IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR DUVAL COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO.: 2024-CA-005002 DIVISION: CV-F

CONSOLIDATED METALS, INC., a corporation Plaintiff(s),

vs.

COLEEN SAMSON and CARL JOHNSON, individuals, Defendant(s),

ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO DETERMINE CONFIDENTIALITY OF COURT RECORDS AND TO CLOSE PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION HEARINGS

THIS CAUSE came before the Court on Plaintiff Consolidated Metals, Inc.'s Motion to Determine Confidentiality of Court Records and to Close Preliminary Injunction Hearing, which was not opposed by Defendants. Having considered the Motion and being advised on the premises, the Court makes the following findings, as required by Rule 2.420(e)(4):

- A. This is an action to enforce restrictive covenants and protect alleged trade secrets and confidential business information. The Court previously entered a Stipulated Confidentiality and Protective Order on January 27, 2025, to govern the use of confidential information in discovery.
- B. The evidence and arguments presented at hearings on Plaintiff's motions for injunctive relief will include the alleged trade secrets and confidential business information at issue. Such information is determined to be confidential pursuant to Rule 2.420(c)(9)(A)(ii), (v), (vi), and (vii).

- C. No party's name is determined to be confidential.
- D. Neither the progress docket nor any similar records generated to document activity in this case are determined to be confidential.
- E. The particular information described in Paragraphs 2–3 of this Order is determined to be confidential.
- F. The evidence and argument presented at any hearing on Plaintiff's motions for temporary injunction shall be viewed only by those persons and entities permitted to view "Confidential" information pursuant to the Stipulated Confidentiality and Protective Order entered on January 27, 2025, except as otherwise specified in this Order.
- G. The degree, duration, and manner of confidentiality ordered by the Court are no broader than necessary to protect the interests described in Rule 2.420(c), and no less restrictive measures are available to protect those interests.

Accordingly, it is hereby **ORDERED**:

- Plaintiff's Motion to Determine Confidentiality of Court Records and to Close Preliminary Injunction Hearing is **GRANTED**.
- Except as otherwise specified in this Order, the Parties shall keep any transcript or recording of any hearing on Plaintiff's motions for injunctive relief against Defendants, and all exhibits admitted as evidence at any such hearing, "Confidential" pursuant to the Stipulated Confidentiality and Protective Order entered January 27, 2025.

- The following exhibits admitted into evidence at the hearing conducted on March
 25, 2025, shall be kept "Attorney's Eyes Only" pursuant to the Stipulated
 Confidentiality and Protective Order entered January 27, 2025:
 - a. Plaintiff's Exhibits: F, G, H, I, J
 - b. Defendant's Exhibits: A, B

Any additional exhibits to be treated as "Attorney's Eyes Only" shall be so stated on the record at the time they are admitted as evidence.

- Any hearing on Plaintiff's motions for injunctive relief against Defendants shall be closed to the public.
- 5. The Clerk of Court is directed to maintain all records of the hearings conducted on March 25, 2025, and to be conducted on April 2, 2025, as a sealed court record.
- 6. The Clerk of Court is further directed to publish this Order in accordance with Rule 2.420(e)(5).

DONE AND ORDERED in Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida on Saturday, April 5, 2025.

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