

MINUTE ORDER

CASE NUMBER: 1:26-mc-00199-SASP-KJM

CASE NAME: *In re: Public First Law Center*

JUDGE: Shanlyn A.S. Park

DATE: 07/31/2026

**COURT ACTION: EO: GRANTING IN PART AND DENYING IN PART
PUBLIC FIRST LAW CENTER’S MOTION TO UNSEAL SEARCH
WARRANT PROCEEDINGS [ECF NO. 1]**

On May 27, 2026, Movant Public First Law Center (“Public Law”) filed a Motion to Unseal Search Warrant Proceedings (“Motion”), seeking to unseal all search warrant proceedings filed in the District of Hawaii between January 1 and January 24, 2024, related to Sherri Jean Tanaka (“Tanaka”), including warrants connected to Michael Irish, his affiliated companies, and other property at 966 Robello Lane, Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96817. ECF No. 1 at PageID.4. Public Law relies on Criminal Local Rules 5.2(b)(4) and 79.2 and the common law right of access as the bases for unsealing. *Id.* It identifies a set of sealed proceedings from early 2024 as potential Tanaka-related matters and asks the Court to direct the Government to identify the relevant proceedings or unseal all of them pursuant to Criminal Local Rule 79.2. *Id.* at PageID.4–5 & n.1.

On July 14, 2026, Interested Party United States of America (“Government”) filed a response to the Motion, identifying warrants MC No. 24-00001-NC, MC No. 24-00002-NC, MC No. 24-00006-NC, MC No. 24-00009-NC, MC No. 24-000010-NC, MC No. 24-00061-NC, MJ No. 24-00004-NC-1, MJ No. 24-00009-NC-1, MJ No. 24-00011-NC-1, MJ No. 24-00012-NC-1, MJ No. 24-00013-NC-1, MJ No. 24-00014-NC-1, MJ No. 24-00015-NC-1, MJ No. 24-00016-NC-1, MJ No. 24-00029-NC-1, MJ No. 24-00030-NC-1, MJ No. 24-00064-NC-1 through -5, MJ No. 24-00065-NC-1, and MJ No. 24 00140-NC-1 as responsive (“Responsive Warrants”).¹ ECF No. 11 at

¹ Although warrants MC No. 24-00061-NC, MJ No. 24-00009-NC-1, and MJ No. 24-00140-NC-1 were not referenced in the Government’s response to the Motion, they were subsequently identified by the Government in its reply to the Court’s request—via email—for the Responsive Warrants’ full case numbers.

PageID.23. The Government indicates that it does not oppose unsealing of the Responsive Warrants, docket entries, and associated non-affidavit materials, subject to redaction of personally protected information (“PPI”) in the search warrant attachments. *Id.* If the Court were to order unsealing, the Government requests thirty days to file redacted versions of the subject materials. *Id.* The Government also asserts that Criminal Local Rules 5.2(a)(1) and 79.2 do not require unsealing supporting affidavits and requests more time to review those affidavits for redaction purposes, if the Court were to order their disclosure. *Id.* at PageID.23–24. As to warrants MJ No. 24-00007-WRP-1, MJ No. 24-00008-WRP-1, MJ No. 24-00021-WRP-1, MJ No. 24-00023-WRP-1, MJ No. 24-00033-WRP-1, MJ No. 24-00038-WRP-1, MJ No. 24-00045-WRP-1, MJ No. 24-00050-WRP-1, MJ No. 24-00051-WRP-1, MJ No. 24-00052-WRP-1, MJ No. 24-00063-WRP-1, the Government contends it is unable to identify them (“Unidentified Warrants”). *Id.* at PageID.23.

On July 15, 2026, Public Law filed a reply, indicating that it is requesting all search warrant materials and contesting the Government’s position on supporting affidavits. ECF No. 12.

On July 17, 2026, the Court held a status conference with the parties, during which the Court informed the parties that, after in-camera review, it believed the Unidentified Warrants were not responsive. ECF No. 13. Public Law then orally withdrew its request for those warrants. As to the Responsive Warrants, the Court stated its inclination to release the supporting affidavits subject to Government redactions of PPI. The Government indicated it did not object to the release of the supporting affidavits provided it had time to redact PPI. Also, Public Law agreed that confidential source information could be redacted.

Accordingly, the Motion is GRANTED IN PART AND DENIED IN PART. The Clerk’s Office is DIRECTED to unseal the cases involving the Responsive Warrants while continuing to seal (in these cases) the original sealed warrants and their supporting affidavits. Within 30 days of this Entering Order, the Government shall redact PPI and confidential source information from the Responsive Warrants and supporting affidavits and submit the redacted versions to the Clerk’s Office for filing in their respective cases. Pursuant to Public Law’s oral withdrawal of its request for the Unidentified Warrants, these warrants will remain sealed.

IT IS SO ORDERED.