

FILED

In re:
ACCESS TO CHILD PROTECTION RECORDS

STANDING ORDER
REGARDING DISCOVERY

2008 OCT 27 PM 4:52
BY _____
HENNEPIN CO. DISTRICT
COURT ADMINISTRATOR

To All Parties or Counsel for parties seeking access to child protection records:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, pursuant to the authority accorded this Court by Minn. Stat. §260C.171 with respect to juvenile records; and pursuant to Minn. R. Juv. Prot. P. 17 regarding discovery; and pursuant to Minn. Stat. §260C.171, Subd. 3, the identity of a person who made a report under Minn. Stat. §626.556 is not accessible to an attorney and the court may issue a protective order to prohibit an attorney from sharing a specified record or portion of a record with a client other than a guardian ad litem;

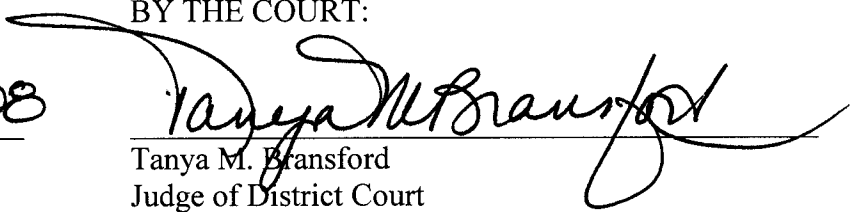
This Court finds that it is in the best interest of any child over whom this Court has jurisdiction that discovery and litigation be completed in a timely manner and that the identity of a reporter of maltreatment be protected. This Court therefore issues the following:

ORDER

1. Upon the commencement of a child protection or permanency proceeding filed pursuant to Minn. Stat. Ch. 260C, the Human Services and Public Health Department, through the County Attorney's Office, shall provide to parties or counsel for parties the opportunity to make a photocopy of all discoverable material contained in the child protection file, including copies of any child abuse or neglect reports. This discovery order applies only to records in the child protection file which relate to completed investigations and does not apply to any records pertaining to any pending investigations.
2. **Disclosure of the name or any identifying information regarding a reporter of maltreatment is prohibited.** No person or party reviewing a child protection file shall share the name or any identifying information about the reporter to any client or any other person without further Order of this Court. This order shall have the same effect as if the name or other identifying information about the reporter has been redacted.
3. The County Attorney's Office shall make a copy of this Standing Order available, upon request, to any party or counsel seeking access to a child protection file.
4. This Standing Order Regarding Discovery supercedes all prior Standing and Amended Orders pertaining to discovery access to Child Protection records.

BY THE COURT:

Dated: October 27, 2008


Tanya M. Bransford
Judge of District Court
Chief Judge of Juvenile Division