



## Minnesota Judicial Branch Policy

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<b>Category:</b>	Access to Records
<b>Title:</b>	Access to Records of the Judicial Branch
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### Access to Records of the Judicial Branch

#### I. POLICY STATEMENT

It shall be the policy of the Minnesota Judicial Branch that records of the Minnesota Judicial Branch are accessible to the public and government entities to the full extent allowed under the Rules of Public Access to Records of the Judicial Branch, for the purpose of promoting:

- a. full access to court information; and
- b. effective public policy decision-making.

It is also the policy of the Minnesota Judicial Branch to ensure appropriate, uniform, effective, and efficient access to electronic records of the Judicial Branch under the Rules of Public Access by recognizing data consumer groups and defining the means of access for each group. Examples of data consumer groups to be recognized and served under this policy include but are not limited to: Minnesota Judicial Branch personnel, the public, government entities, lawyers, and pro se litigants.

In determining the means of electronic access for data consumer groups, the following factors shall be used and balanced: the risk of unauthorized release of records; the amount of Judicial Branch human resources and funding required; and the access needs of data consumer groups.

#### II. IMPLEMENTATION AUTHORITY

Implementation of this policy shall be the responsibility of the State Court Administrator, acting as the Judicial Council's agent.

### **III. EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS**

In carrying out this implementation authority, the State Court Administrator shall consult with the Court Operations Advisory Workgroup (COAW) and the Judicial Administrators and Directors Advisory Workgroup (JAD), as needed.