

1 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA

FILED

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3 JUVENILE DIVISION 2011 DEC -2 P 3:35

4 ORDER FOR MEDIA ACCESS TO PEER COURT

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By: *Lezli Connelly*
Deputy Clerk

Lezli Connelly

9 The County of Santa Clara Department of Probation has established a Peer Court as an
10 alternative to juvenile probation or other diversion programs. Peer Court is made up of
11 adolescent youth from the community. It does not determine guilt or innocence; it only
12 determines the appropriate disposition for certain selected juvenile offenders. Participation by
13 juvenile offenders and by members of the Peer Court is entirely voluntary.

14 Members of the media have expressed desire to attend and prepare press reports for
15 publication on Peer Court proceedings which are confidential and protected from disclosure
16 absent judicial authorization. The Juvenile Court recognizes the need for the community to
17 understand the continuing efforts by the Juvenile Justice system to implement alternative
18 programs that deter youth from further entrenchment in Juvenile Court.

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20 In order to permit members of the media to obtain information on Peer Court proceedings
21 for presentation to the general public, and to insure the essential confidentiality of juvenile court
22 proceedings, and particularly of the offending juveniles, the Court makes following Orders:

23 1. The identity of juvenile offenders who choose to participate in Peer Court and all
24 information regarding these individuals, including the details of the juvenile's case, shall remain
25 confidential and will not be disclosed to members of the press. The Order for Release of Juvenile
26 Information signed by this Court on October 11, 2012 limiting the disclosure of information
27 related to the Peer Court remains in full force and effect.

28 2. Minor youth who are participating in Peer Court as youth jurors and youth

1 attorneys may be interviewed, with the express permission of the minor youth and his or her
2 parents or guardians, regarding the Peer Court process and their own personal experience in Peer
3 Court. These minors shall not disclose any identifying information regarding the juvenile offender
4 or any details of the juvenile offender's case.

5 The consent forms provided to the community youth pursuant to the Standing
6 Order of October 11, 2012, shall include a provision notifying the youth of possible press
7 requests. The form shall contain an explicit notice that they are under no obligation to meet with
8 the press. The form shall contain an express consent to press contact by the youth and his/her
9 parents or guardians. The consent shall be obtained prior to any press contact.

10 3. Photos and video are permitted only when the juvenile offenders, victims, and
11 parents or guardians of the accused are not present.

12 IT IS SO ORDERED.

13
14 DATED:

12-3-11



The Honorable Patrick Tondreau

Supervising Judge
Juvenile Justice Court