

Judge signs protective order on evidence in the Maduro case

United States v. Maduro Moros et al. · S.D.N.Y. No. 1:11-cr-00205

Judge Alvin K. Hellerstein · Docket entry #305 · Filed 2026-04-15 · Filed by: Court

What happened

Judge Alvin K. Hellerstein signed a protective order (rules on how evidence the government turns over to the defense may be used) for Nicolás Maduro and Cilia Flores. The order bars the defense from posting that material online or on social media and from giving it to the media. It also creates more restricted categories, such as attorney's-eyes-only material, and bars sharing it with charged defendants who have not been apprehended.

What it means

Such orders are common in federal criminal cases; according to its text, this one lets the government produce discovery while protecting witnesses and ongoing investigations. It limits what the defense can make public about that evidence. The government's designations control initially, but the defense may ask the court to change them.

What happens next

The order sets no new dates. Trial is set for June 1, 2027.

Key passages from the filing (verbatim)

"The defense shall not post any Disclosure Material on any Internet site or network site, including any social media site such as Facebook or X, to which persons other than the parties hereto have access, and shall not disclose any Disclosure Material to the media."

Page 3 — The main restriction on making the evidence public.

"Disclosure Material may not be shared with any named defendant who has not yet been apprehended in this action or any such defendant's counsel."

Page 5 — Bars sharing evidence with co-defendants who are not in custody.

Docket text (official, in English)

PROTECTIVE ORDER as to Nicolas Maduro Moros, Cilia Adela Flores De Maduro...regarding procedures to be followed that shall govern the handling of confidential material... Terminated Motion(s): 304 MOTION for Protective Order (Revised Proposed Order) filed by USA. (Signed by Judge Alvin K. Hellerstein on 4/14/26)(jw) (Entered: 04/15/2026)

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