SUPERIOR COURT COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA JUVENILE JUSTICE DIVISION STANDING ORDER

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Welfare and Institutions Section 827 generally authorizes the minor who is the subject of a juvenile case to obtain, without a court order, copies of his or her juvenile Activated ARCIA are filed, lodged or otherwise maintained in the court file. Access to juvenile court files includes access to Probation Department and Department of Family and Children's Service Records that pertain to the minor.

Welfare and Institutions Section 827 requires that if the minor wants to disseminate juvenile records obtained by him or her to third persons, the minor must obtain court authorization to do so by filing a petition for disclosure with the juvenile court and establishing good cause for use or dissemination.

In some cases a minor undergoes a psychological evaluation at the order of the Juvenile Justice Court which is performed either by a psychologist or psychiatrist contracted with the Santa Clara County Mental Health Department in a collaboration with the Probation Department or from a panel of evaluators established by the Court. The written evaluation reports often have valuable recommendations and, in many cases, have a suggested treatment plan. If the minor has private insurance, or is receiving therapy or counseling by way of school or probation referrals, such as wrap-around programs, those recommendations are not readily communicated to those health care professionals. In fact, under the current law, the psychological evaluation could only be shared by obtaining a court order after filing a petition for disclosure under Welfare and Institutions Code Section 827.

In order to address this obstacle and facilitate a minor's health care treatment, the Court makes the following Order:

Notwithstanding Welfare and Institutions Code section 827 or any related state or local court rule, a minor may share a psychological evaluation that has been prepared by health care professionals while the minor was under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Justice Court with his or her private, school based, probation referred, or any other health care provider.

SO OKDERED:

Judge Patrick Tondreau

Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court

4-3-14