

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA
SOUTHERN DIVISION

DOYLE LEE HAMM,]
]
Plaintiff,]
]
v.]
]
JEFFERSON S DUNN, COMMISSIONER,]
ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF]
CORRECTIONS;]
CYNTHIA STEWART, WARDEN,]
HOLMAN CORRECTIONAL FACILITY;]
LEON BOLLING, III, WARDEN,]
DONALDSON CORRECTIONAL FACILITY;]
OTHER UNKNOWN EMPLOYEES AND]
AGENTS, ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF]
CORRECTIONS]
]
Defendants.]

2:17-cv-02083-KOB

ORDER


This matter comes before the court on Defendants’ “Motion for Leave to Redact.” (Doc. 138). In a previous memorandum opinion and order, the court concluded that the public has a right to access a *redacted* version of Alabama’s lethal injection protocol and related court records. (Docs. 123 & 124). The court found that the public’s interest in accessing information about the State of Alabama’s method of executing death-sentenced inmates outweighs the Defendants’ interest in keeping the protocol confidential. However, the court *also* found that the protocol includes sensitive security information and information that could identify particular individuals involved in executions, and Defendants have a protected interest in keeping *that* information confidential. (Doc. 124). The court ordered that the Defendants submit to the court, under seal, a copy of the lethal injection protocol that redacts *only* security information and information that could be used to identify individuals involved in executions. The court

specified that Annexes C and D should not be redacted, and that redactions in Section IX(I)–(T) should be minimal. The court directed that, should the Defendants wish to seek further redaction, they should file, under seal, a motion to redact that other information. The court noted that it planned to unseal specific records, (docs. 53, 54, and 71), and directed the Defendants to advise the court of similar security information or identifying information in those documents requiring redaction.

In their instant motion for leave to redact, the Defendants assert that Annex C and sealed documents 53, 54, and 71 all contain “similar security or identifying information that must be redacted.” (Doc. 138). The Defendants have filed the documents with requested redactions as exhibits to their motion. Having reviewed the Defendants’ submissions, the court finds that the proposed redactions are appropriate, as they are relatively limited in scope and relate to security and identifying information.

Accordingly, the court GRANTS Defendants’ motion for leave to redact. Defendants are directed to file the sealed and redacted lethal injection protocol on or before October 25, 2019.

DONE and **ORDERED** this 15th day of October, 2019.


KARON OWEN BOWDRE
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE