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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA

THE STATE OF ARIZONA, Plaintiff, vs. LAURA MICHELLE OWENS, Defendant.	CR2025-007905-001 STATE'S MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER (Assigned to the Honorable Jeffrey A Rueter, Div. CRJ02)

A.R.S. §13-4434(B) protects a victim's right to privacy by requiring law enforcement and prosecution agencies redact victim identifying and locating information from records disclosed in a criminal case.[1]

Rule 39(b)(11) of the Arizona Rules of Criminal Procedure similarly gives a victim the right to require, during discovery and other proceedings, that the prosecutor withhold a

[1] A.R.S. §13-4434(B) was recently amended to prohibit the dissemination of any victim identifying and locating information to not only the defendant but also precluding dissemination of this information to defendant's lawyer or to the defense attorney's staff.

victim's identifying and locating information. This victim's right to require that the prosecution withhold identifying and locating information is not absolute, however, and must give way where the defendant has a constitutional due process right to the information. *State ex rel. Romley v Superior Court*, 172 Ariz. 236, 836 P.2d 445, 449 (1992).

Accordingly, Rule 39(b)(11)(A) permits the court to order disclosure of the victim's identifying and locating information as necessary to protect the defendant's constitutional rights. If the court orders disclosure of the victim's identifying and locating information, defense counsel shall not disclose the information to any person other than counsel's staff and designated investigator. Ariz.R.Crim.P. 39(b)(11)(A). The information cannot be disseminated to the defendant without prior court authorization. *Id.*

In this case, the State and law enforcement are in possession of Victim's copy of laptop via AXIOM, which contain(s) victim identifying information. The Victim's copy of laptop via AXIOM contains hundreds/thousands of pages/GB of data which includes the victim's identifying and/or locating information. Due to the nature of the media format and/or the quantity of the media data, the victim's identifying and/or locating information cannot be redacted.

Because the State is required to disclose Victim's copy of laptop via AXIOM under Rule 15.1 of the Arizona Rules of Criminal Procedure and because defense counsel may find information within this Victim's copy of laptop via AXIOM that implicates *Brady v. Maryland*[2]

[2] Brady v. Maryland, 373 U.S. 83, (1963).

and its progeny, the State respectfully asks that this Court order Victim's copy of laptop via AXIOM be disclosed under Rule 39(b)(11)(A) with an appropriate protective order under Rule 15.5 to keep the defendant from viewing any of the victim's identifying or locating information by limiting disclosure to defense counsel, counsel's staff and counsel's designated investigator.

Submitted this ___6__ day of February, 2026.

RACHEL H. MITCHELL
MARICOPA COUNTY ATTORNEY

BY: /s/

Edward Leiter
Deputy County Attorney

Copy e-mailed/e-filed February _6_, 2026, to:

The Honorable Jeffrey A Rueter
Judge of the Superior Court

Jeffrey Swierski
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Attorney for Defendant

BY: /s/ Edward Leiter

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