

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISION

KAWALJEET K. TAGORE,	§	
	§	
Plaintiff,	§	
	§	
v.	§	CIVIL ACTION NO. H-09-0027
	§	
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	§	
et al.,	§	
Defendants.	§	
	§	

ORDER

Plaintiff Kawaljeet K. Tagore's Motion for Authorization to Enter Federal Court Facility with *Kirpan* (Docket Entry No. 148) is **GRANTED**.

Commencing on October 20, 2014, and for the duration of trial, plaintiff, Kawaljeet K. Tagore, and any Sikh witness who wears¹ a *kirpan* with a blade exceeding 2.5 inches, are to be allowed entry into the Houston Federal Courthouse with their *kirpans* subject to the following rules, which are imposed pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 930(f) to ensure the security of the Courthouse and the safety of people in the Courthouse:

¹The term "wear" means to have possession of a *kirpan*, whether it is worn, carried, contained in a purse or briefcase, or otherwise readily available to the possessor of the *kirpan*.

1. Plaintiff's counsel will provide the United States Marshal's Service (USMS) with a copy of Ms. Tagore's drivers license or photo identification no later than 3:00 p.m. on October 16, 2014.

2. USMS personnel will escort Ms. Tagore at all times while she is wearing a *kirpan* in the Courthouse.

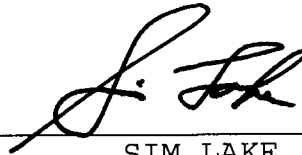
3. Plaintiff's counsel will provide the USMS with a list of witnesses who will be wearing *kirpans* on a daily basis, with the list for the first day of trial due by 3:00 p.m. on October 16, 2014. The list for subsequent days shall be provided by 12:00 noon on the day prior to the witness's appearance. A copy of a drivers license or photo identification will be provided for each witness.

4. Ms. Tagore and all witnesses who will wear *kirpans* must arrive at the entry control station on the first floor of the Courthouse no more than 30 minutes before the time of their testimony and must remain in the courtroom until the end of the day when their testimony is completed. Each witness wearing a *kirpan* will be escorted at all times while in the Courthouse. Alternatively, Ms. Tagore and all witnesses wearing *kirpans* shall arrive as a group one hour prior to the beginning of the trial day. They will then be escorted by USMS personnel as a group. The group will stay together at all times while in the Courthouse. Plaintiff's counsel will advise the USMS by 3:00 p.m. on October

16, 2014 of which alternative plaintiff prefers.

5. Plaintiff's counsel will provide the USMS with a *kirpan* and sheath to examine by 3:00 p.m. on October 16, 2014, for use in determining possible methods to secure *kirpans*.

SIGNED at Houston, Texas, on this the 15th day of October, 2014.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Lake", is written over a horizontal line.

SIM LAKE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE