

Ventura v Rosenblum
2026 NY Slip Op 31988(U)
May 6, 2026
Supreme Court, New York County
Docket Number: Index No. 651045/2024
Judge: Andrea Masley
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SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
 COUNTY OF NEW YORK: COMMERCIAL DIVISION PART 48

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FITZGERALD N. VENTURA, INTERCITY AGENCY, INC.,
 LEADING RISK SOLUTIONS LLC, ICA INSURANCE
 SERVICES, LLC F/K/A ICA SERVICE CO., LLC,

Plaintiffs,

- v -

JERROLD A. ROSENBLUM,

Defendant.

INDEX NO. 651045/2024

MOTION DATE -

MOTION SEQ. NO. 015

**DECISION + ORDER ON
 MOTION**

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HON. ANDREA MASLEY:

The following e-filed documents, listed by NYSCEF document number (Motion 015) 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 349, 350, 351

were read on this motion to/for SEAL.

In Motion sequence 015, defendant Jerrold Rosenblum moves pursuant to the Uniform Rules of the New York State Trial Courts (22 NYCRR) § 216.1 to seal/redact the following documents (see NYSCEF Doc. No. [NYSCEF] 350, Order to Show Cause):

1. Exhibit 1 - Defendant Counter-Plaintiff's Rule19-a Counterstatement of Undisputed Material Facts (NYSCEF 234)¹;
2. Exhibit 2 - Email dated Feb. 1-2, 2024, bates number JR_00005131- 5132 (NYSCEF 236)²;
3. Exhibit 3 - Email dated March 25 and Apr. 12, 2024, bates number INTERCITY_00007248-7249 (NYSCEF 237)³;

¹ Proposed redactions filed as NYSCEF 336.

² Proposed redactions filed as NYSCEF 337.

³ Proposed redactions filed as NYSCEF 338.

4. Exhibit 4 – excerpt from Deposition of Jerrold A. Rosenblum (NYSCEF 177.)⁴

Specifically, defendant argues there is good cause to seal his Rule 19-a counterstatement of undisputed material facts and supporting documents because they contain private, financial, and business information, such as identities and contact information of former and current intercity clients, non-parties to this litigation, and details of their insurance information. (NYSCEF 335, defendant's MOL at 2.) Defendant further argues that the documents include defendant's private contact information. (*Id.*) This motion is unopposed and there is no indication of public interest.

Legal Standard

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.) For example, § 216.1(a) of the Uniform Rules for Trial Courts, empowers courts to seal documents only 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 [a].)

⁴ Proposed redactions filed as NYSCEF 339.

The “party seeking to seal court records has the burden to demonstrate compelling circumstances to justify restricting public access” to the documents. (*Mosalem*, 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 and citation omitted].)

Discussion

Courts have recognized a compelling interest in sealing records that contain financial information and that are of minimal public interest. (See *Dawson v White & Case*, 184 AD2d 246, 247 [1st Dept 1992]; *D’Amour v Ohrenstein & Brown*, 17 Misc 3d 1130[A], 2007 NY Slip Op 52207[U], *20 [Sup Ct, NY County 2007] [“[d]efendants ought not to be required to make their private financial information public, merely because they have been named as defendants in a lawsuit, where no substantial public interest would be furthered by public access to that information.”].) Further, New York courts have allowed sealing documents that contain “personal and sensitive information that is traditionally shielded from the public.” These include personal information, finances...” (*Id.*) Further, New York courts have also allowed redacting third-party financial information that could impinge on the privacy rights of third parties who clearly are not litigants herein.” (*Mancheski v Gabelli Group Capital Partners*, 39 AD3d 499, 503 [2d Dept 2007].) Moreover, there is also a compelling interest in sealing financial information if “disclosure could harm the private corporation’s competitive standing.” (*Id.*) Finally, “courts have sealed records of internal corporate procedures and policies when the disclosure of which may provide valuable insights into a company’s current

business practices that a competitor would seek to exploit.” (*CWCapital Cobalt VR Ltd. v CWCapital Invs. LLC*, (2024 N Y Misc. 16127 * at 16).)

Defendant seeks limited redactions of documents because they contain non-public personal information of parties’ and non-parties. (NYSCEF 335, defendant’s MOL at 4.) These include names, contact information, property information, coverage terms, and asset valuations. (*Id.*) Defendant further proposes redacting information like employment identification numbers, financial information, and information about employees. (*Id.* at 5.) Thus, defendant has shown good cause to narrowly redact information from defendant’s Rule 19-a counterstatement of undisputed material facts and supporting documents.

ORDERED that motion sequence 015 is granted; and it is further

ORDERED that the County Clerk, upon service of this order, is directed to seal NYSCEF 177, 234, 236, 237, 336, 337, 338, and 339; and it is further

ORDERED that Rosenblum shall file a publicly redacted version of every document sought to be redacted within 10 days of this decision; and it is further

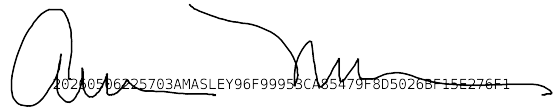
ORDERED that the County Clerk shall restrict access to the sealed documents with access to be granted only to authorized court personnel and designees, the parties and counsel of record in this action, and any representative of a party or of counsel of record upon presentation to the County Clerk of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

ORDERED that Rosenblum 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 the purposes of trial or other court proceedings on the record, e.g. arguments on motions.



5/6/2026
DATE

ANDREA MASLEY, J.S.C.

CHECK ONE:

CASE DISPOSED

NON-FINAL DISPOSITION

GRANTED

DENIED

GRANTED IN PART

OTHER

APPLICATION:

SETTLE ORDER

SUBMIT ORDER

CHECK IF APPROPRIATE:

INCLUDES TRANSFER/REASSIGN

FIDUCIARY APPOINTMENT

REFERENCE