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OCTOBER 7, 2021

CLERK US DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

BY s/ M. Everette DEPUTY

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**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**

In the matter of

THE FILING OF DOCUMENTS BY
CRIMINAL DEFENDANTS WHO ARE
REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL IN
VIOLATION OF LRCiv 83.3(c)(2)

GENERAL ORDER 21-19

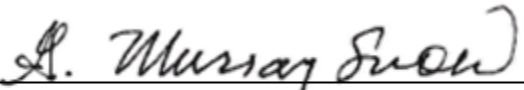
Effective immediately, any document presented to the Court for filing by a criminal defendant who is represented by counsel shall be filed in the applicable case. The docket entry will be public, but the filed document will only be accessible to counsel of record for the filing defendant. The assigned judge may, in her or his discretion, determine that the document should be made public or that further action should be taken.

The Court is conscious of its obligation to maintain open records. The public has a “general right to inspect and copy . . . judicial records and documents.” *Nixon v. Warner Commc’ns, Inc.*, 435 U.S. 589, 597 (1978). This Circuit has recognized, however, that the public’s interest in access to nondispositive materials is somewhat less, and that access to such records may therefore be limited upon a showing of “good cause.” See *Pintos v. Pac. Creditors Ass’n*, 605 F.3d 665, 678 (9th Cir. 2010) (“In light of the weaker public interest in nondispositive materials, we apply the ‘good cause’ standard when parties wish to keep them under seal.”).

Because documents filed directly with the Court by represented defendants have no legal effect under the Court’s local rules (see LRCrim 57.14, LRCiv 83.3(e)), they are

1 nondispositive. The Court finds good cause for limiting access to these documents. Such
2 pro se filings often contain attorney-client or other sensitive information that should not be
3 available in the public docket, and yet the Court should maintain a record of all documents
4 filed with it. Limiting access to these filings to defense counsel and allowing the assigned
5 judge to determine whether the document should be filed publicly on the docket, will serve
6 these interests while meeting the relevant standard for limiting access to court records.

7 Dated this 7th day of October, 2021.

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10 G. Murray Snow
11 Chief United States District Judge
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