

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
SHERMAN DIVISION

HOLLIS M. GREENLAW, ET AL.

§

v.

§

CIVIL NO. 4:20-CV-311-SDJ

§

DAVID KLIMEK, ET AL.

§

**ORDER**

In an opinion and order entered on December 11, 2020, the Court discussed the parties' conflicting interests in keeping certain matters in this case shielded from public view. (Dkt. #50). The Court noted that, on one hand, the public has a presumptive right of access to judicial records. The public's interest in such access is thrown into sharp relief in cases such as this one, in which Plaintiffs allege that federal law-enforcement officials have abused their office in an ongoing criminal investigation. However, the Court also noted the government's interest in keeping secret any information that could expose its confidential informants. The Court's chief concern was that exposing confidential informants in a criminal investigation carries with it the risk that future confidential informants will be less likely to assist the government in future investigations for fear that they, too, may be exposed.


In light of these countervailing concerns, the Court ordered the parties to confer on appropriate redactions to Plaintiffs' complaint that would address direct references to the contents of a certain sealed search-warrant affidavit. (Dkt. #50). The parties were unable to reach agreement on the necessary and appropriate redactions to the complaint.

Now before the Court are the parties' competing motions to redact the complaint. (Dkt. #53); (Dkt. #55). Having considered the motions, and consistent with the guidance provided in the Court's prior memorandum opinion and order, the Court **DENIES** Defendants' motion, (Dkt. #55), and **GRANTS in part** Plaintiffs' motion, (Dkt. #53).

It is therefore **ORDERED** that Plaintiffs are permitted to refile their redacted complaint, (Dkt. #54-2), with the following additional redactions:

1. The last sentence of paragraph 14;
2. The last sentence of paragraph 15;
3. All of paragraph 73;
4. The next to last sentence of paragraph 120;
5. The last sentence of paragraph 165; and
6. The last sentence of paragraph 168.

**So ORDERED and SIGNED this 23rd day of June, 2021.**

  
SEAN D. JORDAN  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE