INDEX NO. 453196/2022

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 238

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 03/27/2024

## SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK NEW YORK COUNTY

| PRESENT:     | HON. SABRINA KRAUS  |         | PART                          | 57M               |  |  |  |
|--------------|---|---------|-------------------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|
|              |   | lustice |                               |                   |  |  |  |
|              |   | X       | NDEX NO.                      | 453196/2022       |  |  |  |
|              | THE STATE OF NEW YORK, BY LETITIA<br>TORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF N                   |         | MOTION DATE                   | 02/20/2024        |  |  |  |
| YORK,        |   | ı       | MOTION SEQ. NO.               | 006               |  |  |  |
|              | Plaintiff,  |         |                               |                   |  |  |  |
|              | - v -   |         | DECISION : O                  | DDED ON           |  |  |  |
| VDARE FOL    | JNDATION, INC.,   |         | DECISION + ORDER ON<br>MOTION |                   |  |  |  |
|              | Defendant.  |         |                               |                   |  |  |  |
|              |   | X       |                               |                   |  |  |  |
| •            | e-filed documents, listed by NYSCEF docu<br>, 208, 209, 210, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 2 |         | ` ,                           | 2, 193, 194, 195, |  |  |  |
| were read on | this motion to/for  | PROT    | ECETIVE ORDER                 | •                 |  |  |  |

The motion is granted to the extent set forth below.

Without conceding the propriety of the pseudonymous authors' intervention in this proceeding or the substance of their claims, the OAG broadly consents to entry of a protocol designed to address their concerns. The pseudonymous authors' counsel has previously indicated that his clients do not object to the OAG's proposal.

Therefore, in furtherance of this Court's Orders of January 23, 2023 (NYSCEF Doc. No. 62), and December 11, 2023, as amended (NYSCEF Doc. No. 129), and in resolution of this motion seeking redaction of documents to protect the personal identifying information of the moving Pseudonymous Authors, the Court hereby adopts the following redaction protocol and orders as follows:

INDEX NO. 453196/2022

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 238 RECEIVED NYSCEF: 03/27/2024

As used herein:

a) "Pseudonymous Author" shall mean any writer who has published under a pseudonym or anonymously works at vdare.com or received payment from

VDARE Foundation, Inc. for their written work.

b) "Qualifying Pseudonymous Author" shall mean any Pseudonymous Author who is not a "Related Party" as that term is defined in N-PCL § 102(23).

VDARE, through its officers, shall attest under penalty of perjury that any Qualifying Pseudonymous Author whose identity has been withheld under this protocol is not a "Related Party" as that term is defined in N-PCL § 102(23).

Pursuant to CPLR 3104, 4011, 4201, and 4311, the Court will issue an order of reference for the appointment of a special referee to supervise production of documents pursuant to the Attorney General's Subpoena and the Court's prior orders.

VDARE Foundation, Inc. shall immediately produce all responsive documents to the Referee to make redaction determinations, apply redactions to responsive documents, and prepare corresponding redaction logs. All redaction determinations and corresponding logging shall be done by the Referee.

The Referee shall redact any information that reveals the identities of Qualifying Pseudonymous Authors (e.g., name, address, social security number or other identifying number or code, telephone number, email address). All other information

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "Related party" shall mean (i) any director, officer or key person of VDARE Foundation, Inc. or any affiliate of VDARE Foundation, Inc.; (ii) any relative of any individual described in clause (i) of this subparagraph; or (iii) any entity in which any individual described in clauses (i) and (ii) of this subparagraph has a thirty-five percent or greater ownership or beneficial interest or, in the case of a partnership or professional corporation, a direct or indirect ownership interest in excess of five percent. N-PCL § 102(23)

INDEX NO. 453196/2022

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 238 RECEIVED NYSCEF: 03/27/2024

regarding transactions between VDARE Foundation, Inc. and the Qualifying Pseudonymous Author (such as, without limitation, payment records, contracts, terms of the transactions and corresponding communications), shall be produced by the Referee to the Attorney General without redaction.

All redactions shall be reflected in a redaction log that identifies the basis for the redaction and, where applicable, the identity by pseudonym of the author who is counterparty to the transaction.

The terms of this protocol will apply to all responsive documents, including those previously produced in redacted form.

Petitioner may seek disclosure of identifying information for the Pseudonymous Authors where it deems it necessary to Petitioner's investigation. If Petitioner demands such disclosure, Petitioner will provide notice to VDARE Foundation, Inc., and the intervening Movants in writing by email, who may oppose the same.

| This constitutes      | the | decision and order of the c | cour | τ.                                |                    |                 |
|-----------------------|-----|-----------------------------|------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
|                       |     |                             |      | 202403271129245BKRAUSE57F8944613B | <del>193</del> 794 | 1113FF328B16F1D |
| 3/27/2024             |     |                             |      |                                   |                    |                 |
| DATE                  |     |                             |      | SABRINA KRAUS                     | , J.S              | S.C.            |
| CHECK ONE:            |     | CASE DISPOSED               | Х    | NON-FINAL DISPOSITION             |                    | _               |
|                       | X   | GRANTED DENIED              |      | GRANTED IN PART                   |                    | OTHER           |
| APPLICATION:          |     | SETTLE ORDER                |      | SUBMIT ORDER                      |                    | •               |
| CHECK IF APPROPRIATE: |     | INCLUDES TRANSFER/REASSIGN  |      | FIDUCIARY APPOINTMENT             | Х                  | REFERENCE       |