STATE OF MINNESOTA

DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

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FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

RE: Court Security—Weapons Policy

ORDER

WHEREAS, it is the Court's responsibility to ensure the proper, safe, and orderly administration of justice throughout Hennepin County court facilities, and

WHEREAS, the Court has had a weapons policy in place since July 12, 1995, that prohibits any firearm or other weapon from being taken into a courtroom or the environs of any other juvenile justice or other court facility within Hennepin County except under certain conditions described below,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that all persons, except as provided in this Order, are prohibited from having weapons on their person or in their possession in Hennepin County court facilities, regardless of whether or not they have a firearms permit, and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that persons entering Hennepin County court facilities may be subject to screening for weapons upon entry; anyone refusing to submit to such searches shall be refused admission, and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all weapons, including but not limited to firearms and any related ammunition, stun guns, taser weapons, and replica or toy guns shall be removed from said persons before they are allowed to proceed further into the court facility, and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this order shall not apply to licensed peace officers or federally authorized law enforcement agents in the performance of their official duties. Only law enforcement personnel empowered by law to carry weapons may enter a court facility with a weapon. The peace officer exception to the Order shall not apply to officers present in court as private parties, support persons, or to provide testimony not required by their job duties; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that weapons to be used as an exhibit in an official proceeding may be taken into a courtroom or any other court facility only after they have been checked for safety by the Hennepin County Sheriff or Sheriff's designee, be sealed in a transparent vinyl tape envelope or otherwise be secured to ensure security during the proceedings by a peace officer in the performance of official duties, and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Hennepin County court facilities include:

 Hennepin County Government Center, 300 South Sixth Street, Minneapolis

2. Minneapolis City Hall & Hamepin County Courthouse 350 South Fifth Street, Minneapolis

- District Court Division II- Brookdale,
 6125 Shingle Creek Parkway, Brooklyn Center
- District Court Division III- Ridgedale, 12601 Ridgedale Drive, Minnetonka
- District Court Division IV- Southdale, 7009 York Drive, Edina
- Hennepin County Public Safety Facility,
 401 South Fourth Avenue, Minneapolis
- Hennepin County Family Justice Center, 110 South Fourth Street, Minneapolis

Hennepin County Juvenile Justice Center,
 626 South Sixth Street, Minneapolis

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any person violating this Order shall be subject to being held in contempt of court and may be subject to a jail sentence.

This Order is effective immediately.

Dated: 9/29/08

BY THE COURT