

SEP 22 2004

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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
JUVENILE DIVISION

On behalf of:

Department of Children and Family Services
and
Consortium for Children,

Petitioners

BLANKET ORDER RE: WAIVER
OF CONFIDENTIALITY FOR
CONSORTIUM FOR CHILDREN'S
PERMANENCY PARTNERS
PROGRAM

In its effort to create permanency options for dependent youth ages 14 and older whose permanent plan is the planned permanent living arrangement, the County of Los Angeles Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) requests a limited waiver of confidentiality to share information and records with the Consortium for Children (CFC) for the purpose of facilitating the Permanency Partners Program. The goal of the program is to create a partnership for the youth with a significant person in the youth's life to develop a more permanent plan for the youth through adoption, guardianship or a mentoring relationship.

UPON CONSIDERATION of the request and responses thereto, the Juvenile Court hereby issues the following order pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code section 827 and California Rules of Court, Rule 1423:

1 1. DCFS may share information and records with CFC for the purpose of facilitating the
2 Permanency Partners Program. The shared information and records may include, but are
3 not limited to, those defined in Rule 1423 of the California Rules of Court, and may
4 consist of records, documents, reports, home studies, applications, and other non-
5 privileged documents made available to probation officers, social workers, child welfare
6 services programs, and court appointed special advocates; documents in preparation of
7 hearings before the courts; and reports to the court regarding the youth, his or her parents,
8 siblings or other persons connected to the youth.

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10 "Persons connected to the youth" may include, but are not limited to, the youth's foster
11 parent, social worker, attorney, teachers, prospective permanent parent, birth parent, birth
12 relatives or siblings,

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14 "Information" may also include, but is not limited to, information about the youth that is
15 otherwise confidential but not privileged, obtained from the youth's foster parent(s),
16 social worker, or teachers. Information may be a summary of information necessary to
17 provide CFC with the names, addresses, phone numbers, date of birth of the youth in the
18 care and custody of DCFS, his or her caregiver, his or her prospective permanent family,
19 his or her birth relatives and the names of other parties with whom the youth has a
20 significant blood or other relationship, including siblings whom the youth may or may not
21 know and their caregivers.

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23 2. Once DCFS identifies a youth for participation in the Permanency Partners Program and
24 makes a referral to CFC, either DCFS or CFC shall provide notice of such referral to the
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1 judicial officer hearing the matter and to all parties and/or their attorneys in the youth's
2 case, including any assigned court appointed special advocate.

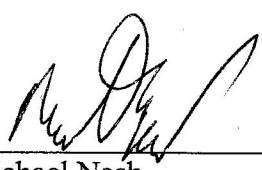
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4 3. DCFS and CFC shall have six months to complete the Permanency Partners Program. If
5 CFC requires additional time to complete the Permanency Partners Program, it must
6 make a request to the Juvenile Court Presiding Judge and provide justification for
7 continued access to confidential dependency information and records.

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9 4. Upon completion of the program, DCFS and CFC shall provide the Juvenile Court
10 Presiding Judge with a full summary report detailing the outcomes of the Permanency
11 Partners Program. The report shall include a list of all cases referred to, and accepted by,
12 the Permanency Partners Program, the name of the youth, case and courtroom number,
13 the length of time the youth participated in the Permanency Partners Program, significant
14 activities that occurred during the youth's participation, and the disposition of each
15 intervention involving the youth.

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17 5. CFC shall maintain the confidentiality of the shared information and records. Any and all
18 information and records received pursuant to this order shall be kept in confidence for the
19 limited purpose for which it was provided and shall not be further disseminated except as
20 necessary and relevant for the creation of a more permanent plan for the youth.

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22 IT IS SO ORDERED.

23 DATE: 9/22/04

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Michael Nash
Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court