

STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN SUPREME COURT

C4-85-1848

IN RE ACCESSIBILITY TO RECORDS OF THE GENDER FAIRNESS TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, the Gender Fairness Task Force will from time to time receive comments from various sources for the purpose of evaluating gender fairness in the courts and developing recommendations for educational programs and integrated components to address gender based myths, bias and stereotypes and their consequences in the judicial setting, and

WHEREAS, the integrity and success of the evaluation process requires that the identity of persons supplying comments to the Task Force be inaccessible to the public and to the court personnel being evaluated, and

WHEREAS, sound public policy, reflected in Minn. Stat. § 13.43 and Rule 3, Subd. 2(c) and (d), requires that the identities of court system personnel being evaluated be inaccessible to the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to Rule 3, subdivision 2(s) of the Interim Rules on Access to Public Records, and by virtue of and under the inherent and statutory authority of the Minnesota Supreme Court to regulate access to records maintained by the judicial branch, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the following provisions apply to records received by the Gender Fairness Task Force:

1. Comments received by the Gender Fairness Task Force for use in evaluating gender fairness in the courts, including questionnaires or other solicited or unsolicited comments, shall be inaccessible to the public, provided that information contained in the comments that does not identify the commentator or any court personnel being evaluated may be made accessible to the public at the discretion of the Task Force.
2. The identities of commentators shall not be disclosed to any court system personnel being evaluated. This information may, however, be disclosed to Task Force members and staff where the disclosure is necessary to the work of the Task Force as determined by the Task Force Chairperson.
3. The Task Force shall implement appropriate safeguards to ensure the confidentiality provided by this order.

Dated September 21, 1987

BY THE COURT

OFFICE OF
APPELLATE COURTS

SEP 21 1987

FILED


Douglas K. Amdahl
Chief Justice