

**Metropolitan Partners Group Admin., LLC v Blue
Apron Holdings, Inc.**

2025 NY Slip Op 33221(U)

August 27, 2025

Supreme Court, New York County

Docket Number: Index No. 655615/2023

Judge: Andrea Masley

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This opinion is uncorrected and not selected for official publication.

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
 COUNTY OF NEW YORK: COMMERCIAL DIVISION PART 48

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METROPOLITAN PARTNERS GROUP
 ADMINISTRATION, LLC, METROPOLITAN PARTNERS
 FUND VI, LP, METROPOLITAN PARTNERS FUND VI
 (3C1), LP, METROPOLITAN PARTNERS FUND VII, LP,
 and METROPOLITAN LEVERED PARTNERS FUND VII,
 LP,

Plaintiffs,

- v -

BLUE APRON HOLDINGS, INC.,

Defendant.

INDEX NO. 655615/2023

MOTION DATE --

MOTION SEQ. NO. 005

**DECISION + ORDER ON
 MOTION**

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HON. ANDREA MASLEY:

The following e-filed documents, listed by NYSCEF document number (Motion 005) 98, 99, 100, 101, 103, 104, 105, 107, 109

were read on this motion to/for SEAL.

In motion sequence number 005, defendant Blue Apron Holdings, Inc. moves pursuant to the Uniform Rules of the New York State Trial Courts (22 NYCRR) § 216.1 to redact nonparty Blue Apron, LLC deposit account statement for the period August 1, 2022 to August 31, 2022 (NYSCEF 85), September 1, 2022 to September 30, 2022 (NYSCEF 87), and November 1, 2022 to November 30, 2022 (NYSCEF 89).¹

Specifically, defendant maintains that the statements contain internal financial transactions and external financial transactions with nonparties to this proceeding, and seeks only to redact entries that are unrelated to this case. (NYSCEF 99, Klenow² aff ¶

¹ The proposed redacted versions are filed at NYSCEF 86, 88, and 90.

² Nicholas Klenow is defendant’s counsel. (NYSCEF 99, Klenow aff ¶ 1.)

4.) The motion is unopposed. (NYSCEF 107, Plaintiffs' Letter.) There is no indication that the press or public have an interest in this matter.

“Under New York law, there is a broad presumption that the public is entitled to access to judicial proceedings and court records.” (*Mosallem v Berenson*, 76 AD3d 345, 348 [1st Dept 2010] [citations omitted].) The public's right to access is, however, not absolute, and under certain circumstances, “public inspection of court records has been limited by numerous statutes.” (*Id.* at 349.) One such provision is section 216.1 (a) of the Uniform Rules for Trial Courts, which empowers courts to seal documents upon a written finding of good cause. It provides:

“Except where otherwise provided by statute or rule, a court shall not enter an order in any action or proceeding sealing the court records, whether in whole or in part, except upon a written finding of good cause, which shall specify the grounds thereof. In determining whether good cause has been shown, the court shall consider the interests of the public as well as of the parties. Where it appears necessary or desirable, the court may prescribe appropriate notice and opportunity to be heard.” (Uniform Rules for Trial Cts [22 NYCRR] § 216.1.)

The “party seeking to seal court records has the burden to demonstrate compelling circumstances to justify restricting public access” to the documents. (*Mosallem*, 76 AD3d at 349 [citations omitted].) Good cause must “rest on a sound basis or legitimate need to take judicial action.” (*Danco Lab Ltd. v Chemical Works of Gedeon Richter, Ltd.*, 274 AD2d 1, 8 [1st Dept 2000] [internal quotation marks omitted].)

Records concerning financial information may be sealed where there has not been a showing of relevant public interest in the disclosure of that information. (See *Dawson v White & Case*, 184 AD2d 246, 247 [1st Dept 1992].) A party “ought not to be required to make their private financial information public ... where no substantial public interest would be furthered by public access to that information.” (*D'Amour v*

Ohrenstein & Brown, 17 Misc 3d 1130[A], 2007 NY Slip Op 52207[U], *20 [Sup Ct, NY County 2007] [citations omitted].) Additionally, courts have recognized a compelling interest in sealing a third-party's financial or private information as disclosure could imping upon the privacy rights of these nonparties. (See *Mancheski v Gabelli Group Capital Partners*, 39 AD3d 499, 502 [2d Dept 2007]; *Natixis Real Estate Capital Tr. 2007-HE2 v Natixis Real Estate Capital, Inc.*, 77 Misc 3d 1224[A], 2023 NY Slip Op 50027[U], *2 [Sup Ct, NY County 2023].)

Here, defendant seeks to redact information regarding internal financial transactions and external financial transactions with nonparties to this proceeding unrelated to the issues in this case, such as account numbers and debit and credit amounts for the statement period. Therefore, good cause exists to redact such private financial information. Additionally, there has been no showing of substantial public interest in disclosure.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that motion sequence number 005 is granted; and it is further

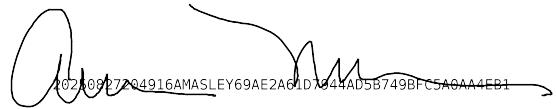
ORDERED that the County Clerk, upon service of this order, is directed to seal NYSCEF 85, 87 and 89; and it is further

ORDERED that the County Clerk shall restrict access to the sealed documents with access to be granted only to authorized court personnel and designees, the parties and counsel of record in this action, and any representative of a party or of counsel of record upon presentation to the County Clerk of written authorization from counsel; and it is further

ORDERED that movant shall serve a copy of this order on the County Clerk in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Protocol on Courthouse County Clerk Procedures for Electronically Filed Cases (accessible at the "E-Filing" page on the court's website at the address www.nycourts.gov/supctmanh); and it is further

ORDERED that if any party seeks to redact identical information in future filings that the court is permitting to be redacted here, that party shall submit a proposed sealing order to the court (via SFC-Part48@nycourts.gov and NYSCEF) instead of filing another seal motion; and it is further

ORDERED that this order does not authorize sealing or redacting for purposes of trial or other court proceedings on the record, e.g., arguments on motions.



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8/27/2025
DATE

ANDREA MASLEY, J.S.C.

CHECK ONE:

CASE DISPOSED

GRANTED

SETTLE ORDER

INCLUDES TRANSFER/REASSIGN

DENIED

NON-FINAL DISPOSITION

GRANTED IN PART

SUBMIT ORDER

FIDUCIARY APPOINTMENT

OTHER

REFERENCE

APPLICATION:

CHECK IF APPROPRIATE: