STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN SUPREME COURT

CX-89-1863

IN RE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COMBINED FAMILY, CIVIL HARASSMENT, JUVENILE AND PROBATE JURISDICTION PILOT PROJECT

ORDER

WHEREAS, the Second Judicial District desires to implement a pilot project to improve the resolution of family problems by assigning related family, civil harassment (under Minn. Stat. § 609.748), probate, and juvenile court matters, except delinquency proceedings, to a particular judge or referee (hereinafter "Combined Jurisdiction Pilot Project"); and

WHEREAS, implementation of the Combined Jurisdiction Pilot Project requires the temporary suspension of statutes and rules regarding the right to object to the assignment of a referee and the right to request review of a referee's recommended findings and orders; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 1996 Minnesota Laws, chapter 365, the legislature has suspended the relevant statutory provisions until June 30, 1998, or until the Combined Jurisdiction Pilot Project is completed, whichever occurs earlier:

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that in all family, civil harassment, probate and juvenile court matters, except delinquency matters, in the Second Judicial District:

- 1. The right to object to the assignment of a referee pursuant to Minn.R.Civ.P. 53.02, Minn.Gen.R.Prac. 107, and Minn.R.Juv.P. 38.02 and its successor, is hereby suspended.
- 2. The right to request review of a referee's recommended findings and orders pursuant to Minn.R.Civ.P. 53.05, Minn.Gen.R.Prac. 312.01-.02, and Minn.R.Juv.Proc. 38.04 and 38.05 and their successors, is hereby suspended.

- 3. At the time of filing the first paper in the action, each party shall notify the court in writing of all other family, civil harassment, probate and juvenile court matters that are or were pending in the Second Judicial District at any time within the past three years and that involve the party or a member of the party's family. The notice shall include the district court file number, title, and identity of the party or family member involved.
- 4. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a referee's recommended findings and orders remain subject to confirmation by a judge where required by law or court rule, including Minn.R.Juv.P. 38.05 and Minn. Stat. § 484.70, subds. (b), (c).
- 5. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the parties shall continue to have the right under Minn.R.Civ.P. 63.03 to file a Notice of Removal of the assigned judge or referee.
- 6. This order is effective immediately and applies to all matters filed on or after April 1, 1996. This order shall remain in effect until June 30, 1998 or until the Combined Jurisdiction Pilot Project is completed, whichever occurs earlier.
- 7. The Second Judicial District shall report to this Court by August 1, 1998, on the effectiveness of the Combined Jurisdiction Pilot Project.

Dated: April 10, 1996

OFFICE OF APPELLATE COURTS

APR 10 1996

By the Court

A.M. Keith

Chief Justice