

Doe v LF E. 21 Prop. Co., LLC
2026 NY Slip Op 30351(U)
January 28, 2026
Supreme Court, New York County
Docket Number: Index No. 161480/2023
Judge: Phaedra F. Perry-Bond
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SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
NEW YORK COUNTY

PRESENT: HON. PHAEDRA F. PERRY-BOND PART 35

Justice

-----X

JANE DOE,¹

Plaintiff,

- v -

LF EAST 21 PROPERTY CO.,LLC,CENTAUR
PROPERTIES, LLC

Defendants.

-----X

INDEX NO. 161480/2023
MOTION DATE 10/14/2025
MOTION SEQ. NO. 001

DECISION + ORDER ON MOTION

The following e-filed documents, listed by NYSCEF document number (Motion 001) 34, 35, 36, 37, 40 were read on this motion to/for AMEND CAPTION/PLEADINGS

Upon the foregoing documents, there being no opposition, and good cause having been shown, Plaintiff's motion to proceed in this action using a pseudonym is granted in part and otherwise held in abeyance pending receipt from Plaintiff's counsel the precise documents on the docket which Plaintiff seeks sealed.

The First Department has held that trial courts must exercise their discretion to limit the public nature of proceedings sparingly, and only when unusual circumstances so require (Anonymous v Anonymous, 27 AD3d 356, 361 [1st Dept 2006]). Plaintiffs who wish to proceed anonymously must provide specific facts to allow the court to exercise its discretion (Twersky v Yeshiva Univ., 201 AD3d 559, 560 [1st Dept 2022]). This case, which deals with allegations of coerced and unwelcome sexual conduct, is the kind of proceeding which deals with such sensitive subject matter that the parties' privacy interests outweigh the public interest in open proceedings. Moreover, Defendants already knows Plaintiff's identity and therefore there is no prejudice in

1 Because Plaintiff's application to proceed anonymously is granted, the Court uses her requested pseudonym in this Decision and Order.

allowing her to proceed anonymously. Therefore, the motion is granted to the extent that Plaintiff is permitted to proceed anonymously.

Plaintiff also asks this Court to “seal every document that identifies the Plaintiff by name.” To issue a sealing order, the Court requires Plaintiff to identify the specific documents which she seeks sealed. Therefore, within twenty days of entry of this Decision and Order, Plaintiff shall submit to the Court an affirmation containing the specific NYSCEF documents she seeks to be sealed so that this Court can issue the sealing order sought by Plaintiff. Until Plaintiff submits the specific documents she seeks sealed, the branch of the motion which seeks to seal certain documents on the docket will be held in abeyance.

Accordingly, it is hereby,

ORDERED that Plaintiff’s motion to proceed in this action using a pseudonym, rather than Plaintiff’s legal name, is granted, and the caption in this matter shall remain the same; and it is further

ORDERED, that the caption is amended to read henceforth:

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
-----X
JANE DOE

Index No.: 161480/2023

Plaintiff,
-against-

LF EAST 21 PROPERTY CO., LLC and CENTAUR
PROPERTIES, LLC

Defendant
-----X ; and it is further

ORDERED, that Defendants and their agents shall refrain from publicly disclosing plaintiff’s identity; and it is further

ORDERED that Defendants and their agents are permitted to disclose plaintiff's identity and pertinent identifying information privately for purposes of discovery and investigation; and it is further

ORDERED that Plaintiffs shall disclose to Defendants Jane Doe's identity, to the extent they have not done so already; and it is further

ORDERED, that all papers filed in this action, and all judgments, orders, decisions, notices to the Court and any other document relating to the action refer to Plaintiff by the pseudonym "Jane Doe"; and it is further,

ORDERED, that any document that bears the true name of Plaintiff Jane Doe or any document that tends to identify Plaintiff Jane Doe shall be redacted by the party filing such document and the original unredacted document shall be retained by the party who has filed the redacted document for an in-camera inspection by the Court; and it is further,

ORDERED, that within 15 days from the date of this order, counsel for Plaintiffs shall serve a copy of this order with notice of entry, together with the amended summons and Complaint, upon the county clerk and the general clerk's office, who are directed to mark the court's records to reflect the amendment; and it is further

ORDERED, that a copy of this order shall be served on the County Clerk within (7) seven days from the date herein; and it is further

ORDERED that the remainder of the motion, which seeks to seal certain documents, is held in abeyance until Plaintiff provides the Court with an affirmation specifically identifying the documents she seeks sealed; and it is further

ORDERED that within ten days of entry, counsel for Plaintiff shall serve a copy of this Decision and Order, with notice of entry, on all parties via NYSCEF.

This constitutes the Decision and Order of the Court.

1/28/26
DATE


HON. PHAEDRA F. PERRY-BOND, J.S.C.

CHECK ONE:	<input type="checkbox"/>	CASE DISPOSED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NON-FINAL DISPOSITION		
	<input type="checkbox"/>	GRANTED	<input type="checkbox"/>	DENIED	<input type="checkbox"/>	OTHER
APPLICATION:	<input type="checkbox"/>	SETTLE ORDER	<input type="checkbox"/>	SUBMIT ORDER		
CHECK IF APPROPRIATE:	<input type="checkbox"/>	INCLUDES TRANSFER/REASSIGN	<input type="checkbox"/>	FIDUCIARY APPOINTMENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	REFERENCE