

STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN SUPREME COURT

C4-85-1848

OFFICE OF
APPELLATE COURTS

JUN 26 2000

FILED

ORDER AUTHORIZING ACCESS TO
JUVENILE COURT RECORDS FOR PURPOSES OF
SENTENCING STUDY

The National Center for State Courts ("NCSC") has been awarded a grant by the State Justice Institute to support the NCSC application entitled "Evaluating Blended Sentencing of Juveniles in Minnesota: Satisfying a National Need for Innovation" ("the Grant"). The grant in turn funds a study by the State Court Administrator's Office ("SCAO") comparing dispositions in felony level juvenile delinquency, extended jurisdiction juvenile (EJJ), and adult criminal cases certified from juvenile court ("the Project")

Nicole Schmidt and Margaret Kulenkamp ("NCSC Researchers") are researchers engaged by the NCSC to provide data collection services to the SCOA in connection with the Project, and their participation in the Project requires, among other things, access to Minnesota juvenile delinquency, EJJ, and adult criminal case records ("the Records") that contain sensitive, confidential information that may not be disclosed without the prior approval of the court.

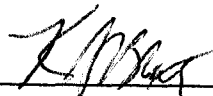
The NCSC Researchers have agreed in writing not to disclose to any third party any information in the Records from which the identity of any individual or other characteristic that could uniquely identify any individual is ascertainable.

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 and statutory authority of the court to regulate public access to records maintained by the judicial branch, IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The district courts and the State Court Administrator's Office shall make available to the NCSC Researchers juvenile delinquency, EJJ, and adult criminal case records ("the Records") for purposes of the Project;
2. The NCSC Researchers shall maintain the Records in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Participation and Nondisclosure Agreements executed between the NCSC Researchers and SCAO, which agreements are incorporated into and made a part of this order; and
3. Any reports prepared as a result of the project shall not disclose any information from which the identity of any juvenile offender or other characteristic that could uniquely identify any juvenile offender is ascertainable.

Date: June 26, 2000

BY THE COURT:



Kathleen A. Blatz

Chief Justice