Standing Order

Re: Interpreters in Early Neutral Evaluations

WHEREAS, pursuant to Minnesota Judicial Council Policy 520, the Minnesota Judicial Branch supports and encourages Early Case Management (ECM) and Early Neutral Evaluations (ENE), to facilitate prompt dispute resolution in Family case matters.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Minnesota Judicial Council Policy 520, implementation of ECM and ENE programs shall be the responsibility of the State Court Administrator and the chief judges of the judicial districts, and governed by statewide best practices.

WHEREAS, pursuant to local Judicial Policy 6.01, the Second Judicial District Family Court has implemented ECM and ENE processes, in which all judges and referees assigned to Family Court are to participate.

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Minnesota Judicial Branch, pursuant to M.S. 546.43, subd. 1 and 611.32, subd. 1, the Minnesota Constitution, and Minnesota Court Rules, to provide accurate interpretation of court proceedings so that non-English speakers and those disabled in communication are afforded equal access to justice.

WHEREAS, it is a Minnesota Judicial Branch goal of ensuring that people who cannot speak English or are deaf or hard of hearing have equal access to participate in cases in Minnesota state courts.

## THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

The court will provide an interpreter where necessary in the event an ENE takes place at a Second Judicial District court location.

Dated: August 28, 2020

Leonardo Castro Chief Judge

Second Judicial District