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5 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
6 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
7 AT TACOMA

8 JOHN DOE #1, an individual; JOHN
9 DOE #2, an individual; and PROTECT
10 MARRIAGE WASHINGTON,

11 Plaintiffs,

12 v.

13 SAM REED, in his official capacity as
14 Secretary of State of Washington;
15 DEBRA GALARZA, in her official
16 capacity as Public Records Officer for the
17 Secretary of State of Washington,

18 Defendants.

CASE NO. 09-5456BHS

ORDER GRANTING
PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR
TEMPORARY RESTRAINING
ORDER

19 This matter comes before the court on Plaintiffs' motion for temporary restraining
20 order and preliminary injunction. Dkt. 3.

21 **I. BACKGROUND**

22 On July 28, 2009, Plaintiffs filed a complaint. Dkt. 2. Plaintiffs seek to enjoin
23 Defendants from releasing copies of the Referendum 71 petition to any third party.
24 Specifically, Plaintiffs seek to prevent Defendants from releasing the names, addresses, and
25 other contact information of individuals who signed the petition. Plaintiffs contend that
26 release of this petition would result in a violation of Plaintiffs' and others' First Amendment
27 rights. *See generally* Dkt. 2 (Plaintiffs' complaint).

28 On July 28, 2009, Plaintiffs also filed a motion for temporary restraining order and
preliminary injunction. Dkt. 3, *see* Fed. R. Civ. P. 65. On the same day, the Court held a

1 hearing and indicated that Plaintiffs needed to personally serve Defendants with the motion
2 and provide notice of the hearing which was reset for July 29, 2009 at 2:30 PM.

3 At the hearing held July 29, 2009, Plaintiffs provided a declaration of service and
4 indicated that Defendants did not intend to appear at the hearing. Dkt. 8.

5 II. DISCUSSION

6 To obtain preliminary injunctive relief, the moving party must show: (1) a likelihood
7 of success on the merits; (2) a likelihood of irreparable harm to the moving party in the
8 absence of preliminary relief; (3) a balance of equities tips in the favor of the moving party;
9 and (4) that an injunction is in the public interest. *Winter v. Natural Res. Def. Council, Inc.*,
10 ___ U.S. ___, 129 S. Ct. 365, 374, 172 L. Ed.2d 249 (2008).

11 Having considered Plaintiffs' motion, Defendants' failure to appear or otherwise
12 object to Plaintiffs' motion, and the remainder of the record herein, the Court concludes as
13 follows:

- 14 1. For purposes of deciding Plaintiffs' motion for a temporary restraining order
15 only, Plaintiffs have pled a colorable First Amendment claim, and have
16 sufficiently demonstrated a reasonable likelihood of success on the merits.
- 17 2. Plaintiffs have demonstrated a reasonable likelihood of irreparable harm if
18 Defendants release the contact information of those individuals who signed the
19 Referendum 71 petition.
- 20 3. The balance of equities weighs in favor of Plaintiffs. Defendants and interested
21 third parties will not be unduly prejudiced by delaying the release of this
22 information until after this matter has been fully briefed, should Defendants
23 ultimately prevail on Plaintiffs' motion for preliminary injunction.
- 24 4. A temporary restraining order is in the public interest. Plaintiffs' complaint
25 raises constitutional issues potentially affecting over 100,000 voters.

