

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

DISTRICT COURT
FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

State of Minnesota,

Plaintiff,

v.

J. Alexander Kueng,

Thomas Kiernan Lane,

Tou Thao,

Defendants.

**STATE'S MOTION FOR
PROTECTIVE ORDER**

Court File No.: 27-CR-20-12953

Court File No.: 27-CR-20-12951

Court File No.: 27-CR-20-12949

TO: The Honorable Peter Cahill, Judge of District Court, and counsel for Defendants, Robert Paule, 920 Second Avenue South, Suite 975, Minneapolis, MN 55402; Earl Gray, 1st Bank Building, 332 Minnesota Street, Suite W1610, St. Paul, MN 55101; Thomas Plunkett, U.S. Bank Center, 101 East Fifth Street, Suite 1500, St. Paul, MN 55101.

The State hereby moves the Court for a protective order pursuant to Minn. R. Crim. P. 9.03, subd. 5. In an Order dated February 19, 2021, the federal district court issued an Order that authorized the release of certain investigative materials from the federal investigation of this matter to the Minnesota Attorney General's Office. The Order states that the Minnesota Attorney General's Office must "seek a protective order or agreement limiting further disclosure of these . . . materials to only those persons who need access to them in order to prepare for trial, and limiting those persons with access from using the . . . materials for any purpose other than preparing for trial." The Order also provides that "any such protective order or agreement should ensure that any . . . materials disclosed pursuant to this Order and filed in state or federal court be filed under seal." Finally, the Order states that in seeking the protective order, the Minnesota Attorney General's Office shall file the federal court Order under seal. Accordingly, the federal court Order

is filed herewith under seal pursuant to Rule 4, subd. 1(v)(3) of the Rules of Public Access to Records of the Judicial Branch. The State respectfully requests that the Court issue a protective order in accord with the provisions of the federal court Order.

Dated: February 22, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

KEITH ELLISON
Attorney General
State of Minnesota

/s/ Matthew Frank
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