

STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN SUPREME COURT

C4-85-1848

ORDER REGARDING ACCESSIBILITY TO  
ACCESS AND FAIRNESS SURVEY RESPONDENTS

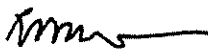
As part of an effort to establish Core Judicial Branch Goals and to measure progress toward meeting these goals, the State Court Administrator's Office is undertaking Access and Fairness Surveys ("the Surveys"). The integrity and success of the survey process requires that the identity of individuals who respond to the Surveys be inaccessible to the public. The purpose of the Survey is to evaluate the performance of the Judicial Branch in meeting its goals, and is not designed to assess individual performance. The State Court Administrator's Office will make aggregate results of the Surveys available to the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to Rule 14(c), 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 Minnesota Supreme Court to regulate access to records of the judicial branch, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. In order to ensure anonymity of the individuals who respond to the Surveys and to ensure candid and honest responses, anything in the Surveys or the responses that can identify the respondent shall be confidential. Similarly, because the purpose of the Surveys is to evaluate the performance of the Judicial Branch as a system, not to focus on individuals, anything written in the comments section which identifies specific court personnel, directly or indirectly, shall be available for internal judicial branch use only as determined by the chief judge of the judicial district surveyed. See, Minn. Stat. 13.43; Rule 5, subs. 1 and 2, Rules of Public Access to Records of the Judicial Branch.
2. Nothing in this order shall preclude public access to other information compiled from the Surveys.
3. The State Court Administrator's Office shall implement appropriate safeguards to ensure the confidentiality provided by this order, including, but not limited to, destruction of completed paper survey forms following compilation of the contents of the Surveys into State Court Administration data base(s).
4. This order shall supersede the Order dated June 21, 2007.

Dated: January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008

BY THE COURT:



Russell A. Anderson  
Chief Justice

OFFICE OF  
APPELLATE COURTS

JAN 10 2008

FILED