

FILED

MAY 24 2018

CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
COUNTY OF TRINITY
BY: MARLENA DUREE, DEPUTY CLERK

**THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TRINITY**

**ORDER AUTHORIZING DISCLOSURE OF
INFORMATION BETWEEN CPS AND THE
FAMILY LAW COURT**

Administrative Order 18-002

It is the state's policy that family law courts are to protect the safety and well-being of children. To ensure that child abuse and neglect allegations made in the family law courts are fully investigated and that children are protected from harm, child welfare services are required to fully investigate all allegations of this type. (Fam. Code, §3027, Welf. & Inst. Code, §328.) In order to facilitate child welfare services' obligation to investigate, the Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court and Family Law Court make the following findings:

- 1) Disclosure of DPSS records will be in the best interest of the children subject to the investigation (Fam. Code, §3011);
- 2) The information contained within the DPSS's files and records are necessary and relevant to a child custody and visitation proceeding.

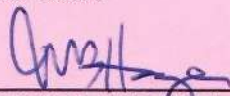
Based on these findings, the Juvenile Court and the Family Law Court find good cause to order DPSS to release its records to the following individuals and agencies, irrespective of whether a petition has been filed (Welf. & Inst. Code §§827, subd. (a)(1)(L), 827.10):

- 1. The Judge, Commissioner, or other hearing officer assigned to the family law case;
- 2. A family Court mediator/child recommending counselor assigned to the case involving the minor;
- 3. A Court-appointed investigator, evaluator, or person conducting a Court-connected child Fam. Code §3111 or §3118 custody evaluation, investigation, or assessment;
- 4. Counsel appointed for the minor in the family law case pursuant to Fam. Code §3150. Prior to allowing counsel appointed for the minor in the family lase case to inspect the file, the Court clerk may require counsel to provide a certified copy of the Court order appointing him or her as the minor's counsel.

Any records or information obtained shall be maintained solely in the confidential portion of the family law file and may only be released or disclosed as ordered by the family law Court. (Welf. & Inst. Code, §827.10, subd. (d).)

The above listed individuals granted access to DPSS records and files shall not disclose orally or in writing any information regarding the identity of any person making a report of suspected child abuse or neglect. (Pen. Code, §11167, subd. (d).) Nothing in this order is intended to limit the disclosure of information that is otherwise required by law or by order of the Court.

Dated: May 24, 2018


 HONORABLE MICHAEL B. HARPER
 Presiding Judge of the Superior Court