

05-4-2026

C.LOPEZ

DISCIPLINARY CLERK

**BEFORE THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY JUDGE**

IN THE MATTER OF A MEMBER OF  
THE STATE BAR OF ARIZONA,

**DAVID S. GINGRAS**

Bar No. 021097

Respondent.

**No. PDJ 2026-9010**

**MOTION FOR  
PROTECTIVE/SEALING  
ORDER**

State Bar File: 24-1692, 24-  
1826, 24-2483, 24-2819, 24-  
3080, and 25-1230

Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 70(g) Respondent David S. Gingras respectfully moves the PDJ for a protective order sealing and protecting certain information as follows.

During the underlying litigation in *Owens v. Echard*, Respondent made multiple calls to the State Bar of Arizona's Ethics Hotline. During those calls, Respondent disclosed certain information which is protected by attorney-client privilege, and by the broader protections of ER 1.6.

Respondent has obtained notes of those calls as maintained by State Bar Ethics Counsel and intends to disclose those notes to bar counsel. However, while the disclosure of this confidential information is *allowed* by ER 1.6(d)(4) (because the information is needed to respond to allegations concerning the lawyer's representation of a client), it is important to note that comment 19 to ER 1.6 advises, in relevant part:

In any case, a disclosure ... [permitted under this rule] should be no greater than the lawyer reasonably believes necessary to accomplish the purpose. If the disclosure will be made in connection with a judicial proceeding, the disclosure should be made in a manner that limits access to the information to the tribunal or other persons having a need to know it and appropriate protective orders or other arrangements should be sought by the lawyer to the fullest extent practicable. (emphasis added)

Here, due to the high-profile nature of *Owens v. Echard*, this case is being closely followed on social media. In fact, every pleading from this case has been, and will continue to be, shared on the Internet by anonymous third parties, including on this site: [https://victimsoflauraowens.com/documents/#elementor-toc\\_heading-anchor-5](https://victimsoflauraowens.com/documents/#elementor-toc_heading-anchor-5)

Ms. Owens is not a party to this case, and while the disclosure of certain information is allowed by ER 1.6(d)(4), the rule further requires that any confidential client information be done only subject to “appropriate protective orders”.

For that reason, pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 70(g), good cause exists for the PDJ to issue a protective order in the form proposed in Exhibit A. To be clear about the specific relief sought – Respondent intends to disclose certain information to bar counsel which will be marked as confidential. Such information (to the extent it is included in any future filing by any party) shall be submitted to the Court under seal, and shall not be published, nor made publicly available, except in compliance with Rule 70(g) and/or further order of the Court.

Respectfully submitted May 4, 2026.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David S. Gingras", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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David S. Gingras, #021097  
**Gingras Law Office, PLLC**  
4802 E. Ray Road, #23-271  
Phoenix, AZ 85044  
Tel.: (480) 264-1400  
David@GingrasLaw.com  
Respondent

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

ORIGINAL of the foregoing electronically filed May 4, 2026 with:

Office of Presiding Disciplinary Judge  
Honorable Lisa Vandenberg  
c/o Disciplinary Clerk of the Superior Court  
1501 W. Washington, Suite 102  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007  
[officepdj@courts.az.gov](mailto:officepdj@courts.az.gov)

COPY of the foregoing emailed to:

Jim Lee  
[Jim.Lee@staff.azbar.org](mailto:Jim.Lee@staff.azbar.org)  
Craig Henley  
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Senior Bar Counsel

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dudley", is written over a horizontal line.

**BEFORE THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY JUDGE**

**IN THE MATTER OF A MEMBER  
OF THE STATE BAR OF  
ARIZONA,**

**DAVID S. GINGRAS  
Bar No. 021097**

Respondent.

**PO 2026-9010**

**PROTECTIVE ORDER**

State Bar File No: 24-1692, 24-1826,  
24-2483, 24-2819, 24-3080, and 25-  
1230

The Presiding Disciplinary Judge of the Supreme Court of Arizona has reviewed Respondent's Motion for Protective/Sealing Order and finds good cause for the request. Accordingly:

**IT IS ORDERED** the motion is granted.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that any Ethics Hotline notes and related material, including but not limited to disclosure statements marked as confidential regarding Respondent's phone calls to the Ethics Hotline or his discussion of those calls shall be sealed and kept confidential from the Complainants and the public pursuant to Rule 70(g), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. To the extent any party seeks to include any information which has been marked confidential in any pleading filed in this matter, such filing shall be made under seal, and no party

may disclose, publish, or share any information marked as confidential without prior written permission by the Court.

Sealed material subject to this Order shall be opened and viewed only by an order of the committee, the presiding disciplinary judge, a hearing panel, the board or the court for use by such body and the parties in pending proceedings, and otherwise only upon notice to and an opportunity to be heard by the parties and the witness or other person who is the subject of the information. A party aggrieved by an order relating to a request for a protective order may seek review by filing a petition for special action with the court.

**DATED** this \_\_\_\_ day of May 2026.

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**Honorable Lisa A. VandenBerg**  
**Presiding Disciplinary Judge**