

AUG 23 1994

STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN SUPREME COURT

FILED

#C4-85-1848

**ORDER AUTHORIZING
DISCLOSURE OF
JUVENILE COURT RECORDS TO
LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR'S OFFICE**

WHEREAS, the Legislative Auditor has requested access to juvenile court records in order to conduct studies of juveniles in correctional facilities and out-of-home placements pursuant to 1994 Minnesota Laws, chapter 576, section 63; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Auditor has broad authority pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 3.978, to examine data associated with public programs; and

WHEREAS, certain juvenile court records are not accessible to the public pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, sections 260.155 and 260.161, Rules 34 and 64 of the Rules of Juvenile Procedure, and Rule 4, subd. 1(d), of the Rules of Public Access to Records of the Judicial Branch; and

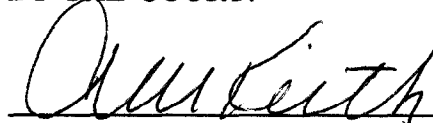
WHEREAS, pursuant to 1994 Minnesota Laws, chapter 618, article 1, section 34, any person, including the Legislative Auditor and staff, who obtains access to juvenile court records that are not accessible to the public may not release or disclose the records to any other person except as provided by law; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 3.97, subdivision 9, the Legislative Auditor is subject to the requirements of the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13, and has implemented procedures necessary to protect data from unauthorized disclosure;

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to Rule 2 of the Rules of Public Access to Records of the Judicial Branch, and by virtue of and under the inherent power and statutory authority of the Minnesota Supreme Court to regulate public access to records maintained by the judicial branch, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the district courts of this state and the State Court Administrator's Office shall make available to the Legislative Auditor all juvenile court records that are necessary to permit the Legislative Auditor to conduct the study of juveniles in correctional facilities and out-of-home placements pursuant to 1994 Minnesota Laws, chapter 576, section 63. These records shall include, but are not limited to, case files and information maintained in computer systems.

Dated: August 22, 1994

BY THE COURT:



A.M. Keith
Chief Justice