

STATE OF MINNESOTA

DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

In the Matter of the Family Law  
Facilitator Program

ORDER

Whereas, in an effort to further the mission of the Fourth Judicial District "to provide a system of justice that assures equal access for the fair and timely resolution of cases and controversies," the Court's Order of July 11, 2001 authorized the expansion of the Family Law Facilitator program to include an attorney (attorney facilitator) and support staff (paralegal facilitator) and the continued utilization of volunteer paralegals and other qualified persons in the education of pro se litigants and the screening of pro se motions;

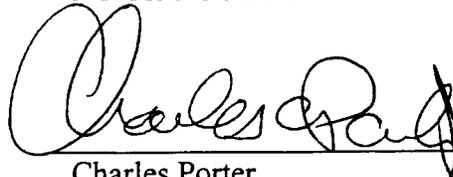
Whereas, said attorney(s), paralegals and qualified persons are employees or volunteers of the Court and shall remain neutral, providing instruction and education to pro se litigants without providing legal advice in an attorney-client relationship;

Whereas, in order to provide pro se litigants with meaningful access and to ensure the integrity of the hearing process and the efficient use of the courts, it is necessary and desirable that pro se motions, except for pro se child support motions heard by a child support Magistrate, be screened to ensure compliance with legal and procedural standards.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered, that all pro se family court motions, including responsive motions, but excluding child support motions heard in the expedited process, must be screened by a facilitator or other designated person, prior to the scheduling of a hearing. The facilitator shall indicate that the motion has been screened by stamping the motion papers or by entry into the CATs system or both.

This Order shall remain in effect until revoked or amended by further order of the Court.

BY THE COURT:



Charles Porter  
Chief Judge of Family Court

Dated: March 18, 2002