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Constitution. This motion is supported by ORCP 36 C and the following Points and Authorities.

#### POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

## A. <u>Introduction</u>

Wife seeks a protective order under ORCP 36 C(1) ordering that she not be required to answer any questions at deposition or produce any documents in the above-captioned proceeding. In pleadings filed by Husband, and in media appearances by him, Husband accuses Wife of being involved in the disappearance of Kyron Horman. Husband also contends that Wife engaged in a murder-for-hire plot in which Husband was the target. There is an ongoing police investigation into these matters. Wife contends that the criminal investigation and the divorce proceeding are so closely entangled that requiring Wife to answer deposition questions or produce documents will violate her rights under Article I, section 12, of the Oregon Constitution and the Fifth Amendment of the United States Constitution.

# B. **Applicable Law**

ORCP 36 C(1) provides that "[u]pon motion by a party \* \* \* from whom discovery is sought, and for good cause shown, the court \* \* \* may make any order which justice requires to protect a party or person from annoyance, embarrassment, oppression, or undue burden \* \* \* including one or more of the following: (1) that the discovery not be had; (2) that the discovery may be had only on specified terms and conditions[.]" The rule is designed "to protect that party or person in *any* way that justice requires." *Carton v. Shisler*, 146 Or App 513, 516 (1997) (emphasis in original).

Because civil discovery is so broad, tools such as depositions pose a significant risk of abuse, which may seriously hamper the privacy interests of litigants. *Seattle Times Co. v. Rhinehart*, 467 US 20, 34-5 (1984). There, in discussing the analogous

federal rule, FRCP 26,<sup>1</sup> the Supreme Court observed that the "unique character of the discovery process requires that the trial court have substantial latitude to fashion protective orders." *Id.* at 36.

Further, as noted in prior briefings to this court, when there are simultaneous civil and criminal proceedings that involve the same underlying transactions or conduct, forcing the accused to participate in pre-trial discovery in the civil case seriously threatens the right to be free from self-incrimination in the criminal proceeding. *Ex Parte Dinkel*, 956 So 2d 1130 (Ala 2006).

Wife has found no controlling Oregon case law discussing whether a protective order preventing her from participating in pre-trial discovery is appropriate where there are parallel criminal and civil proceedings. However, the Oregon Court of Appeals extensively discussed the scope of the Fifth Amendment privilege in the context of a civil proceeding in *Empire Wholesale Lumber Co. v. Meyers*, 192 Or App 221 (2004). There, the defendant sold lumber for the plaintiff's company. The plaintiff discovered that the defendant retained the proceeds of some of the lumber sales and filed a law suit alleging, in part, breach of contract, fraud, and conversion. The plaintiff obtained a large judgment against the defendant. The defendant then filed for bankruptcy protection, seeking to avoid payment. *Id.* at 223-34.

After proceedings in the bankruptcy court, in which the court concluded that the judgment was not dischargeable, the plaintiff obtained an order compelling the defendant to appear for a judgment debtor examination and to produce certain documents. The plaintiff sent letters to the United States Attorney asking that the defendant be prosecuted for fraud. The United States Attorney declined. The plaintiff also contacted the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and complained that defendant had engaged in tax evasion, but the IRS did not respond. *Id.* 

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> ORCP 36 essentially tracks FRCP 26, except that ORCP 36 does not authorize expert discovery. *Stevens v. Czerniak*, 336 Or 392, 402 (2004).

Against that background, the defendant refused to answer any questions and declined to produce any documents, contending that his answers to plaintiff's questions could lead to prosecution by the United States Attorney or the IRS. The trial court declined to order the defendant to answer questions and produce documents. The plaintiff appealed, contending that the court erred in permitting the defendant to invoke his constitutional privilege against self-incrimination to avoid answering any questions and producing any documents. *Id.* at 224-25. The Court of Appeals affirmed the defendant's right to invoke his constitutional privileges. *Id.* at 226-27. In doing so, it summarized the applicable law:

"[T]he privilege to be free from state-compelled self-incrimination may be asserted in 'any proceeding, civil or criminal, administrative or judicial, investigatory or adjudicatory; [to] protect[] against any disclosures that the witness reasonably believes could be used in a criminal prosecution or could lead to other evidence that might be so used.' Kastigar v. United States, 406 U.S. 441, 444–45, 92 S Ct 1653, 32 LEd2d 212 (1972). It protects not only statements that could be directly incriminating, but also protects testimony that 'would furnish a link in the chain of evidence needed to prosecute the \* \* \* crime.' Hoffman v. United States, 341 U.S. 479, 486, 71 S Ct 814, 95 L Ed 1118 (1951). The standard for determining whether the privilege applies is 'whether the claimant is confronted by substantial and 'real,' and not merely trifling or imaginary, hazards of incrimination.' Marchetti v. United States, 390 US 39, 53, 88 S Ct 697, 19 LEd2d 889 (1968). The determination of the availability of the privilege is committed to the discretion of the trial court. Rogers v. United States, 340 US 367, 374, 71 S Ct 438, 95 L Ed 344 (1951); US v. Boothe, 335 F3d 522, 525 (6th Cir 2003).

"The privilege may apply to the production of documents, as well. *Bellis v. United States*, 417 US 85, 87, 94 S Ct 2179, 40 L Ed 678 (1974). The privilege is strictly personal, however; the documents for which protection is sought 'must be the private property of the person claiming the privilege, or at least in his possession in a purely personal capacity.' *Id.* at 90, 94 S Ct 2179 (internal quotation marks omitted). In addition, producing documents in response to a subpoena may amount to compelled testimony where the very act of production implicitly communicates statements of fact such as the fact of the documents' existence, the fact that they are in possession of the witness, or the fact of their authenticity. *United States v. Hubbell*, 530 US 27, 36, 120 S Ct 2037, 147 L Ed2d 24 (2000). Production of documents, 'in order to be testimonial, \* \* \* must itself, explicitly or implicitly, relate a factual assertion or disclose information.' *Doe v. United States*, 487 US 201, 210, 108 S Ct 2341, 101 LEd2d 184 (1988).

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"In both cases, the privilege cannot be invoked in blanket fashion; it must be invoked, and ruled upon, on a question-by-question, document-by-document basis. *US v. Bodwell,* 66 F3d 1000, 1001–02 (9th Cir 1995)."

Id. at 226-26.

Later, in *Redwine v. Starboard, LLC,* 240 Or App 673 (2011), the Court of Appeals expanded on its reasoning in *Empire Wholesale*. There, the plaintiffs obtained a judgment for over \$900,000 against Starboard arising from payments owed on delinquent promissory notes. Later, Tamara Sawyer and her husband were ordered to appear for a judgment debtor examination and to produce certain documents pertaining to Starboard's property and its finances. At the time the judgment debtor examination, Sawyer was the subject of a continuing federal criminal investigation involving, in part, Starboard. *Id.,* 240 Or App at 665-67.

The Sawyers invoked their privilege against self-incrimination, refused to answer plaintiffs' questions or produce any documents at the examination. The plaintiffs then brought contempt proceedings against the Saywers. The court found the Sawyers in contempt. Tamara Saywer appealed. *Id.* at 680. The Court of Appeals reversed, holding that, "so long as that proximate exposure to criminal liability remains, Sawyer's invocation of the privilege against self-incrimination as to the inquiries at issue here cannot be contravened." *Id.* at 686. In doing so, the court reiterated that the court must undertake a question-by-question evaluation to determine whether the answer to the question puts the witness in "real danger \* \* \* of crimination, as opposed to a mere imaginary possibility of increasing the danger of prosecution." *Id.* at 682 (internal citations and quotations omitted). "In making that assessment, the witness must not be "required to prove the hazard in the sense in which a claim is usually required to be established in court, lest the witness surrender the very protection which the privilege is designed to guarantee." (internal citations and quotations omitted). The court then observed that

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"To sustain the privilege, it need only be evident from the implications of the question, in the setting in which it is asked, that a responsive answer to the question or an explanation of why it cannot be answered might be dangerous because injurious disclosure could result. *Hoffman v. United States*, 341 U.S. 479, 486, 71 S Ct 814, 95 L Ed 1118 (1951)."

Id. at 683.

#### The court then said:

"Although the witness claiming the privilege bears the burden of establishing that an answer could be injurious, the court must construe the privilege liberally 'in favor of the right it was intended to secure.' [Hoffman] at 486, 71 S Ct 814. Thus, it must be 'perfectly clear, from a careful consideration of all the circumstances in the case, that the witness [claiming the privilege] is mistaken, and that the answers cannot possibly have such tendency to incriminate.' Id. at 488, 71 S Ct 814 \* \* \*.

"Further, the protections afforded by the privilege are not abrogated merely because the government may have access from another source to the same information sought to be compelled from the witness. That is so for at least two reasons. First, as a practical matter, such an exception would substantially subvert -- and perhaps abrogate -- the constitutional protection. Second, evidence compelled from 'the speaker's own mouth' can convey inculpatory implications that are uniquely, qualitatively different than those attending other evidence. See, e.g., Grunewald v. United States, 353 US 391, 421–22, 77 S Ct 963, 1 L Ed2d 931 (1957) (witness was justified in invoking privilege in grand jury proceedings, despite decision to testify at trial, based on legitimate concern that he 'would have provided the Government with incriminating evidence from his own mouth')."

Id. at 684.

Wife contends that, under all of the circumstances, she cannot be compelled to provide documents or be subject to questions in a deposition because, if she is forced to answer any questions, her rights under Article I, section 12, and the Fifth Amendment will be jeopardized.

Husband understands by his statements in prior pleadings the kinds of hazards Wife will be exposed to if she is forced to invoke her rights to particular questions. For example, in his Response Regarding Respondent's Petition for Dismissal, dated November 9, 2010, Husband stated that "[o]ne can only infer that Mother will not speak because her testimony *will* lead to criminal liability for Kyron's disappearance. Until

Mother denies these allegations, there can be no other inferences drawn." (Emphasis in original.)<sup>2</sup>

In determining the merits of Wife's motion, Wife understands that the court must evaluate each discovery request. Because it is unknown what information the police could use as a link in a chain of evidence to build a circumstantial case against Wife, and in accordance with the law set forth in this Motion, Wife must very broadly assert her constitutional privileges.<sup>3</sup> To assist the court, before the hearing in this matter, Wife will provide the court with Plaintiff's Second, Third, and Fourth Requests for Production, with annotations as to which requests Wife will assert her constitutional privileges.

Regarding Wife's deposition, for the purposes of judicial economy, Wife contends that Husband should submit a list of questions he intends to pose at her deposition, in advance, so that the court can make its rulings. This would not preclude Husband from posing other questions at the deposition as it progresses, but would serve to limit the drain on judicial resources of the real-time, question-by-question assessment. Finally, at some point, Wife contends that repeated questioning and the invocation by Wife of her constitutional privileges would necessarily support a protective order ending the deposition to avoid what will inevitably become harassing, annoying, and burdensome examination. Under those circumstances, justice would require an end to the examination. ORCP 36 C. See, e.g., Carton v. Shisler, 146 Or App 513, 516 (1997) (stating principle); Seattle Times Co. v. Rhinehart, 467 US 20, 35 (1984) (discussing discretion of trial court in fashioning protective orders).

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Under Oregon law, the court is not permitted to draw negative inferences from Wife's assertion of her constitutional privileges. OEC 513(1); *John Deere Co. v. Epstein*, 307 Or. 348 (1989).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Compare, e.g., Kastigar v. United States, 406 US 411 (1972) with State v. Soriano, 298 Or 392 (1984); Moran v. Burbine, 475 US 412 (1986) with State v. Haynes, 228 Or. 59 (1979).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The court should be aware that Husband contends, without any legal authority, he should not be subject to a deposition if Wife's deposition is not compelled. Wife will address this either in her reply brief or at oral argument, or both.

1	CONCLUSION
2	For the reasons set forth above, Wife contends that the court should enter an
3	order limiting the scope of discovery sought against her by Husband.
4	Dated on September 23, 2013
5	THE LAW FIRM OF PETER BUNCH, LLC
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8	Peter Bunch, OSB No. 942210 Attorney for Respondent Trial Attorney: Peter Bunch
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1	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
2	I certify that I served a copy of the foregoing RESPONDENT'S MOTION FOR
3	PROTECTIVE ORDER on the attorney for Petitioner on September 23, 2013, by hand
4	delivery, placed in a sealed envelope, addressed to the following at the address set
5	forth below.
6	Brett Engel
Gearing Rackner Engel & McGrath, LLP 7 121 SW Morrison St., Ste. 750 Portland, OR, 97304	121 SW Morrison St., Ste. 750
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