STANDING ORDER FOR INTERVIEW OF CHILD(REN)

BY SANTA CLARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Good cause appearing, the Court hereby authorizes the Santa Clara County Department of Family and Children's Services to conduct an initial interview of child(ren) suspected of being the victims of child abuse or neglect on school premises pursuant to Penal Code 11174.3.

Pursuant to Greene v. Camreta (2009) 588 F.3d 1011, any such interviews shall be conducted without the involvement of law enforcement and shall not be for the purpose of acting as an agent for a law enforcement investigation.

The purpose of the interview is to determine what protective measures, if any, are necessary to ensure the safety and well-being of the suspected victim. The interview shall not exceed the amount of time necessary to make that determination.

As provided in Penal Code 11174.3, the child shall be afforded the option of being interviewed in private or selecting any adult who is a member of the staff of the school, including any certificated or classified employee or volunteer aide, to be present at the interview. The purpose of the staff person's presence shall be to lend support to the child and enable him or her to be as comfortable as possible. However, the staff member shall not participate in the interview. The member of staff shall not discuss the facts of the case or circumstances with the child. The staff member is governed by the statutory confidentiality requirements contained in Penal Code 11174.3.

This order shall be in effect after the Department of Family and Children's Services has either attempted to obtain parental consent for the interview or has determined that seeking parental consent may endanger the safety or well-being of the child.

This order does not limit the cross reporting requirements of Penal Code section 11166, which shall be followed as directed by statute.

DAVID H. YAMASAKI

Katherine Lucero

Judge of the Superior Court

Dated: 1/24/10