

FILED

APR 12 2018

Clerk of the Court
Superior Court of CA County of Santa Clara
BY _____ DEPUTY
J. DUARTE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA
JUVENILE DIVISION

ORDER

**STANDING ORDER FOR ACCESS TO JUVENILE DEPENDENCY CASE FILE BY
ATTORNEYS REPRESENTING THE COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA IN CIVIL
LITIGATION MATTERS STEMMING FROM A DEPENDENCY ACTION**

Minors, parents or guardians involved in civil lawsuits or claims stemming from juvenile dependency cases, and by extension their counsel, have access to inspect and obtain copies of the juvenile case file. (See Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) sections 827(a)(1)(C) and (D) and 827(a)(5)).

Attorneys representing the petitioning agency in a dependency action also have access to the juvenile case file; in the County of Santa Clara, those attorneys are in the Office of the County Counsel (See WIC section 827(a)(1)(F)).

The Office of the County Counsel also defends and advises the County in litigation and claims threatening litigation, stemming from juvenile dependency actions.

To assess and defend those matters, it is essential and reasonable for the Office of the County Counsel to have the same access to the juvenile case file as do minors, parents, or guardians bringing lawsuits and claims or threatening to do so.

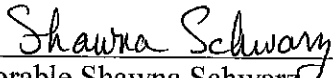
FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN, THE COURT MAKES THE FOLLOWING ORDERS:

1. The Office of the County Counsel, including attorneys, paralegals, and investigators involved in defending the County of Santa Clara and its employee(s) against litigation, claims, or potential claims stemming from a dependency action, are permitted to inspect and obtain copies of the underlying juvenile case file without filing a Request for Disclosure of Juvenile Case File (JV-570) petition.

2. When a Request for Disclosure of Juvenile Case File petition is filed with the Court relating to a civil lawsuit or a possible civil lawsuit against the County of Santa Clara or its employee(s), any documents released to the petitioner by the Court will also be released to the Lead Deputy County Counsel overseeing the litigation.
3. Protection of privacy rights of the minor and other parties in the juvenile court proceedings under WIC Section 827(a)(4) is not changed by this Order. No party may further disseminate the released juvenile case file documents without prior court approval.

SO ORDERED:

Dated this 12 day of APRIL, 2018.



Honorable Shawna Schwarz
Supervising Judge of the Juvenile Court