IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COurt FOR

THE Western DISTRICT OF Texas

San Antonio Division

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| HOLCOMBe, et. al,  Plaintiffs | No. 5:18-cv-00555-XR  (consolidated cases) |
| vs. |
| UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  Defendant |

ORDER

The Court ORDERS that Parties should take remote depositions in this case while the COVID-19 Pandemic precludes in-person depositions. The Court ORDERS that the Parties should abide by the following protocol.

1. Parties shall serve notice of depositions that outline the remote means of taking the deposition, including the technologies used and how parties should connect to the deposition. An example notice of deposition is attached to this order as EXHIBIT A.
2. The court reporter shall swear the witness in remotely.
3. Parties shall use only documents in deposition that have been previously produced more than five (5) business days prior to the deposition and uniquely bates stamped. Parties may refer to those documents by bates stamp number and display those documents on the witness’ screen. Should the parties wish to attach documents, Parties will put on the record the bates stamp range of the document and produce the document to the court reporter following the deposition.
4. The court reporting or IT firm running the remote deposition technology will disable private chats between individuals involved in the deposition.
5. At the conclusion of the deposition, the witness shall sign the declaration attached as EXHIBIT B to this Order, affirming that no witness tampering occurred.

It is so ORDERED.

SIGNED on this day of , 2020.

Hon. Judge Xavier Rodriguez