

STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN SUPREME COURT

C4-85-1848, C2-95-1476

JUL - 8 1996

FILED

ORDER REGARDING ACCESS TO RECORDS OF
FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Task Force on Foster Care and Adoption requires access to juvenile court protection and adoption records to evaluate the delivery of child protective services and to conduct a survey of participants;

WHEREAS, records of protection and adoption proceedings are inaccessible to the public pursuant to Rule 64 of the Rules of Juvenile Procedure and Minnesota Statutes, Sections 260.161, 259.53, 259.61, and 259.89; and

WHEREAS, the integrity and success of the evaluation process requires that the identity of persons surveyed be inaccessible to the public;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Records of juvenile court protection and adoption proceedings shall be accessible to the Minnesota Task Force on Foster Care and Adoption upon request. All information on protection and adoption proceedings collected, created, received, maintained or disseminated by the Task Force for use in evaluating the delivery of child protection services, including surveys, shall be inaccessible to the public; provided, however, that information that does not identify any participant in the protection or adoption proceedings or survey may be made accessible to the public at the discretion of the Task Force.
2. The Task Force shall implement appropriate safeguards to ensure the confidentiality provided by this order.

Dated: July 8, 1996

BY THE COURT



A.M. Keith
Chief Justice