

MAY 20 2026

DAVID H. YAMASAKI, Clerk of the Court


BY: R. Bracken, Deputy Clerk

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF ORANGE
SITTING AS THE JUVENILE COURT
MISCELLANEOUS ORDER – M-2026-22**

TITLE: COURT-APPOINTED COUNSEL AND SHAREPOINT ACCESS

**TO: ORANGE COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE, THE LAW OFFICES
OF HAROLD LAFLAMME, AND THE JUVENILE DEFENDERS**

A. Applicability of Order:

1. This order and the authorization granted pursuant to it shall apply to the Orange County Public Defender's Office, The Law Offices of Harold LaFlamme, APC, Juvenile Defenders, LLP, and the Law Office of Linh Redhead.

2. Welfare and Institutions Code § 317, 634, and 700 authorize the court to appoint counsel on behalf of a minor or the minor's parent in a juvenile court proceeding where the minor or the minor's parent desires or requires legal representation but is unable to employ counsel.

3. When the court appoints an attorney to represent a minor or the minor's parent, the attorney must respond in a timely manner regarding their availability to provide representation for the individual litigant.

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1 4. Because of the immediacy of the appointment, it is not always possible for
2 an attorney to know if a conflict of interest exists with the minor or the minor's parent that
3 would prohibit the attorney from accepting the appointment and representing the minor.

4 5. It is in the public interest for the court to establish and maintain agreements
5 with qualified counsel from which it may appoint such attorneys to render the usual and
6 customary legal services to minors and their parents in juvenile court cases.

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8 **B. SharePoint Access:**

9 1. Each court-appointed attorney is an officer of the court, with the relevant
10 rights and responsibilities that pertain to that role and shall act consistently with the laws
11 and rules governing court-appointed counsel. Court-appointed counsel who represent
12 parties in a juvenile proceeding are expressly authorized to inspect and receive copies of
13 a juvenile case file. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 827(a)(1)(E) and § 827(a)(5).)

14 2. The Orange County Superior Court, Juvenile Division, has created a
15 dedicated SharePoint site for the Orange County Social Services Agency to upload case-
16 specific reports, e.g., petitions, detention reports, jurisdictional reports, etc., in cases
17 pending before the Juvenile Court. This SharePoint site is a web-based document library
18 system that allows authorized users to review documents prior to and in anticipation of
19 initial detention hearings, where expediency is of the essence.

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21 **FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN THEREFOR, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

22 1. In order to better facilitate the early identification of conflicts of interest, the
23 Orange County Public Defender's Office, The Law Offices of Harold LaFlamme, APC,
24 Juvenile Defenders, LLP, and the Law Office of Linh Redhead, any subdivisions of those
25 offices and the attorneys who work for and on behalf of those agencies, are granted
26 access to the SharePoint site and the documents it contains for the purpose of allowing
27 counsel in their court-appointed capacities to more expediently determine potential
28 conflicts of interests with court appointments at the earliest opportunity in the

proceedings, including prior to, and in anticipation of, initial detention hearings. This authorization is contingent upon a need for information as it pertains to court-appointed counsel's conduct of official activities only.

2. Once counsel is appointed in a case, and it has been determined that no conflict exists, counsel will have access to the SharePoint site and the documents it contains for the purpose of allowing counsel in their court-appointed capacities to receive and retrieve electronic copies of documents in the case or obtain information counsel may need in the case.

3. The juvenile case reports and documents uploaded to the SharePoint site, both in electronic and hard-copy format, are confidential and may be accessed by court-appointed counsel without a separate order of the juvenile court pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code §827 and Orange County Superior Court Local Rule §903.1. Court-appointed counsel shall not disclose, publish, or disseminate any of the documents accessed through the SharePoint site nor any information obtained through those documents, with the exception of the existence of a conflict of interest, without further order from the court.

Dated this 20th day of May, 2026.

Craig & Art

Craig E. Arthur
Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court