LATONIA D. WILSON CLERK DISTRICT COURT

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IN RE:

HURRICANE IKE

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

CLAIM LITIGATION

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GALVESTON COUNTY, TEXAS

212TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

PROTECTIVE ORDER

This Court finds that a Protective Order is warranted to protect confidential information, which will be produced by the parties in this litigation, and that the following provisions, limitations and prohibitions are appropriate pursuant to and in conformity with the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure. Therefore, it is hereby ORDERED that:

- 1. All Confidential Information produced or exchanged in the course of this litigation shall be used solely for the purpose of the preparation and trial of this litigation and other related litigation against Defendant Texas Windstorm Insurance Association ("TWIA") (including its employees) or any third party adjusting firm (including its employees) which adjusted Hurricane Ike claims for TWIA and for no other purpose. "Related litigation" means litigation by a TWIA insured for damages arising out of Hurricane Ike and ensuing losses. Confidential information can also be shared with any other attorney involved in Hurricane Ike litigation. Confidential Information shall not be disclosed to any person except in accordance with the terms of this Order.
- 2. "Confidential Information," as used herein, means any information of any type which is designated as "Confidential" by any of the supplying or receiving parties, whether it is a document, information contained in a document, information revealed during a deposition,

Plaintiffs' Proposed Protective Order

- information revealed in an interrogatory answer or otherwise.
- 3. The disclosure of Confidential Information, absent the written consent of the party producing the information, is restricted to Qualified Persons. "Qualified Persons", as used herein, means the named parties to any pending Hurricane Ike litigation, their respective counsel, and expert witnesses. If this Court so elects, any other person may be designated as a Qualified Person by order of this Court, after notice to all parties and a hearing.
- 4. Any party may serve a written request on counsel for the party designating information as "Confidential" for authority to disclose "Confidential" information to a person not authorized by this Order to receive the information, and that consent shall not be unreasonably withheld. However, until said requesting party receives written consent to the further disclosure from counsel for the party designating the information as "Confidential," further disclosure is not authorized and shall not be made absent further order of this Court.
- 5. Lead counsel for each party shall provide a copy of this Order to any person to whom Confidential information is to be disclosed, including each party such counsel represents, and shall advise such person of the scope and effect of the confidentiality provisions of this Order and the possibility of punishment by contempt for violation thereof. Further, before disclosing Confidential information to any person, lead counsel for the party disclosing the information shall obtain the written acknowledgment of that person binding him or her to the terms of this Order. The written acknowledgment shall be in the form of "Exhibit A" attached hereto. Lead counsel for the disclosing party shall retain the original written acknowledgment, and furnish a copy of the signed written acknowledgment to counsel for the party designating the information as confidential within ten (10) business days.

- 6. Any party who inadvertently discloses Confidential information during the discovery process shall, immediately upon discovery of the inadvertent disclosure, give notice in writing to the party or parties in possession of such information that the information is designated as "Confidential." After receipt of such notice, the parties shall treat the information so designated as Confidential information under the terms of this Order, unless released of this duty by further order of this Court. Additionally, any party who inadvertently discloses Confidential information during the discovery process shall, immediately upon discovery of the inadvertent disclosure, give notice in writing to the party which produced and provided this information, the names and addresses of the persons to whom it was disclosed and the date of the disclosure.
- 7. Documents previously produced and not already marked as Confidential shall be retroactively designated by notice in writing of the designated class of each document by bates number within thirty (30) days of entry of this Order. Documents unintentionally produced without being designated as "Confidential" may be retroactively designated in the same manner and shall be treated appropriately from the date written notice of the designation is provided to the receiving party so long as written notice is provided to the receiving party so long as written notice is provided to the receiving party and to the provisions of Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 193.3 (d). If notice is provided to the receiving party more than sixty (60) days after the production of such Confidential documents, then the party to whom such documents are produced is not required to disclose the names of any consulting experts to whom such Confidential documents were sent, although such documents must be returned to the producing party.
- 8. Any party may request the party designating information as "Confidential" to consent to re-

- designate confidential information as not confidential, which request shall not be rejected absent a good-faith determination by the designating party that the confidential information is entitled to protection.
- 9. Deposition testimony is Confidential Information under the terms of this Order only if counsel for a party advises the court reporter and opposing counsel of that designation at the deposition, or by written designation to all parties and the court reporter within thirty (30) business days after receiving the deposition transcript. All deposition transcripts shall be considered confidential until thirty (30) days following the receipt of the deposition transcript. The court reporter shall note on the record the designation of said information as Confidential and shall separately transcribe those portions of the testimony and mark the face of such portion of the transcript as "Confidential." The parties may use Confidential information during any deposition, provided the witness is apprized of the terms of this Order and executes the acknowledgment attached hereto as Exhibit "A." The parties may use Confidential information during a deposition only if the room is first cleared of all persons except the court reporter, the witness being deposed, counsel for the parties and any expert entitled to attend, and only if said witness executes the acknowledgment attached as Exhibit "A."
- 10. At any time after the delivery of Confidential Documents, and after making a good-faith effort to resolve any disputes regarding whether any designated materials constitute Confidential Information, counsel of the party or parties receiving the Confidential Documents may challenge the Confidential designation of all or any portion thereof by providing written notice of the challenge to counsel for the party disclosing or producing the Confidential Documents.

The party or parties disclosing or producing the Confidential Documents shall have twenty (20) days from the date of receipt of a written challenge to file a motion for specific protection with regard to any Confidential Documents in dispute. If the party or parties producing the Confidential Documents does not timely file a motion for specific protection, then the Confidential Documents in dispute shall no longer be subject to confidential treatment as provided in this Order.

- 11. If a timely motion for specific protection is filed, any disputed document will remain confidential until a contrary determination is made by the Court, and all such documents, information or testimony shall continue to be treated as Confidential Information until this Court makes a contrary decision regarding the status of the documents, information or testimony. At any hearing to resolve a challenge of a Confidential designation, the party designating the information as "Confidential" shall have the burden to establish that party's right to protection as if this Order did not exist. A party's failure to challenge the designation of documents, information, or testimony as "Confidential" information does not constitute an admission that the document, information or testimony is, in fact, sensitive, confidential, or proprietary. No party waives its right to contend at trial or hearing that such document, information or testimony is not sensitive, confidential, privileged or proprietary, provided the party provides notice of intention to do so at least twenty (20) days before such trial or hearing.
- 12. Any papers filed with the Court in this action which make reference to Confidential Information, or contains information derived from therefrom, shall be considered Confidential Information and shall be governed by the terms of this Order. These papers shall be filed

under seal and shall remain sealed with the District Clerk's Office so long as the materials retain their status as Confidential Information.

13. Any attorney who obtains information pursuant to this order consents to submitting to the jurisdiction of this Court for enforcement of this order. Steve Mostyn is ordered to obtain a signed Exhibit "A" for each attorney who qualifies to and does obtain information under this Order.

This Order shall remain in effect unless or until amended, altered, modified, or vacated by the Court or by the written agreement of all parties to this action filed with the Court, pursuant to Rule 11 of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 3 8 day of Sept 2009.

JUDGE PRESIDING

IN RE: