

**FILE**

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA  
JUVENILE DIVISION

MAY 14 2007

KIRI TORRE  
Chief Executive Officer/Clerk  
Superior Court of CA County of Santa Clara DEPT

**STANDING ORDER**  
**AUTHORIZING DISCLOSURE OF IDENTIFYING INFORMATION ABOUT**  
**DEPENDENTS TO SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS INTERNING AT**  
**THE COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA, SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY,**  
**DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES, TO COMPLETE AN**  
**EVALUATION SPECIAL PROJECT FOR THEIR MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK**  
**DEGREE**

The Court finds that it may be beneficial to the youth served by the County of Santa Clara, Department of Family and Children's Services (DFCS), to permit San Jose State University (SJSU) School of Social Work graduate students, or other Masters of Social Work students who intern at DFCS to access confidential juvenile file information to develop and conduct a master's thesis or "Special Project" related to professional social work practice. Students conceptualize and organize a Master's Special Project, which serves as the "capstone" experience for the Master of Social Work degree. The goal of each student intern's research is the application of social work concepts and the acquisition of skills for the systematic evaluation of professional social work practice with an emphasis on cultural competence. The Court finds that supporting the student interns' Special Projects is important to DFCS and the youth it serves because it enables DFCS to utilize student interns to identify current trends based on its own data, and supports the development of culturally competent social workers to serve its youth.


Based upon these findings, the Court hereby makes the following Standing Order:

1. San Jose State University Master of Social Work (MSW) graduate students, or other MSW students who intern at DFCS and who are conducting their Special Project (Social Work 298) may have limited access to closed case files or existing aggregate data in which all identifying information has been removed. The identity of the dependent youth will not be used in the student intern's Special Project and may not be shared outside the DFCS agency. Student interns will remove all identifying information from the case files or data before publishing it in their Special Project or any document related to their Special Project.
2. Access to information under this order shall be overseen by appropriate DFCS supervisory staff.
3. Student interns may not interview DFCS clients without prior court permission, agency permission, and informed consent from participants in the proposed study. Student interns may interview social workers or other DFCS staff if the interview is not related to a specific client or case.
4. SJSU or any other MSW program and each student intern shall be bound by the confidentiality provisions of Welfare and Institutions Code sections 827 and

10850 and any information received shall be used exclusively for the Special Project or documents specified under provision #1 above.

5. Student interns shall not retain any copies of DFCS case file information or data.
6. This order supersedes any other conflicting Court order.

5/14/07  
DATE

  
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THE HONORABLE  
KATHERINE LUCERO  
JUDGE OF THE JUVENILE COURT