

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Adam Steele, Brittany Montrois, and)	
Joseph Henchman, on behalf of)	
themselves and all others similarly)	
situated,)	
<i>Plaintiffs,</i>)	Civil Action No.: 1:14-cv-01523-RCL
)	
v.)	
)	
United States of America,)	
<i>Defendant.</i>)	
)	

JOINT MOTION TO EXTEND TIME TO COMPLY WITH ORDER

On January 23, 2023, this Court ordered, *inter alia*, that (1) the motions for leave to file under seal have been granted; and (2) the parties must meet and confer to identify what, if any, parts of the Memorandum Opinion should remain sealed by January 30, 2023. ECF No. 222. The parties seek additional time to comply with the order so that it may include non-party Accenture in the discussions regarding the proposed scope of the opinion that should remain sealed, if any. In support of its motion, the parties state the following:

A Protective Order was entered in this case to balance the need for an open and public proceeding with the protection from disclosure of proprietary information of third-parties subject to subpoena. ECF No. 114. In compliance with the Protective Order, the United States filed information or documents that were identified as confidential or highly confidential under seal and filed a corresponding motion for leave to file under seal. ECF No. 174. Importantly, the United States has only designated documents as

confidential or highly confidential with respect to third party designations as the IRS and third parties often produce duplicates or substantially similar documents. ECF No. 196 p. 3.

Accenture is the only third party whose potential proprietary information has been relied upon and cited to in the sealed memorandum opinion. Accenture has previously intervened to protect this information. *See* ECF No. 180 (Accenture's Response requesting that the Court seal its information). Accenture has asked counsel for the United States to share any portion of the memorandum opinion that implicates Accenture's proprietary information. Out of an abundance of caution, counsel for the United States declined to share any portion of the sealed opinion based on its understanding of the Court's instructions that only counsel for the parties may review the sealed opinion. At the same time, the United States does not think it is appropriate for it to make any determination or proposal regarding what information should remain sealed because those are Accenture's equities at interest – not the United States'.

Thus, the parties seek an order (1) to allow counsel for Accenture and any necessary Accenture employees to assist their Counsel to review the sealed memorandum opinion so they may meaningfully participate in any decision to unseal the opinion or any parts thereof; and (2) to extend the time to meet and confer and jointly identify which, if any, parts should remain sealed within 7 days of entry of the order.

The parties are available for telephonic conference should the court have any questions or concerns.

Dated: January 30, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

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Additional Counsel for Plaintiffs

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on January 30, 2023, I electronically filed the Joint Motion through this Court's CM/ECF system. I understand that notice of this filing will be sent to all parties by operation of the Court's electronic filing system.

Dated: January 30, 2023

/s/ Stephanie A. Sasarak
STEPHANIE A. SASARAK