

TCW Group, Inc. v Ravich
2026 NY Slip Op 31796(U)
April 20, 2026
Supreme Court, New York County
Docket Number: Index No. 653613/2024
Judge: Joel M. Cohen
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SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF NEW YORK: COMMERCIAL DIVISION PART 03M

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TCW GROUP, INC., TCW LLC,

Plaintiffs,

- v -

JESS RAVICH,

Defendant.

INDEX NO. 653613/2024

MOTION DATE 02/24/2026

MOTION SEQ. NO. 006

**DECISION + ORDER ON
MOTION**

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HON. JOEL M. COHEN:

The following e-filed documents, listed by NYSCEF document number (Motion 006) 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 156

were read on this motion to SEAL.

Plaintiffs TCW Group, Inc. and TCW LLC (together, “TCW”) move for an order sealing and/or redacting portions of NYSCEF 149 and 150 filed in connection with this action. No parties oppose this request. For the following reasons, TCW’s motion is granted.

Pursuant to § 216.1(a) of the Uniform Rules for Trial Courts, this Court may seal a filing “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” (22 NYCRR § 216.1[a]).

The Appellate Division has emphasized that “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]). “Since the right [of public access to court proceedings] is of constitutional dimension, any order denying access must be *narrowly tailored to serve compelling objectives*, such as a need for secrecy that outweighs the public’s right to access”

(*Danco Labs., Ltd. v Chemical Works of Gedeon Richter, Ltd.*, 274 AD2d 1, 6 [1st Dept 2000] [emphasis added]; see also, e.g. *Gryphon Dom. VI, LLC v APP Intern. Fin. Co., B.V.*, 28 AD3d 322, 324 [1st Dept 2006]). “Furthermore, because confidentiality is the exception and not the rule, ‘the party seeking to seal court records has the burden to demonstrate compelling circumstances to justify restricting public access’” (*Maxim, Inc. v Feifer*, 145 AD3d 516, 517 [1st Dept 2016] [citations omitted]). Good cause must “rest on a sound basis or legitimate need to take judicial action” (*Danco Labs.*, 274 AD2d at 9). Agreements to seal are insufficient as such agreements do not establish “good cause” (*MBIA Ins. Corp. v Countrywide Home Loans, Inc.*, 2012 NY Slip Op 33147[U], * 9 [Sup Ct, NY County 2012]).

The Court has reviewed NYSCEF 149 (Twin City Fire Insurance Company Release Agreement) and NYSCEF 150 (Everest National Insurance Company Confidential Settlement Agreement) and finds that sealing comports with the applicable sealing standards as laid out in *Mosallem*, 76 AD3d at 348-50, and its progeny, in that they contain contains sensitive, confidential information, including bank account information, the details and limits of TCW’s insurance coverage, policy numbers, and information concerning the allocation of insurance proceeds between TCW and Mr. Ravich, and implicates the privacy interests of third-parties.

However, TCW has not demonstrated that its supporting papers require sealing. TCW is directed to file *targeted* redacted versions of its memorandum in support of sealing and supporting papers (NYSCEF 146-148, 151) within five (5) days of the date of this Order. The Order to Show Cause itself shall be unsealed (NYSCEF 145), as well as NYSCEF 142 and 143 (slipsheets).

Accordingly, it is:

ORDERED that TCW’s Motion is **GRANTED**; it is further

ORDERED that the County Clerk shall maintain NYSCEF Document Numbers 149 and 150 under seal, so that the documents may only be accessible by the parties, their counsel, and authorized court personnel; it is further

ORDERED that TCW shall filed redacted versions of its memorandum in support of sealing and supporting papers (NYSCEF 146–148, 151) within five (5) days of the date of this Order.; it is further

ORDERED that the County Clerk shall unseal NYSCEF 142, 143, and 145; it is further

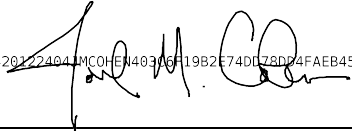
ORDERED that TCW shall serve a copy of this order upon the Clerk’s Office within five (5) days of the date of this Order, and such service shall be made in accordance with the procedures set forth in the *Protocol on Courthouse and County Clerk Procedures for Electronically Filed Cases* (accessible at the “E-Filing” page on the court’s website); it is further

ORDERED as it related to future submissions, the Court will not entertain successive motions to seal documents/information that the Court previously permitted to be redacted or sealed; instead, the parties shall submit a proposed sealing order to the court identifying by the new NYSCEF number(s) only that the parties wish to seal or redact. The proposed order shall include a chart with the original NYSCEF number(s) corresponding to the new NYSCEF number(s) that the parties wish to seal or redact. Any sealing order **MUST** be followed by a Notification for Sealing in Electronically Filed Case to give the County Clerk notice; and it is further

ORDERED that nothing in this Order shall be construed as authorizing the sealing or redactions of any documents or evidence to be offered at trial.

This constitutes the Decision and Order of the Court.

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JOEL M. COHEN, J.S.C.

4/20/2026
DATE

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