

1 Upon consideration of the written and oral argument of counsel, the court DENIED
2 plaintiffs' motion for temporary restraining order and GRANTED plaintiffs' motion for issuance
3 of an order to show cause re contempt. Hearing on the order to show cause is set for March 6,
4 2000 at 9:00 a.m. Plaintiffs' motion concerning the Open Government Act matters and defendant
5 United States' motions to quash subpoenas were stayed pending a conference between the
6 plaintiffs and the subpoenaed parties. Defendant CNMI's motion to strike plaintiffs' reply is
7 GRANTED pursuant to Local Rule 7.1(c)(4).
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9 The court found plaintiffs' motion for a temporary restraining order requiring plaintiffs
10 immediate release to be in the nature of a habeus corpus petition. The court lacks jurisdiction
11 over habeus corpus proceedings until plaintiffs have exhausted their state remedies. 28 U.S.C. §
12 2254. Accordingly, plaintiffs request for a temporary restraining order was denied.
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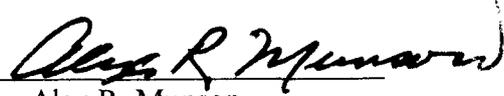
14 The court found that plaintiffs' subpoenas of Robert Stamerra, Oscar Martinez and Acting
15 Attorney General Maya B. Kara provided insufficient time for response. The court stayed the
16 motions of defendant United States to quash the subpoenas of Robert Stamerra and Oscar
17 Martinez so that the above referred to conference might resolve the matter. The parties and the
18 subpoenaed individuals shall report to the court no later than January 31, 2000, before 3:30 p.m.,
19 the results of their meeting. If no agreement is reached the court will then set for hearing any
20 motion to strike or motion to further stay the subpoenas. The court stayed the effective date for
21 the production of the requested documents in the subpoena directed to Acting Attorney General
22 Maya B. Kara until she has conferred with plaintiffs and resolved the matter or until the court
23 rules on her pending motion to quash. The results of the meeting between plaintiffs and Acting
24 Attorney General Kara shall be reported to the court no later than 3:30 p.m. on January 31, 2000.
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The court further ordered defendant United States to lodge with the court for in camera review all original notes of the interview of plaintiffs by Robert Stamerra no later than 3:30 p.m. on January 28, 2000. The court also ordered that no copies of the notes shall be made available to anyone until further order of the court.

IT WAS SO ORDERED.

Dated this 24th day of January, 2000.



Alex R. Munson
Judge