

STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN SUPREME COURT

A09-2109

OFFICE OF
APPELLATE COURTS

JAN 11 2010

FILED

In re Minnesota Intoxilyzer 5000EN
Source Code Litigation.

ORDER

The Commissioner of Public Safety has filed a motion pursuant to Minn. R. Gen. Prac. 113.03 for assignment, to a single judge or a panel of judges, of all pending and future implied consent cases in which the petitioner challenges the validity of Intoxilyzer 5000EN results based on allegedly defective source code for the Intoxilyzer 5000EN. At the time the Commissioner's motion was filed there were approximately 717 implied consent cases involving Intoxilyzer 5000EN source code challenges pending in the ten judicial districts.

The Commissioner asserts that all of these cases involve a similar question of fact: that is, whether the Intoxilyzer 5000EN source code contains a material defect that affects the reliability of the instrument's results. The Commissioner further contends that assignment of a single judge or panel of judges to administer and hear pretrial proceedings in these cases relating to the source code challenges will eliminate the risk of inconsistent rulings, provide a more efficient process and forum for adjudication of the source code challenges, and thereby preserve the resources of both the parties and the judiciary. Opposing counsel in all implied consent cases with source code challenges pending when the motion was filed were served with the motion. None has filed a response in opposition.

One attorney for numerous implied consent petitioners has filed a response agreeing with the Commissioner's motion and requesting that the cases in which he is counsel for the petitioner that were initiated after the Commissioner's motion be included in any assignment order.

In addition, the Cities of Apple Valley, Bloomington, Brooklyn Center, Corcoran, Golden Valley, Greenfield, Hassan, Hanover, Hopkins, Independence, Maple Grove, Maple Plain, Minneapolis, Minnetonka, Plymouth, Robbinsdale, and Rogers, and the Minnetonka Conservation District (the "Cities") have moved for assignment, to a single judge or panel of judges, of criminal Driving While Impaired (DWI) cases pending in their jurisdictions that involve Intoxilyzer 5000EN source code challenges, together with the implied consent cases. The Cities assert that the criminal DWI cases raise the same common factual issue concerning the source code as the implied consent cases and present the same logistical issues that favor statewide administration and decision of the source code challenges in those cases. Counsel for defendants in the pending criminal cases that are specifically identified in the Cities' motions have been served with those motions. None of those served attorneys has responded or opposed the motion. However, the Chief Public Defender for the Seventh Judicial District has filed a letter, on behalf of the State Public Defender, the Chief Public Defenders of all the judicial districts, and the Acting Chief Appellate Public Defender, opposing assignment to a single judge of criminal cases involving Intoxilyzer 5000EN source code challenges in which the defendant is represented by a public defender.

The interests of the parties and the judiciary will be furthered by assignment of civil Intoxilyzer 5000EN source code challenge cases to a single judge for administration and

resolution of those challenges. Such assignment will eliminate duplicative litigation in different districts, prevent inconsistent rulings, conserve the resources of the parties, their counsel, and the judiciary, and facilitate resolution of the cases. Although some of the same benefits might accrue from assignment of criminal cases involving Intoxilyzer 5000EN source code challenges to a single judge, the opposed request to include criminal cases in a statewide assignment raises legal issues not appropriate for resolution in this procedural context—a motion directed to the chief justice. Accordingly, the relief afforded in this order for criminal cases must be more limited than for civil implied consent cases.

Based upon all the files, records, and proceedings herein,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. Pursuant to Minn. R. Gen. Prac. 113.03 and Minn. Stat. §§ 2.724 and 480.16 (2008), the Honorable Jerome B. Abrams of the First Judicial District, having consented, is assigned to administer, hear, and decide all pretrial matters concerning challenges to the reliability of Intoxilyzer 5000EN results based on the source code of the instrument, including scheduling, discovery, and an evidentiary hearing, if necessary, in all pending and future civil implied consent cases in which a party challenges the reliability of Intoxilyzer 5000EN results based on the source code of the instrument, with the exception of cases in which a timely and valid notice to remove Judge Abrams was filed before the filing of this order.

2. Pursuant to Minn. R. Gen. Prac. 113.03 and Minn. Stat. §§ 2.724 and 480.16 (2008), the Honorable Karen J. Asphaug of the First Judicial District, having consented, is assigned to administer, hear, and decide all pretrial matters concerning challenges to the

reliability of Intoxilyzer 5000EN results based on the source code of the instrument, including scheduling, discovery, and an evidentiary hearing, if necessary, in all pending and future civil implied consent cases in which a party challenges the reliability of Intoxilyzer 5000EN results based on the source code of the instrument and in which a timely and valid notice to remove Judge Abrams was filed before the filing of this order.

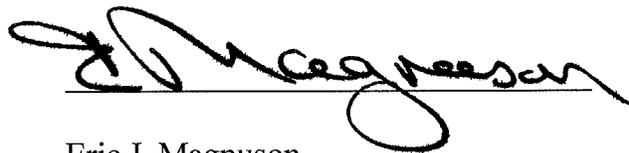
3. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 2.724 and 480.16 (2008), the Honorable Jerome B. Abrams of the First Judicial District, having consented, is assigned to administer, hear, and decide such pretrial matters as he deems appropriate concerning challenges to the reliability of Intoxilyzer 5000EN results based on the source code of the instrument in all pending and future criminal DWI cases in which (a) a party challenges the reliability of Intoxilyzer 5000EN results based on the source code of the instrument and (b) both the prosecuting authority and the defendant provide written notice to Judge Abrams of their consent to this assignment.

4. Because only the public defenders have objected to statewide assignment of criminal DWI cases that involve an Intoxilyzer 5000EN source code challenge, the motions of the Cities to include criminal cases pending in their jurisdictions in a statewide assignment is granted as to all cases specifically identified in the Cities' motions (listed in Appendix A to this order) in which the defendant is not represented by a public defender, and those defendants are deemed to have consented to the assignment made in paragraph 3 of this order. Because the time to respond to the motion of the City of Minneapolis had not expired by the filing date of this order, that motion is not governed by this paragraph, and the cases identified in that motion are governed by paragraph 3, *supra*.

5. The chief judges of the judicial districts are encouraged to work with prosecution and defense counsel to explore and implement, consistent with the rights of criminal defendants, means of achieving logistical benefits of coordinated administration of pretrial matters involving Intoxilyzer 5000EN source code challenges in criminal DWI cases where consent to participation in the statewide effort is not available.

6. The Clerk of Appellate Courts shall mail a copy of this order to Judges Abrams and Asphaug, the chief judges and district administrators of each judicial district, the court administrator for each district court, and all counsel listed as served with the motions filed here. The Commissioner of Public Safety shall provide Judges Abrams and Asphaug with an updated list of pending implied consent cases in which an Intoxilyzer 5000EN source code challenge has been asserted. To the extent practicable, district court administrators shall provide a copy of this order to the parties or their counsel in pending and future criminal DWI cases in which an Intoxilyzer 5000EN source code challenge is asserted.

Dated: January 11, 2010

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric J. Magnuson", written over a horizontal line.

Eric J. Magnuson
Chief Justice

ADDENDUM

City of Apple Valley

State of Minnesota v. Pagnia Vang
District Court File No. 19AV-CR-09-16111

State of Minnesota v. Randall Scott Pedersen
District Court File No. K8-07-221

State of Minnesota v. Cohlee Marie Welke
District Court File No. 19AV-CR-09-1586

State of Minnesota v. Nicole Marie Kenison
District Court File No. 19AV-CR-09-3986

State of Minnesota v. Karla Jean Engeldinger
District Court File No. 19AV-CR-09-5133

City of Bloomington

State of Minnesota v. Jack Arthur Bronczyk
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-26469

State of Minnesota v. Anthony Michael Majszak
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-44850

State of Minnesota v. Grant Walter Lee Aldrich
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-49250

State of Minnesota v. Scott Marshall Karo
District Court File No. 27-CR-08-40139

State of Minnesota v. Thanh-Tung Nguyen
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-43882

City of Brooklyn Center

State of Minnesota v. Daniel Robert Goettl
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-33832

State of Minnesota v. Erik James Hanson
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-28191

State of Minnesota v. Brynne David Lindquist
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-27411

State of Minnesota v. Jennifer Ann Paustis
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-39985

State of Minnesota v. Christopher Eric Rheineck
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-47045

State of Minnesota v. Joseph Souriyavong
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-38022

State of Minnesota v. Nathan James Stenzel
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-46122

State of Minnesota v. Meranda Lynn Warborg
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-34576

City of Corcoran

State of Minnesota v. Christopher Alan Hanson
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-42648

State of Minnesota v. Robert Alan Karaba
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-38244

State of Minnesota v. John William Ziebarth
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-38849

City of Golden Valley

State of Minnesota v. Cassie Rebecca Block
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-47337

State of Minnesota v. Joseph Christopher Brewington
District Court File No. 27-CR-07-125036

State of Minnesota v. Jonathan August Croft
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-41539

State of Minnesota v. Berik Vern Damberg
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-39863

State of Minnesota v. Mary Elizabeth Erickson
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-49653

State of Minnesota v. Adam Jon Geschwind
District Court File No. 27-CR-08-63240

State of Minnesota v. Bruce Alan Goldberg
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-57178

State of Minnesota v. Lemonte Eugene Graham
District Court File No. 27-CR-08-63349

State of Minnesota v. Gannon Gavin Hjerleid
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-55914

State of Minnesota v. Mark Howard Hogue
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-39859

State of Minnesota v. Brian Alan Janni
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-51052

State of Minnesota v. Nathan Daniel Johnson
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-42816

State of Minnesota v. Michael Donald Lesage
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-43197

State of Minnesota v. Giang Troung Ly
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-26456

State of Minnesota v. Chad Michael Nelson
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-43454

State of Minnesota v. Trung Van Nguyen
District Court File No. 27-CR-08-59722

State of Minnesota v. Jill Michele Olson
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-54383

State of Minnesota v. Vladimir Pavlov
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-51444

State of Minnesota v. Christopher Francis Schlemmer
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-51389

State of Minnesota v. Ryan Anil Shenoy
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-42809

State of Minnesota v. Gerhart Garrett Toller
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-55973

State of Minnesota v. Joshua Norman Walstrom
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-37622

City of Hopkins

State of Minnesota v. Jeremy Nathaniel Bishop
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-38015

State of Minnesota v. Roy Lee Carroll
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-37117

City of Maple Grove

State of Minnesota v. Adam Michael Civilla
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-41565

State of Minnesota v. Alexander Moore Garber
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-43519

State of Minnesota v. Jeremy John Monette
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-41545

State of Minnesota v. Kasey Joe Shoquist
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-43370

State of Minnesota v. Karl Leroy Swanson
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-43118

City of Minnetonka

State of Minnesota v. William Harold Ray
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-42397

State of Minnesota v. Brett Alan Perry
District Court File No. 27-CR-08-54823

State of Minnesota v. Michael Gregory Sims
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-45014

State of Minnesota v. Kimberly Gail Capra
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-33266

State of Minnesota v. Thomas Joseph Gilbert
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-27021

State of Minnesota v. Katelyn Marie Evans
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-44980

State of Minnesota v. Cynthia Jayne Holmes-Buscher
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-8882

State of Minnesota v. Betsy Lynn Nesbitt
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-22086

State of Minnesota v. Nita Singh Johnson
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-48862

City of Plymouth

State of Minnesota v. Korey Andrew Boser
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-15199

State of Minnesota v. Nathan Lane Bursch
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-52934

State of Minnesota v. Jamie John Desmet
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-4457

State of Minnesota v. Clyde Rene James
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-34182

State of Minnesota v. Sarah Ann Osvatic
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-40486

City of Robbinsdale

State of Minnesota v. Edward Roy Rippberger
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-40886

State of Minnesota v. Brandon Lee Wetzstein
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-42964

City of Rogers

State of Minnesota v. Trisha Lois Gustafson
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-41487

State of Minnesota v. Chandler Mark Schaffhausen
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-46172

State of Minnesota v. Tracy Lynn Schneider
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-49515

Lake Minnetonka Conservation District

State of Minnesota v. Douglas William Borman
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-44030

State of Minnesota v. Scott Lawrence Martin
District Court File No. 27-CR-09-44051