

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



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In the Matter of the Joint Application of
Platinum Equity Capital Partners IV, L.P. and
SCRS Intermediate Holding Corporation,
Requesting Expedited Approval of Indirect
Transfer of Control of Securus Technologies,
LLC (U-6888-C) Pursuant to California Public
Utilities Code Section 854(a)

Application 25-05-016

**APPLICANTS' RESPONSE TO MOTION OF THE UTILITY REFORM
NETWORK TO DE-DESIGNATE AS CONFIDENTIAL THE EVIDENTIARY
HEARING TRANSCRIPT**

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Dated: December 31, 2025

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I. INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to Rule 11.1 of the California Public Utilities Commission's (the "Commission") Rules of Practice and Procedure and Administrative Law Judge Shannon Clark's December 23, 2025 email ruling, Platinum Equity Capital Partners IV, L.P. ("Platinum") and SCRS Intermediate Holding Corporation ("SCRS Intermediate HC") (together, "Applicants") submit this Response to The Utility Reform Network's Motion to De-Designate as Confidential The Evidentiary Hearing Transcript ("TURN Motion"). In its Motion, TURN requests the Commission's removal of the confidential designation of seven discrete excerpts of the evidentiary hearing transcript ("Transcript").¹ Applicants oppose the removal of the confidentiality designation of two out of the seven excerpts: Transcript lines 51:10-52:17 and Transcript lines 126:18-130:19 (together, the "Confidential Information"). The Commission should uphold the confidentiality designation of

¹ The TURN Motion lists in total eight discrete excerpts; however, for one of these excerpts (Transcript at 53:21-54:16), TURN notes that it "takes no position on the designation of this information at this time" and that it "does *not* seek to de-designate the confidentiality of this information at this time." TURN Motion at 5.

these portions of the Transcript because they contain sensitive information that warrant confidential treatment as trade secrets and the harms from their disclosure would outweigh any public interest served through disclosure.

II. LEGAL BASIS FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT OF THE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

The Commission has authority under Public Utilities Code § 583 to limit public access to information that warrants confidential treatment.² When assessing the merits of a claim of confidentiality, the Commission must look to statutes, court rulings, and other authority limiting access to information, including trade secrets jurisprudence and California Code provisions.³ Here, the Commission should uphold the confidentiality of the Confidential Information both (A) as a trade secret under California Civil Code § 3426.1 and (B) based on the public interest balancing test pursuant to California Government Code § 7922.000.

III. CROSS EXAMINATION OF MICHAEL LOZICH IN TRANSCRIPT LINES 51:10-52:17 CONCERNS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION FROM APPLICANTS' CONFIDENTIAL RESPONSE TO TURN DATA REQUEST 4, QUESTION 4

Transcript lines 51:10-52:17 contains the cross examination of Michael Lozich regarding an entity named in Applicants' confidential response to TURN Data Request 4, Question 4. As explained in Applicants' Response to the Motion of TURN to De-Designate as Confidential Applicants' Response to TURN Data Request 4-4, filed concurrently with this response, the identity of this entity is confidential because it is a trade secret under California Civil Code §

² No information furnished to the commission by a public utility, a business that is a subsidiary or affiliate of a public utility, or a corporation that holds a controlling interest in a public utility, except those matters specifically required to be open to public inspection by this part, shall be open to public inspection or made public, except on order of the commission or by the commission or a commissioner in the course of a hearing or proceeding. A present or former officer or employee of the commission who divulges that information is guilty of a misdemeanor. Pub. Util. Code § 583(a).

³ See D.17-09-023 at 13.

3426.1 and because the public interest served by not disclosing the record would outweigh the public interest served by disclosure, pursuant to California Government Code § 7922.000. The basis for the confidential treatment of Applicants' response to TURN Data Request 4, Question 4, which also applies to Transcript lines 51:10-52:17, has been extensively briefed in Applicants' Response to the Motion of TURN to De-Designate as Confidential Applicants' Response to TURN Data Request 4-4 and Applicants incorporate those arguments and analysis here by reference.

IV. RE-DIRECT EXAMINATION OF STEPHEN RAHER IN TRANSCRIPT LINES 126:18-130:19 PERTAINS TO THE LIKELIHOOD AND PROSPECTIVE IMPACTS OF AN AVENTIV BANKRUPTCY

In Transcript lines 126:18-130:19, Stephen Raher is asked by TURN Telecom Policy Analyst Leo Fitzpatrick during re-direct examination to elaborate on the likelihood and prospective impacts of an Aventiv Technologies, LLC ("Aventiv") bankruptcy. This line of inquiry touches on the financial position of Aventiv and factors affecting Aventiv's financial future—both of which are information that derives independent economic value from not being generally known to the public or other persons who can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use. Any information regarding the risk factors of an Aventiv bankruptcy could be leveraged by current or potential competitors of Aventiv in anticompetitive ways to the detriment of Aventiv. As such, this information is the subject of reasonable efforts by Aventiv and Applicants to maintain their secrecy. This information should be protected as trade secret under California Civil Code § 3426.1.

The balancing test under California Government Code § 7922.000 also persuades in favor of the confidential treatment of Transcript lines 126:18-130:19. Public disclosure of this information would harm the public interest by allowing opportunistic competitors to use this information to disrupt competition in the incarcerated people's communications services

marketplace, as well as in the financing and lending marketplace. If publicly disclosed, information in Transcript lines 126:18-130:19 could reveal the financial position of Aventiv, as well as that of Aventiv's debt holders. Such disclosures are not in the public interest, especially when this information has already been entered into the record of this proceeding and is accessible by parties to this proceeding.

V. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the Commission deny the TURN Motion and uphold the confidentiality designation of the Confidential Information. The information at issue is not publicly available, is protected as a trade secret, and its disclosure would harm the public interest without advancing the Commission's review of A.25-05-016.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
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