

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

BYRAN LATKANICH and
RYAN LATKANICH, a minor by and
through natural guardian BRYAN
LATKANICH,

Plaintiffs,

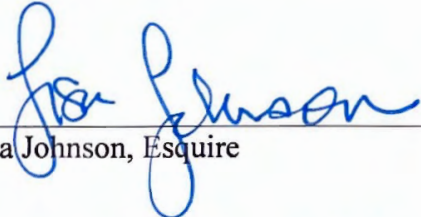
v.

CHEVRON CORP., CHEVRON
U.S.A. INC., CHEVRON
APPALACHIA, LLC, EQT CORP.,
EQT PRODUCTION COMPANY,
EQT CHAP LLC, and JOHN DOE
DEFENDANTS,

Defendants.

Certification of Compliance Regarding
Confidential Information

I certify that this filing complies with the
Provisions of the *Public Access Policy of the
Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania: Case
Records of the Appellate and Trial Courts*
That require filing confidential information and
Documents differently than non-confidential
Information and documents



Lisa Johnson, Esquire

FILED
JAN 22 2024
L. H. HOUGH
PROTHONOTARY

CIVIL DIVISION

Case No. 2022-6006

Plaintiffs' Response in
Opposition to Chevron Corporation's
Motion for a Protective Order

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

Filed on Behalf of Plaintiffs
Bryan Latkanich and minor child
and Plaintiff Ryan Latkanich,
by and through his natural guardian

Counsel of Record for this Party:

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**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

BYRAN LATKANICH and)	CIVIL DIVISION
RYAN LATKANICH, a minor by and through)	
natural guardian BRYAN LATKANICH)	Case No. 2022-6006
)	
Plaintiffs,)	
)	
v.)	
CHEVRON CORP., CHEVRON)	
U.S.A. INC., CHEVRON)	
APPALACHIA, LLC, EQT CORP.,)	
EQT PRODUCTION COMPANY,)	
EQT CHAP LLC, and JOHN DOE)	
DEFENDANTS,)	
)	
Defendants.)	

**Plaintiffs’ Response in Opposition to
Chevron Corporation’s Motion for a Protective Order**

Plaintiffs, by and through undersigned counsel, file this Response in Opposition to Chevron Corporation’s (“Chevron”) Motion for a Protective Order pursuant to the Court Order dated January 5, 2024, and in support thereof states as follows:

1. Denied. The statements in this paragraph conflate corporate accountability with harassment. By way of further response, Chevron has no standing to seek a protective order for persons not employed by Chevron. Please also see Plaintiffs’ accompanying Memorandum of Law.

2. Admitted in part, denied in part. The Plaintiffs admit that Chevron is incorporated in the state of Delaware, and its primary place of business is California. Plaintiffs deny Chevron’s claim that it has not availed themselves of the jurisdiction

of Pennsylvania. By way of further response, please see Plaintiffs' accompanying Memorandum of Law.

3. Admitted in part, denied in part. Plaintiffs admit that Defendants filed Preliminary Objections but deny any characterization thereof. By way of further response, please see Plaintiffs' accompanying Memorandum of Law.

4. Admitted in part, denied in part. Plaintiffs admit that the parties exchanged proposed factual stipulations and that factual disputes remain. Plaintiffs deny Plaintiffs refused to stipulate to undisputed facts. By way of further response, please see Plaintiffs' accompanying Memorandum of Law.

5. Admitted in part, denied in part. Plaintiffs admit that Chevron is agreeable to Ms. Endries testifying at a hearing. Plaintiffs deny that Ms. Endries is the only witness that should be compelled to testify at a hearing. By way of further response, please see Plaintiffs' accompanying Memorandum of Law.

6. Admitted in part, denied in part. Plaintiffs admit that the names listed in this paragraph correspond to Plaintiffs' proposed witnesses but deny any characterization thereof. Plaintiffs deny that the Court cannot compel persons not employed by Chevron to testify at a hearing. Moreover, Chevron has no standing to seek a protective order for persons not employed by Chevron. Please also see Plaintiffs' accompanying Memorandum of Law.

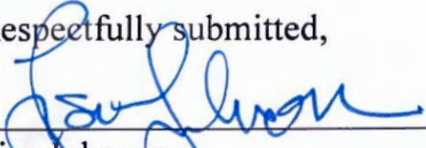
7. The statements in this paragraph involve legal argument, for which no response is required. Notwithstanding, Chevron has provided no legal support for the arbitrary standard it has set forth. Plaintiffs have not manufactured irrelevant factual disputes, as evidenced by the Defendants disputing the same facts in their own Memorandum of Law. Moreover, the corporate representative provided to the Plaintiffs during the deposition on December 6, 2023, was unprepared and is unable to provide testimony necessary for the Court to make an informed decision on the jurisdictional issue. Hence, the need for testimony from the individuals on the Plaintiffs' designated witness list who possess unique jurisdictional knowledge. By way of further response, please Plaintiffs' accompanying Memorandum of Law.

8. The statements in this paragraph are presently unverifiable as Plaintiffs have not yet had the opportunity to hear testimony from Alan Rosenthal, Joseph Miller, and Veronica Flores-Paningua and Chevron has no standing to seek a protective order preventing their testimony. If a response is deemed necessary, it is denied. By way of further response, please Plaintiffs' accompanying Memorandum of Law.

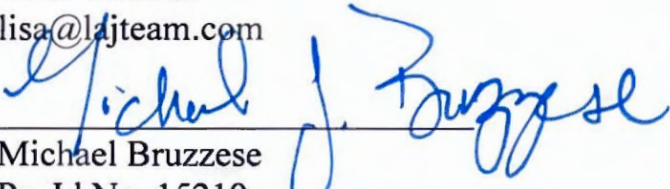
9. Neither admitted, nor denied as this paragraph refers to a written document that speaks for itself.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons set forth herein and in Plaintiffs' accompanying Memorandum of Law, the Court should deny Chevron's Motion for a Protective Order and Ms. Kari Endries, Mr. Mike Wirth, Ms. Mary Francis, Mr. Joseph Miller, and Ms. Veronica Flores-Paniagua shall be compelled to appear at a hearing as ordered by the Court.

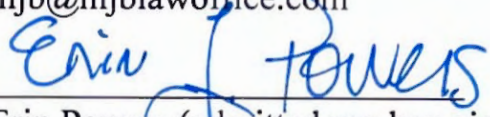
Respectfully submitted,



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January 22, 2024

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

BYRAN LATKANICH and)	CIVIL DIVISION
RYAN LATKANICH, a minor by and)	
through natural guardian BRYAN)	Case No. 2022-6006
Latkanich)	
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Plaintiffs,)	
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v.)	
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U.S.A. INC., CHEVRON)	
APPALACHIA, LLC, EQT CORP.,)	
EQT PRODUCTION COMPANY,)	
EQT CHAP LLC, and JOHN DOE)	
DEFENDANTS,)	
)	
Defendants.)	

ORDER

AND NOW, this _____ day of _____, 2024, after consideration of Chevron Corporation’s Motion for Protective Order and Plaintiffs’ response there to, Chevron Corporation’s Motion is **DENIED**. The Court shall issue a separate order compelling Kari Endries, Mike Wirth, Mary Francis, Joseph Miller, and Veronica Flores-Paniagua to appear and testify at an evidentiary hearing to be held on _____, 2024 at _____ [am/pm].

BY THE COURT

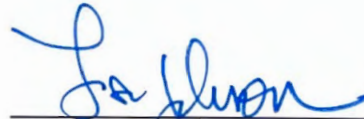
MICHAEL J. LUCAS J.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing **Plaintiffs' Response in Opposition to Chevron Corporation's Motion for a Protective Order** was served upon Defendant's counsel via electronic mail, this 22nd day of January 2024.

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