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## SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA JUVENILE DIVISION

## STANDING ORDER FOR MULTI-DISCIPLINARY SHARING OF HEALTH INFORMATION FOR CHILDREN IN JUVENILE FACILITIES

Title 15 of the California Code of Regulations section 1407 requires juvenile facilities (including both juvenile halls and juvenile ranches) that provide on-site health services to establish policies and procedures for the multi-disciplinary sharing of health information. The nature and extent of information shared shall be appropriate to treatment planning, program needs, protection of minors and others, maintenance of security, preservation of safety and order, and management of the facility. The purpose of sharing health information is to ensure the continuity of health care, appropriate treatment and protection of minors and staff, and preservation of security, safety, and order at the facility.

The Court finds that the Santa Clara juvenile facilities provide on-site health services to minors in custody. As such, the Court also finds that a certain amount of health-related information must be shared among medical, county mental health, community mental health, and custody staff who work in juvenile facilities (including, but not limited to Probation Officers, Juvenile Hall and Juvenile Ranch Counselors) without obtaining explicit consent of parents or minors. This is limited to facts that necessarily must be shared in order to safely and properly

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manage minors within the facility or to plan for future placement and programming, but not for the prosecution or minors.

Based upon these findings, the Court hereby makes the following standing order:

## 1. Sharing of health information between medical, county mental health staff and community based organizations providing mental health services.

Medical, county mental health staff and community based organizations providing mental health services in juvenile facilities shall share at a minimum the health information listed below and any other information required for the appropriate treatment planning and the protection and safety of minors in custody and employees of the County's juvenile facilities. This information shall also be shared for the purpose of transition planning for release of the minor. The following information shall be shared between medical and mental health staff in regard to each minor that is admitted to a juvenile facility.

- a. Nursing assessments
- b. Medical Administration Records ("MARs")
- c. Medications prescribed for the minor, including any side effects of such medications.
- d. Medical, psychiatric, and psychological condition that impact treatment of the minor. These include but are not limited to chronic conditions, developmental delays, and psychiatric disorders.
- 2. Sharing of health information between medical, county mental health, community based organizations providing mental health service, and custody staff.
  - a. Health information shall be shared with custody staff who work in the facilities when required for the appropriate treatment planning and the protection and

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safety of minors in custody and employees of the juvenile facilities. Health information regarding minors identified with special needs shall be included in a treatment case plan. Custody staff working within juvenile facilities shall be provided with information of each minor admitted to any juvenile facility specifically identified who:

- (1) Has suicidal tendencies
- (2) Has homicidal tendencies
- (3) Presents a clear danger of injury to self or others
- (4) Is gravely disabled
- (5) Has certain medical conditions that require special housing, observation, and/or care including but not limited to chronic conditions, developmental delays, communicable conditions, physical limitations, and psychiatric disorders
- (6) Is taking medication with side effects that may require special housing, observation, and/or care.
- b. Custody staff shall not discuss minors' medical and mental health information to anyone outside medical, mental health, and custody staff working within juvenile facilities. Custody staff who release health information to anyone other than medical, mental health, and custody staff will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

## 3. Consultation when health-related issues arise.

Medical, county mental health, community based organizations providing mental health services and custody staff working within juvenile facilities shall consult and confer with each other when either medical, mental health, or custody staff identify a problem that concerns minors' medical and mental health-related issues.

Cupit 13, 2009 Dated:

Honorable Patrick Tondreau Presiding Judge Juvenile Court

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