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FILED
DEC 13 2016
David H. [unclear]
County of Santa Clara, California
By: [Signature]
Deputy Clerk
IRENE LAI

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA
JUVENILE DIVISION

STANDING ORDER

**AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CHILD & FAMILY PRACTICE MODEL
FIDELITY ASSESSMENT TEAM TO OBSERVE
SOCIAL WORKER MEETINGS WITH FAMILIES**

The Court recognizes that the Department of Family and Children’s Services (DFCS) is continuing to implement the Child & Family Practice Model (CFPM), the intervention created from the California Partners for Permanency (CAPP). From 2010-2016, DFCS had participated in CAPP, a national project focused on reducing the number of children in long-term foster care. The goal of this practice model is to provide children with the greatest support possible to safely remain with their families, return to their families, or live with relatives or those with whom they have significant family relationships. CAPP also required that implementation of the CFPM had to be done through the use of Implementation Science. DFCS is currently participating in the Title IV-E Well-being Initiative which also requires DFCS to continue implementing the CFPM through the use of Implementation Science.

The Implementation Science approach includes assessing implementation fidelity of the CFPM and measuring whether or not families are actually experiencing the intervention. In order to assess these practice changes, it was necessary to create a Fidelity Assessment Team to act as independent observers who have been trained in the CFPM and are specially selected and trained to observe social workers’ use of the CFPM.

1 **GOOD CAUSE APPEARING**, the Court hereby authorizes the Santa Clara County Social
2 Services Agency (SSA) and DFCS to convene a Fidelity Assessment Team to observe social
3 workers' interactions during meetings with the child(ren), the family and their circle of support in
4 the use of the CFPM. The Fidelity Assessment Team is also authorized to meet with the family and
5 discuss the family's thoughts on the practice changes. Any observation and discussion of a family
6 will be with the family's permission and with the understanding that the Team is not there to observe
7 the family, but instead to observe the social worker with respect to fidelity to the CFPM. The
8 Fidelity Assessment Team may consist of SSA and DFCS staff, community partners, including
9 services providers, birth parents (with closed dependency matters only), foster parents and former
10 foster youth. All members of the CFPM Fidelity Assessment Team shall be trained in the CFPM
11 and will understand the guiding principles for this practice change.

12 All members of the Fidelity Assessment Team shall sign statements that they understand the
13 confidential nature of the information being discussed in the family meeting and agree to keep all
14 information confidential. Following the observation of the social workers' meetings with families,
15 the Court authorizes the Fidelity Assessment Team to discuss their observations amongst the team
16 members. The purpose of the follow up discussions will be to ensure the practice model is working
17 to the benefit of families, to identify any necessary changes to support the practice model, and to
18 look at improvements in support, training, and skill-building of social workers in the CFPM.
19 Aggregate information will be entered into the Decision Support Data System (DSDS) for the
20 purpose of evaluation, identifying trends and to inform on-going improvements to support Staff
21 through implementation activities.

22 This order shall expire on September 30, 2019.

23
24 Date: 12/13/16

Shawna Schwarz

THE HONORABLE SHAWNA SCHWARZ
Supervising Judge, Juvenile Dependency Court