

FILED

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STEPHEN V. LOVE
COUNTY CLERK
SANTA CLARA COUNTY
BY _____ DEPUTY

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA

JUVENILE COURT

IN RE: RELEASE OF INFORMATION
(FOSTER HOME PLACEMENT)

STANDING ORDER

The court finds that there is a shortage of foster home placements available for children who cannot reside with their parents or an extended family member. The court finds that as of this date there are more than 1,743 dependent children of the Santa Clara County juvenile court who are in non-relative out-of-home placement. The court further finds that of these 1,743 children who are in non-relative out-of-home placement 471 or 15% of the total number of children who are placed out of the home, are placed through foster family agencies.


The court finds that in order for foster family agencies to adequately provide for and meet the needs of the dependent children placed in their care, the agency needs to have relevant information concerning the child and his or her biological family. The court further finds that this information is necessary for the foster family agency to adequately plan for and meet the child's physical, educational, and emotional needs. These needs include counseling, therapy, and support services for the child and foster family, planning and support services for visitation with and services to the child's

1 biological family, the ability to assess the progress being made by the
2 child in his or her placement, providing for an appropriate match
3 between the child and the foster family, and providing appropriate
4 relevant information to the Department of Family and Children's
5 Services' social worker and the juvenile court.

6 Based upon these findings, and good cause appearing, the court
7 hereby permits the Department of Family and Children's Services to
8 provide copies of court reports, copies of court orders, educational
9 and psychological evaluations, and other documents relevant to the
10 placement services under the following circumstances:

- 11 • Written information may be provided to the designated foster
12 family agency which shall maintain that information under the
13 same confidentiality requirements as placed on the Department
14 of Family and Children's Services.
- 15 • The written information shall not be shared directly with the
16 foster family.
- 17 • The information shall be returned to the Department of Family
18 and Children's Services if the child is not placed through
19 the foster family agency
- 20 • The information shall be returned to the Department of Family
21 and Children's Services at the time the child's placement
22 through the foster family is terminated.

23 DATE: 1-16-98

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26 LEONARD P. EDWARDS
27 Supervising Judge
28 Juvenile Dependency Court