

**STATE OF MINNESOTA  
IN SUPREME COURT**

C9-00-602

**ORDER ESTABLISHING  
MINNESOTA SUPREME COURT TASK FORCE ON  
COURT APPOINTED CIVIL COUNSEL**

**WHEREAS**, in 1999 the Minnesota Legislature requested the Supreme Court to establish a task force to study and make recommendations regarding a system for funding and administering court appointed attorney functions in civil cases; and

**WHEREAS**, the goal of the task force is to design a system that is independent from court and county administration and funding and that promotes equal access to justice and equal representation for indigent persons across the state.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:**

1. The Minnesota Supreme Court Task Force on Court Appointed Civil Counsel is hereby established to:
  - (a) Study and make recommendations regarding a system that provides attorneys and related personnel in civil proceedings where indigent persons are entitled to court appointed counsel;
  - (b) Address civil proceedings including civil commitment and proceedings under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 253B, child protections cases, paternity cases, and guardianship or conservatorship cases;
  - (c) Consider the creation of an independent court appointed attorney board to manage civil court appointed attorney functions; and
  - (d) Make recommendations on other options identified by the task force.
2. The Task Force shall submit to the Court its final report and recommendations on or before December 15, 2000.

**OFFICE OF  
APPELLATE COURTS**

APR 18 2000

**FILED**

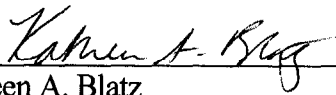
3. The following individuals are hereby appointed as members of the Minnesota Supreme Court Task Force on Court Appointed Civil Counsel:

John Stuart, State Public Defender's Office  
Floyd Pnewski, Judicare of Anoka County  
Bruce Beneke, Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services  
Janice Allen, Anoka County Attorney's Office  
David Piper, Family Law Mediator  
Rosemary Frazel, Children's Defense Fund  
Gwen Werner, Ramsey County Attorney's Office  
Michelle Tonelli, Hennepin County Public Defender's Office  
Fred Friedman, 6<sup>th</sup> District Public Defender's Office  
Kevin Corbid, Association of Minnesota Counties  
Keith Carlson, Metropolitan Inter County Association  
Hon. Heather Sweetland, Judge of Sixth Judicial District  
Hon. Gerald Seibel, Judge of the Eighth Judicial District  
Rep. Loren Solberg, Minnesota House of Representatives  
Sen. Thomas Neuville, Minnesota Senate

4. The Honorable Kevin S. Burke, Judge of Fourth Judicial District, is hereby appointed as Chair of the Minnesota Supreme Court Task Force on Court Appointed Civil Counsel.

**DATED:** April 18, 2000

**BY THE COURT:**

  
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Kathleen A. Blatz  
Chief Justice