

Superior Court of California County of Grange

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Orange County Juvenile Court Miscellaneous Order M-2014-1

Re: California Social Work Education Center (CalSWEC) Workforce Study

The California Social Work Education Center (CalSWEC) is the nation's largest state coalition of social work educators and practitioners. Hosted by the University of California, Berkeley School of Social Welfare, CalSWEC was created in 1990 by California's then-10 graduate schools of social work, the county departments of social services and mental health, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), and the California Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers. CalSWEC comprises a partnership of social work educators and practitioners dedicated to improving the education and training of social workers for all publicly supported social services agencies in order to better serve California's diverse population.

The CalSWEC consortium strives to:

- Promote the preparation of social workers for employment in public child welfare systems;
- Upgrade the professional background of some already-employed public welfare workers interested in gaining additional skills and knowledge in child welfare;
- Increase numbers of minorities in professional social welfare positions to reflect the populations served; and
- Open the doors to innovation by integrating university research with county services and graduate social work curriculum development.

CalSWEC surveys the state's public child welfare workforce every three to five years in collaboration with the County Welfare Directors Association (CWDA) of California and CDSS to determine the extent to which the state is meeting its requirements for master's-level social workers among child welfare social work staff. An initial baseline study was conducted in 1992 prior to the Title IV-E Child Welfare Training Program's inception. The study was repeated in 1995, 1998, 2004, 2008, and 2011. It consists of two sources:

- Administrative data from the counties about the population of public child welfare workers, and
- Information from individual workers about their educational levels, interest in further education, and service assignments among other factors.

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CalSWEC's Evaluation and Research staff provide the results of the surveys in the form of reports, data briefs, and regional workforce studies.

In accord with these objectives, CalSWEC approached the Orange County Social Services Agency (SSA) in May of 2014 and requested permission to conduct a workforce study. The goal of the workforce study is to examine outcome measures in relation to Social Worker job satisfaction and workload issues. SSA has agreed to participate and secured the consent of the Orange County Human Resources Department.

In order to conduct the workforce study, CalSWEC is requesting permission to access Orange County juvenile case file information contained in the Child Welfare Services/Case Management System (CWS/CMS). CalSWEC has agreed to keep the case file information secure and confidential. CalSWEC will produce a written workforce study report that will not contain any names or information that would identify the children, the families, the social workers, or any other individuals listed in the files to be examined.

FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN THEREFOR, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that CalSWEC is authorized to access Orange County juvenile case file information contained in CWS/CMS for the sole purpose of conducting a workforce study.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that CalSWEC must keep all case file information secure and confidential.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that CalSWEC shall not include in the workforce study any names or information that would identify the children, the families, the social workers, or any other individuals listed in the Orange County CWS/CMS files CalSWEC examines.

This Juvenile Court Miscellaneous Order is to remain in effect for one year unless otherwise ordered by the Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court.

Dated this 18th day of November, 2014.

Maria♥). Hernande*z*/

Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court