SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES
No. 142 , Original No. 142, Original

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STATE OF FLORIDA,
    Plaintiff,
v.
STATE OF GEORGIA,
    Defendants.
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    TELEPHONE CONFERENCE before SPECIAL MASTER
    RALPH I. LANCASTER, held at the law offices of Pierce
Atwood, LLP, at Merrill's Wharf, 254 Commercial Street,
Portland, Maine, on April 7, 2015, commencing at
10:00 a.m., before Claudette G. Mason, RMR, CRR, a
Notary Public in and for the State of Maine.
APPEARANCES:
For the State of Florida:
For the State of Georgia:
Also Present:
ALLEN C. WINSOR, ESQ.
OSVALDO VAZQUEZ, ESQ.
CHRISTOPHER M. KISE, ESQ.
CRAIG S. PRIMIS, P.C.
BRITT GRANT, ESQ.
JOSHUA D. DUNLAP, ESQ.
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## PROCEEDINGS

SPECIAL MASTER LANCASTER: Good morning, counsel. It's Ralph. And I have Josh and Claudette here with me.

Let's begin by asking who else is on the line. Florida?

MR. WINSOR: Good morning, your Honor. This is Allen Winsor, along with Os Vazquez from the Florida Attorney General's Office. And Chris Kise and other members of our outside counsel team are also on the line.

SPECIAL MASTER LANCASTER: Will anyone else be speaking for Florida?

MR. WINSOR: Mr. Kise and I will be, your Honor.

SPECIAL MASTER LANCASTER: All right. Then it's not necessary to identify the other members who will be listening.

MR. WINSOR: Yes, sir.
SPECIAL MASTER LANCASTER: Georgia?
MR. PRIMIS: Good morning, your Honor.
That is Craig Primis from Kirkland \& Ellis.
I'm on the line. I'll be speaking on behalf of Georgia along with Solicitor General Britt THE REPORTING GROUP

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Grant, who is also on the line.
SPECIAL MASTER LANCASTER: Anyone else on the line who hasn't been identified?

Hearing nothing, I guess the United
States is not represented today?
Okay. Well, let's start. The
parties -- let me commend the parties on
their discovery efforts to date. You have jointly requested an additional 120 days to complete production. The United States indicated it may be unable to complete production in 120 days. But since we don't have a United States representative on this morning, we don't know how long it's going to anticipate to complete production.

If I'm correct, I think the current deadline is July 13. What would the parties propose for a written discovery deadline?

Let's start with Florida.
MR. KISE: Your Honor, our proposal -and we have conferred with Georgia about this -- would be to extend the existing deadline 120 days from the current deadline.

SPECIAL MASTER LANCASTER: Georgia?
MR. PRIMIS: We are in agreement with -THE REPORTING GROUP Mason \& Lockhart we are in agreement with that proposal.

SPECIAL MASTER LANCASTER: Did someone just join us?

I thought I heard a sound that indicated someone had joined us.

Well, counsel, you can anticipate that your motion will be granted. We'll get an order out shortly. And I would urge you, as I do every time, to try to complete production in less than the additional 120 days.

Again, I --
MR. WINSOR: Yes, sir.
SPECIAL MASTER LANCASTER: Did someone join us?

MR. KISE: Yes, your Honor. It's Chris
Kise. I got cut off right after you asked that question. And I'm not sure if Mr. Winsor answered it, but I'm happy to respond in the event you need additional information.

SPECIAL MASTER LANCASTER: All right.
Thank you.
That, I think, takes care of the discovery question. Let's move on to -THE REPORTING GROUP Mason \& Lockhart
well, let's talk a little bit about
settlement discussions. And please remember
that the transcript will be put on our
website. So if you're concerned about the
media, be careful what you say. This is a
personal opinion, but I think the media is relentless and ruthless. And so they will do everything they can to publish everything that they can find out.

Unless I'm mistaken, both Florida and Georgia have had spokespersons, Mr. Robinson and Mr. Tupps. Am I correct in identifying them?

Florida?
MR. KISE: Your Honor --
MR. WINSOR: Go ahead.
MR. KISE: Your Honor, this is Chris Kise.

Do you mean spokesperson -- an official spokesperson for the state on behalf of the governor?

SPECIAL MASTER LANCASTER: Yes.
MR. KISE: Yes, I believe that's
correct, your Honor. There are official
communication individuals that -- that
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deal -- that handle the media requests on an ongoing basis for Florida.

SPECIAL MASTER LANCASTER: And, Georgia?
Georgia?
MR. PRIMIS: Yes. Solicitor General
Grant, do you want to -- I'm sorry, the
Solicitor General was unable to make the call
today, your Honor, who I understood would be on and would be addressing these questions. I can follow up with her and get you an accurate answer.

SPECIAL MASTER LANCASTER: Right. I -I am constantly besieged by the media. And so when I'm told that someone named Brian Robinson is speaking and disclosing things and someone else is disclosing them for Georgia, John Tupps, I think was the name, I would suggest that if you're concerned about the media and confidentiality, you will be careful what your spokespersons are saying.

But let me move on. You have jointly requested a confidentiality order. Are you seeking it for more than the purposes of litigation in Florida versus Georgia, No. 142? THE REPORTING GROUP Mason \& Lockhart
why we brought this to the Court's attention and are seeking it.

There have been similar orders entered in the past in the course of the ongoing litigation.

SPECIAL MASTER LANCASTER: Georgia?
MR. PRIMIS: Yes, your Honor. I agree with what Mr. Kise just said -- this is Craig Primis for Georgia.

And to specifically answer your question, this proposal relates just to settlement discussions concerning this case and the parties' efforts to resolve No. 142.

SPECIAL MASTER LANCASTER: Well, you know, I think, by now my position on settlement as opposed to litigation. And I, in passing, will compliment Governor Deal for his efforts. I'm a little more encouraged after having read what I read about the Iran negotiations, because apparently nothing is beyond settlement.

But what is -- what do you -- what do you do with the Freedom of Access Act laws, which I assume Georgia and Florida both have?

Florida?
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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | MR. WINSOR: Yes, your Honor. This is |  | number of detailed factual points relating to |
| 2 | Allen Winsor. | 2 | the Army Corps' involvement and the facts on |
| 3 | Our view is that it's the Court's order | 3 | the ground that bear on our motion. So we |
| 4 | that would preclude disclosure notwithstanding | 4 | would request oral argument. We do think it |
| 5 | that statement. | 5 | would be helpful to the Court. |
| 6 | SPECIAL MASTER LANCASTER: Georgia? | 6 | SPECIAL MASTER LANCASTER: Florida? |
| 7 | MS. GRANT: Your Honor, this is Britt | 7 | MR. WINSOR: Well, we feel like the |
| 8 | Grant for Georgia. I apologize. I had a | 8 | briefing lays it out, the arguments on both |
| 9 | technical difficulty getting on | 9 | sides, and again don't believe it's |
| 10 | But it's also the case for Georgia that | 10 | necessary. But if your Honor is inclined to |
| 11 | the -- our Open Records law creates an | 11 | have it, we will make ourselves available. |
| 12 | exemption where things are kept sealed under | 12 | SPECIAL MASTER LANCASTER: Well, please, |
| 13 | a court order. | 13 | so that there is no misunderstanding, I'm not |
| 14 | MR. WINSOR: Mr. Kise, feel free to | 14 | asking either party to have oral argument; |
| 15 | supplement my response. | 15 | but I'm willing to accede to Georgia's |
| 16 | MR. KISE: Your Honor, Mr. Winsor is | 16 | request. |
| 17 | correct that the court order would govern | 17 | The question then is where do you want |
| 18 | anything that's discussed or exchanged even. | 18 | it and when? |
| 19 | There is a similar exemption in Florida. | 19 | Florida -- or Georgia, I guess? |
| 20 | SPECIAL MASTER LANCASTER: Well, fine. | 20 | MR. PRIMIS: Well, your Honor, obviously |
| 21 | You can be sure that I will enter a | 21 | we are flexible and will appear wherever it's |
| 22 | confidentiality order shortly. I have not | 22 | most convenient for your Honor and for both |
| 23 | taken a look at the -- the points that you | 23 | parties. |
| 24 | made; but if you're confident that it would | 24 | I believe in prior discussions that |
| 25 | act as a shield from the Freedom of Access THE REPORTING GROUP <br> Mason \& Lockhart | 25 | Washington, D.C., had been identified as a THE REPORTING GROUP <br> Mason \& Lockhart |
|  | 10 |  | 12 |
| 1 | laws, that's fine. | 1 | potentially central location that would be |
| 2 | Well, let's move on then to the motion | 2 | easily accessible for everyone. And we could |
| 3 | to dismiss. Your excellent briefing is | 3 | certainly make arrangements to host it here |
| 4 | complete. Thank you very much for that. | 4 | in Washington at a mutually agreeable spot. |
| 5 | No one -- please don't misunderstand | 5 | We also are available to come to New England |
| 6 | this. No one has requested oral argument, | 6 | at your convenience. |
| 7 | and I'm not suggesting that I need it. But I | 7 | SPECIAL MASTER LANCASTER: Well, let me |
| 8 | don't want to foreclose it if either party is | 8 | tell you that I think the snow will end here |
| 9 | interested in having oral arguments. So let | 9 | about July 4. So I would prefer to do it |
| 10 | me ask the question. | 10 | before then. And we certainly can come to |
| 11 | Florida? | 11 | Florida. There will be -- I mean, to |
| 12 | MR. WINSOR: Your Honor, we are not | 12 | Washington. There will be Josh and I and |
| 13 | requesting it; but certainly if you feel like | 13 | Claudette. So it will be a little more |
|  | it would be useful, we would make ourselves | 14 | expensive for you; but I'm happy to do that, |
| 15 | available. | 15 | if that's what you want. |
| 16 | SPECIAL MASTER LANCASTER: Georgia? | 16 | Georgia? |
| 17 | MR. PRIMIS: Yes, your Honor. Chris | 17 | MR. PRIMIS: I think that makes good |
| 18 | Primis for Georgia. | 18 | sense if Florida is agreeable to coming to |
| 19 | We did not formally request oral | 19 | Washington. I know they have counsel here in |
| 20 | argument because that was not part of the | 20 | Washington as well as in Florida. |
| 21 | briefing schedule. We anticipated there | 21 | And in terms of the date, I think the |
| 22 | would be a discussion in this context as to | 22 | most efficient thing to do would be for us to |
| 23 | how we would propose to proceed. We do think | 23 | consult with Florida, perhaps after this call |
| 24 | that oral argument would be helpful in this | 24 | within the next day or so, and then propose a |
| 25 | instance. It's our motion, and there are a THE REPORTING GROUP <br> Mason \& Lockhart | 25 | mutually agreeable date or dates in the near THE REPORTING GROUP <br> Mason \& Lockhart |
| 3 of 10 sheets |  |  | 25 The Reporting Group (207) 797-6040 |




## CERTIFICATE

I, Claudette G. Mason, a Notary Public in and for the State of Maine, hereby certify that the foregoing 20 pages are a correct transcript of my stenographic notes of the above-captioned proceedings.

I further certify that I am a disinterested person in the event or outcome of the above-named cause of action.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I subscribe my hand this 9th day of April, 2015.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires
June 9, 2019.

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