

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN RE: THE MARRIAGE OF

CARREY HITCHCOCK,
Petitioner/Wife,

Case No. 10-196-DR

And

STERLING HITCHCOCK,
Respondent/Husband.

FILED
2010 APR 12 PM 1:00
CLERK HENDRY COUNTY FLORIDA

**ORDER GRANTING IN PART JOINT MOTION TO DETERMINE
CONFIDENTIALITY OF COURT RECORDS
AND
CONDITIONALLY SEALING FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

THIS CAUSE having come before the Court on the parties' "Joint Motion to Determine the Confidentiality of Court Records" dated April 12, 2010. Upon due consideration and based on good cause shown, the Court finds that it is likely that access to the financial information required by Fla. Fam. L. R. P. 12.285 and filed in this case would subject Respondent/Husband to abuse, such as the use of the information by third parties for purposes unrelated to government or judicial accountability or to First Amendment rights.

To the extent that the parties' seek closure of records other than financial information required by Fla. Fam. L. R. P. 12.285, the Court finds that the parties have not demonstrated that such records pertain to matters protected by a common law or privacy right not generally inherent in this specific type of civil proceeding. See Fla. Fam. L. R. P. 12.400(a); Fla. R. Jud. Admin. 2.420(c)(9)(A)(vi); Barron v. Florida Freedom Newspapers, Inc., 531 So. 2d 113 (Fla. 1988); Carnegie v. Tedder, 698 So. 2d 1310 (Fla. 2d DCA 1997) ("[I]n order to protect our respected system of open courts, litigants cannot have a reasonable expectation of privacy with regard to matters that are inherent to their civil proceedings."). Therefore, it is

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the parties' "Joint Motion to Determine the Confidentiality of Court Records" is GRANTED in part and, accordingly, the following court records shall be conditionally sealed pursuant to Fla. Fam. L. R. P. 12.400(c)(1):

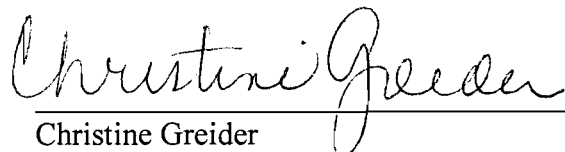
1. The "Financial Affidavit" filed March 5, 2010; and
2. The "Agreement to Settle Property Rights and Other Affairs" filed March 5, 2010.

The Clerk is directed to publish this order in accordance with Rule 2.420(d)(4), which provides that within 10 days following entry of the order, the Clerk must post a copy of the order on the Clerk's website and in a prominent, public location in the courthouse, and the order must remain posted in both locations for no less than 30 days.

Access to the financial information required by rule 12.285 and filed in this case shall only be granted to: (i) the parties herein and the attorney of record or subsequent attorney of record for either party; (ii) the Clerk and court staff in fulfillment of their duties; and (iii) any person named in any subsequent order who establishes that disclosure of the financial information is necessary for government or judicial accountability or has a proper First Amendment right to the information.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at LaBelle, Hendry County, Florida, this

11 day of June, 2010.


Christine Greider
Circuit Judge

Copies to:
Tamara Lynne Nicola, Esquire
Sterling Hitchcock, Pro Se



MAILED
6-15-10