

**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,**

Plaintiffs,

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Defendant.

Case No. 1:14-cv-1523-RCL

ORDER

On January 24, 2023, the Court ordered the parties to “meet and confer and jointly identify which, if any, parts of the [summary judgment] Memorandum Opinion should remain sealed.” ECF No. 222 at 3. The parties subsequently met and conferred with each other and with non-party respondent Accenture Federal Services and informed the Court via email of the portions of the Memorandum Opinion that they agreed should remain sealed.

The proposed redactions are all of sentences quoting portions of the contract between the IRS and Accenture. The parties and non-party respondent do not explain what property or privacy interests would be affected by making passages from that contract public, nor can the Court see any—the quoted portions of the contract simply explain, at a general level, the capabilities of the system that Accenture agreed to design and maintain for the IRS. The Court also cannot see any prejudice that could result from the disclosure of this information. Given the public interest in understanding the basis for the Court’s reasoning, particularly in a case concerning the activities of the public’s own government, the Court concludes that the proposed redactions are unwarranted.

See Guttenberg v. Emery, 26 F. Supp. 3d 88, 92 (D.D.C. 2014) (listing factors to consider when determining whether to seal court records).

Accordingly, it is hereby **ORDERED** that the Memorandum Opinion be unsealed in its entirety. The Court will enter the unsealed opinion on the public docket this date.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Date: February 21, 2023



Royce C. Lamberth
United States District Judge