lawsuit in anticipation of this litigation.
- 17. <u>E-mail Attachments</u>. Any E-mail Attachment to an e-mail which, upon review, is determined to be privileged, must be independently reviewed for relevance, responsiveness, and to determine if the E-Mail Attachment is also privileged. In the event the "parent" e-mail is

privileged and the "child" attachment is not, the attachment must be produced. If the E-mail Attachment(s) to a privileged e-mail is, in fact, privileged, it shall be listed separately on the privilege log, with a notation or reference to indicate it's family relationship to the privileged e-mail, which must also be listed on the privilege log, immediately preceding the attachment.

In preparing and producing privilege logs, the Parties shall comply with the CMP sections 7.2.3(a)-(g) and CMP section 10.

#### V. PRODUCTION

- 18. <u>Procedures for Production</u>. Unless stated otherwise in a written agreement signed by each of the Parties to this litigation, the following specifications and procedures apply to the form and content of Documents and/or ESI produced in this matter. Compliance with these procedures constitutes compliance with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the CMP on file in this matter, as revised.
- a) Format of Productions. Except as stated otherwise below, ESI produced by a Party shall be converted, if reasonably practicable, to not less than 300 dpi, multi-page, black-and-white TIFF images or black-and-white /full color PDF images (Images), depending on the technological limitations of the producing Party. Where graphics, photos, or other high-resolution digital images are required by this order, these files may be produced as Images, but may, if available, also be produced in native format, such as JPG, PNG, or other higher-resolution format, in order to preserve quality. If a receiving Party requests native format of any such Images, the producing Party shall produce the same if available. Each produced Document shall be unitized on a document-level, unless doing so would alter the manner in which the Document(s) and/or ESI was stored in the ordinary course of business. Large collections of scanned or word process-generated Documents and/or ESI should not be combined into a single Image file prior to production; if Documents and/or ESI materials are maintained as individual Document, they must be produced individually and each Document/file must be listed as a separate record in the Database Load Files.
- b) *Bates Numbering*. Each Image page must be branded with a unique Bates number containing a prefix (which identifies the producing Party as set forth in the CMP), e.g.,

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TX, NM, US, CO, which to the extent possible, should be permanently burned onto the Images, not added to the Image as an overlay, which can easily be removed.

- c) Service of ESI Productions. Unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, the Images must be produced in accordance with the September 28, 2018 Interim Stipulation on file with the Special Master, must be served via upload to the VeritextVault or Box.com, as outlined in the September 28, 2018 Interim Stipulation, and must be followed by a Notice of Production, served upon all Parties in accordance with the CMP.
- d) Database Load Files. Each Party's Production Images must be accompanied Database Load Files, which must include both a "Data load file," an "Image load file," and Extracted and/or OCR "Text Files" corresponding to each produced Document. The Data load file may be produced as a delimited text file (\*.dat) or comma delimited Excel file (\*.csv) (collectively, "Data load file"), which shall contain Document data/metadata for each of the applicable fields described in Appendix A. The Data load file shall contain a "TextPath" field populated with a relative path to the individual, document level, text files which contain either Extracted Text or OCR Text (if appropriate) and shall be named as the Beginning Production number (Text Files). The Image load file, which associates and maps each Database record's Beginning Bates number to its corresponding Image file using a relative path to the Image file location, may be produced in any of the following formats: (1) an Opticon<sup>TM</sup> (\*.opt) file; (2) an IPRO "cross reference file" (\*.lfp); or (3) by including in the Data load file, an "ImagePath" field using a relative path to the Image file location (collectively "Image load file"). For all Documents produced in accordance with the September 28, 2018 Interim Stipulation, the Parties shall provide corresponding Data load files, Text load files, and Image load files (collectively "Load Files") within five (5) business days of uploading the produced Images. Should any Party encounter technical difficulties which prevent the production of the required Load Files within five (5) business days that Party will confer with the other Parties and provide a description of the issue preventing timely production, and an estimate of additional time necessary for the Party to comply.

e) ESI Metadata and Master Index. Nothing in this stipulation requires a
Party to manually code or populate a metadata field in Appendix A (other than "Source") if such
fields cannot be extracted from a document. However, the parties have conferred, and have
agreed to share with one another, an index of their Document productions pursuant to CMP
section 7.2.2 (Master Index), which may include manually coded field values based upon an
independent review of the Documents. As many of the Documents in this matter were accessible
only in hard copy or paper format, and manually scanned, metadata is not reasonably available,
and much of the metadata associated with these Documents would not be meaningful for the
purposes of review.

### f) Paper Documents

- 1) Documents printed on paper that is larger than 11 x 17 inches may, at the producing Party's discretion, be produced in hard-copy on paper format. Documents produced on paper must be produced as they are kept in the ordinary course of business or must be organized and labeled to correspond to the categories in the request.
- 2) Documents printed on paper that is 11 x 17 inches or smaller must be scanned and produced to the VeritextVault or other FTP as provided in the September 28, 2018 Interim Stipulation and in accordance with section V, paragraph 32(a), herein.
  - g) Word and/or WordPerfect Documents
- 1) Word or WordPerfect generated files may be produced as Images and the Parties must produce full extracted text from the Document, unless the Document has been redacted during privilege review, in which case the Parties may produce OCR Text which excludes the redacted portion.
- 2) Any party desiring to obtain native versions of Microsoft Word and/or WordPerfect files shall confer to resolve any disputes in this regard.
- h) PDF files will be produced as Image files with Data load files which include those metadata fields, as available, listed in Appendix A.
- i) *Microsoft PowerPoint or other Presentations*. Microsoft PowerPoint or other Presentation files (\*.ppt, \*.pptx, etc.) shall be produced as native files and may also be

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processed and produced as full color Images with one slide per page, and shall include full extracted text. If any presenter notes are associated with the PowerPoint or Presentation file, the slides may be produced as full color, half page Images, with presenter notes appearing below each slide. If any part of the PowerPoint or Presentation file is redacted, the file shall be produced as an Image and the Text load files produced may contain OCR text, in lieu of extracted text.

#### j) *E-mails*

- 1) E-mails shall be produced as Images and the producing Party must also produce full extracted text files, unless the e-mail produced contains redactions. If a Party redacts any part of an e-mail before producing it, OCR text may be provided in place of the original extracted text in addition to the redacted image of the e-mail.
- 2) E-mail Attachments, as defined above, must be processed and included in the Data load file as separate Documents. However, the parent-child relationship (the association between e-mails and E-mail Attachments) should be preserved, and the appropriate Beginning Attachment and Ending Attachment fields listed in Appendix A must be populated. Further, E-mail Attachments should be consecutively produced with the parent e-mail record. The Beginning and Ending Attachment Bates numbers must also be included in the Data load files, as noted in Appendix A, as well as the Master Index produced in accordance with CMP section 7.2.2, as provided in Appendix B attached hereto.
- k) Microsoft Excel files (\*.xls, \*.xlsx, etc.) and other spreadsheets must be produced in native format and must include an Image placeholder, which provides the name of the native file and is branded with a uniquely assigned Bates number. Spreadsheets may be produced as Images if the Document is redacted or if the native is unavailable. The Data load file must contain a field that identifies the file path of the native file (FileName or similar field value) which corresponds to each natively produced Document. Any documents produced in their native format shall be named according to the assigned Document-level Bates number, which corresponds to the Bates number branded on the placeholder Image.
- l) Embedded non-substantive attachments to e-mails or other files such as logo images, social media links, or e-mail signatures, may be removed from a Party's production,

embedded attachments are nonresponsive or without substantive value.

if available and if not already produced.

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m) Digital photographs may be produced as document level Images and Bates numbered as specified above. The receiving Party may, after reviewing the produced digital photographs, request that the photographs be produced as native files in their original resolution,

and removed from the Document or e-mail "family", if the producing Party determines such

- n) When any Party produces any kind of electronic data other than described above, including data from databases, CAD drawings, GIS data, videos, etc., the Parties will meet and confer to determine a reasonably useable form for the production.
- o) Except as stated above, a Party need not produce the same ESI in more than one format.

#### VI. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

- 19. <u>Discovery Disputes</u>. Before filing any motion with the Special Master regarding electronic discovery or evidence, the Parties shall meet and confer in a good faith attempt to resolve such disputes, in accordance with CMP section 12.
- 20. <u>Costs of Document Production</u>. Unless this Special Master orders otherwise for good cause shown, each Party shall bear the costs of collecting, processing, reviewing, and producing its own Documents.
- 21. <u>Effect of Order</u>. The Parties' agreement to this stipulation and order is without prejudice to the right of any Party to seek an order from the Special Master to rescind or amend this stipulation and order for good cause shown. Nothing in this stipulation and order abridges the rights of any person to seek judicial review or to pursue other appropriate judicial action with respect to any discovery ruling made by the Special Master in this matter.
- 22. <u>Integration/Appendices</u>. The following documents are incorporated herein by reference:
- a) "Appendix A" is a list of the metadata fields to be included in the Data load files produced by each Party. To the extent additional metadata is available, the Parties have agreed to produce all additional non-privileged metadata.

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1	b) "Appendix B" is a list of the fields to be included in the aforementioned			
2	Master Index maintained by the parties, and updated no later than fifteen (15) days following a			
3	Party's production of Documents and/or ESI.			
4	This agreement may be signed in counterparts and is fully executed on the date of the last			
5	signature. The below signatories affirm that they have the right to bind their respective Parties to			
6	this agreement:			
7		THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA		
8				
9	Dated: November 8, 2018	/s/ Lee Leininger James J. DuBois		
10		Stephen Macfarlane Lee Leininger		
11		U.S. Department of Justice Attorneys for the United States of America		
12				
13		STATE OF TEXAS		
14	Dated: November 8, 2018	/s/ Stuart L. Somach		
15	Based: 14070moor 6, 2016	Stuart L. Somach		
16		Somach Simmons & Dunn, P.C. Attorneys for the State of Texas		
17		STATE OF NEW MEXICO		
18		STATE OF NEW MEXICO		
19	Dated: November 12, 2018	/s/ David A. Roman		
20	140vemoer 12, 2010	Marcus J. Rael, Jr.		
21		David A. Roman Robles, Rael and Anaya		
22		Attorneys for the State of New Mexico		
23		STATE OF COLORADO		
24	D. 1 11-8-18	0.0M 1.1.00		
25	Dated: 11-8-18	Chad M. Wallace, Sr. Assistant Attorney General		
26		Colorado Department of Law Counsel of Record for the State of Colorado		
27		Counsel of Record for the State of Colorado		
28				

# Appendix A

The following represent the Metadata field values for inclusion in Data load files exchanged among the Parties. These field names are general abbreviations and may differ from eDiscovery Review Platform to the next. As long as the available information and field values are sufficiently provided by each Party, the names of the fields are not required to match the following list:

BegProd, EndProd, Source, PageCount, BegAttach, EndAttach, AttachCount, AttachRange, Author/E-mail From, Recipient/E-mail To, E-mailSubject, E-mailCC, E-mailBCC, FileName, FileExt, DateSent, TimeSent, ProdDate, NativePath, OriginalFolderPath, ImageFilePath, DateCreated, DateLastModified, MD5Hash, TextPath (if producing Text load files, which is the preferred method of production), or ExtractedText/OCR (if producing Extracted/OCR text in the a Data load file).

# Appendix B

The following represent the Metadata and/or Data Fields which the Parties agree to populate and include in the Master Index prepared in accordance with CMP section 7.2.2. The field names included in each Party's Master Index may differ from following list but the values for each field must be sufficiently provided:

Beginning Production Bates Number, Ending Production Bates Number, Source, Page Count, Beginning Attachment Bates Number, Ending Attachment Bates Number, Author/E-mail From, Recipient/E-mail To, E-mail Subject, E-mail CC, E-mail BCC, Document Description, Document Date, Production Date.

# **SERVICE LIST**

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Texas v New Mexico and Colorado

United States Supreme Court Original Jurisdiction No. 141 **3** | P a g e

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