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FILED
LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT

JAN 27 2003

JOHN A. CLARKE, CLERK
Suzanna Urquidi
BY SUZANNA URQUIDI, DEPUTY

SUPERIOR COURT CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
JUVENILE COURT

On behalf of:)
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The Department of Children and)
Family Services,)
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Petitioner.)
_____)

SPECIAL ORDER RE:
PUBLICITY FOR LOCATING/
IDENTIFYING RELATIVES OF
ABANDONED INFANTS

In order to facilitate obtaining the media coverage necessary to assist the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) in its efforts to rapidly identify infants and/or quickly determine the whereabouts of their parent(s) or other relatives:

DCFS is authorized to seek and utilize appropriate electronic and print publicity, including formal press conferences, in order to identify and/or locate the parent(s) or other relatives of any abandoned infant who is under one (1) year of age and under DCFS protection.

Confidentiality is waived for the limited purpose of enabling DCFS and law enforcement agencies to identify and/or determine the whereabouts of an infant's parent(s) or other relatives. An infant may be photographed and/or videotaped with appropriate DCFS monitoring and the facts surrounding his or her discovery may be publicly released, solely for the purposes stated above. However, no photographs, videotape or other identifying data previously gathered for the purpose of establishing an infant's identity may be filed, utilized or publicly released for any purpose once the infant has been identified and/or his or her parent(s) or relatives located.

DCFS is directed to ensure that media representatives strictly adhere to the provisions of the Los Angeles County Superior Court Local Rules 17.1 and 17.2 regarding confidentiality and media access, particularly in relation to the limited scope of this order. Law enforcement agencies are also reminded that this order is NOT applicable in situations where media coverage is being contemplated for the purpose of assisting law enforcement officials to locate a missing child or to identify a child as part of an on-going police investigation. In these instances, specific authorizing orders always must be sought from the Presiding Judge of the Juvenile court on a case-by-case basis.

This order shall remain in effect unless or until it is revoked or otherwise amended on the motion of the Juvenile Court Presiding Judge or at the request of any interested parties.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

A true copy of this order is mailed via U.S. Mail this date to the Executive Office, Department of Children and Family Services at 425 Shatto Place, Los Angeles with an additional copy to the DCFS Liaison Office at the Children's Court.

DATED: 1/26/03



Michael Nash
Presiding Judge Juvenile Court