

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER RESTRICTING
VISITATION AT THE RAMSEY COUNTY
JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER**

The following matter came before the undersigned Chief Judge of the Second Judicial District at the request of Christopher Crutchfield, Deputy Director of Community Relations, Ramsey County Department of Community Corrections, pertaining to children currently housed at the Ramsey County Juvenile Detention Center.

WHEREAS, On March 13, 2020, the Minnesota Governor Tim Walz declared a peacetime state of emergency due to the worldwide spread of COVID-19, also referred to as the Coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States also declared a nationwide state of emergency due to the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has recommended several steps to help slow or prevent the spread of COVID-19. These steps include avoiding close contact with others, staggering work schedules, and limiting large gatherings; and

WHEREAS, the Second Judicial District is taking necessary and reasonable steps to reduce potential exposure of persons to large group settings; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 484.60, subd. 3, the chief judge of the district has general administrative authority over the courts in the judicial district; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Corrections is prohibiting visitation and volunteer services for all adult facilities in order to limit the spread of this virus;

WHEREAS, Minn. Rules § 960.0080, subp. B prohibit restrictions on visitation rights between a parent of a resident and resident without a Court Order and Minn. Rules § 2960.9279 requires the license holder to establish clear and convincing evidence that visits would not be in the best interests or welfare of the resident; and

WHEREAS, based on the close proximity of children in the Juvenile Detention Center and the unknown factors relating to transmission and treatment of COVID-19, the Court finds that the best interests and welfare of the residents of the Ramsey County Juvenile Detention Center

warrant a temporary visitation restriction;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Subject to paragraph 2 of this Order, the Ramsey Department of Community Corrections is hereby authorized to restrict visitation to the Ramsey County Juvenile Detention Center between March 25, 2020 and April 22, 2020 or until further order of this court, as determined by the Director of Community Corrections.
2. Visitation between the parent of a resident and a resident of the Juvenile Detention Center shall not be restricted unless the Ramsey County Department of Community Corrections offers the family substitute visitation with the resident in the form of “Face time”, “Skype”, or other electronic communication that offers both visual and audio communication.
3. This Order remains in force and effect until April 22, 2020 unless extended or rescinded by a further court order.

Dated: March 25, 2020

BY THE COURT:

John H. Guthmann
Chief Judge, Second Judicial District