

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF CARVER

DISTRICT COURT
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
PROBATE DIVISION

In the Matter of:

Court File No. 10-PR-16-46

Estate of Prince Rogers Nelson,
Deceased.

**ORDER DENYING MOTION FOR FILING
DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL**

The above-entitled matter came before the Court without a hearing pursuant to various requests to file certain documents under seal.

On June 28, 2017, Attorney Nathaniel Dahl (counsel for heirs Sharon Nelson, Norrine Nelson and John Nelson) filed with the Court redacted and unredacted letters and attachments as documents 1856 and 1857. Mr. Dahl requests that based upon the confidential information in the letter and attachments, the unredacted filing be filed under seal.

Also on June 28, 2017, Attorney Alan Silver (counsel for L. Londell McMillan) filed with the Court redacted and unredacted letters and attachments as documents 1868 and 1869. Mr. Silver requests that based upon the confidential information in his letter and attachments, his unredacted filing also be filed under seal.

Pursuant to the Court's Order Regarding the Filing of Certain Documents Under Seal filed January 23, 2017, if a party filing a document wishes a document to be filed under seal, it shall file with the document a (1) motion for the document to be filed under seal, (2) memorandum setting forth why the document, or portions of the document, should be filed under seal, (3) redacted version of the document to be filed publicly (if applicable) and (4) proposed order for the sealing of the document. The Court shall exercise a strong preference for the sealing, through the use of a redacted copy, of only those portions a document that reference confidential business transactions, privileged information, or otherwise should be filed under seal. In this analysis, the party should review the standard set forth in *Minneapolis Star & Tribune v. Schumacher*, 392 N.W.2d 197 (Minn.1986). While Mr. Dahl and Mr. Silver have complied in part with the procedural requirements for filing documents under seal, the redacted versions of their filings redact significantly more information than necessary to protect confidential information.

Therefore, the Court makes the following:

ORDER

1. Mr. Dahl's and Mr. Silver's motions to file under seal their letters and attachments filed June 28, 2017 is respectfully DENIED.

2. The unredacted documents identified as documents 1856 and 1868 shall be unsealed on August 18, 2017, unless prior to that date Mr. Dahl and Mr. Silver submit redacted versions of those documents consistent with the standard set forth in *Minneapolis Star & Tribune v. Schumacher*, and those redacted documents are found satisfactory to the Court.

3. If the party who filed the documents initially does not submit an appropriately redacted version of those documents by August 18, 2017, and if the Court does not feel that the document can be unsealed due to references to confidential business transactions, privileged information, or otherwise should be filed under seal, appropriate sanctions may be imposed upon the filer.

BY THE COURT:

Dated: July 24th, 2017

Kevin W. Eide
Judge of District Court

NOTICE: A true and correct copy of this Order/Notice has been served by EFS upon the parties. Please be advised that orders/notices sent to attorneys are sent to the lead attorney only.