

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
ORDER NO. 1755

Amending Probate Rule 20 and
Appellate Rule 220 concerning
sealing of court records in judicial
bypass proceedings.

IT IS ORDERED:

1. Probate Rule 20 is amended to read as follows:

**Rule 20. Judicial Bypass Procedure to Authorize Minor
to Consent to an Abortion.**

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(g) **Confidentiality.**

(1) Prior to the issuance of an order on the petition, the court file is confidential and access is limited to the petitioner, the petitioner's attorney, and court personnel for case processing purposes only. Judicial bypass hearings are closed to the public and recordings of those hearings are sealed. All documents and records in the case file are sealed upon the issuance of an order on the petition. Court personnel are prohibited from notifying a minor's parents, guardian, or custodian that a minor is pregnant or wants to have an abortion, and from disclosing this information to any person. The judicial bypass proceeding index is confidential, as provided in Probate Rule 3(g), and a court shall not release the name of, or any other identifying information concerning, a minor who files a judicial bypass petition.

(2) All statistical and general information that the court system may have concerning judicial bypass proceedings is confidential, except the number of petitions filed, granted, and denied statewide each year is public information.

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2. Appellate Rule 220 is amended to read as follows:

Rule 220. Judicial Bypass Appeals.

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(i) **Confidentiality.**

(1) Documents, proceedings, oral arguments, and audio or video recordings in an appeal under this rule are sealed. Court personnel are prohibited from notifying the minor's parents, guardian, or custodian that the minor is pregnant or wants to have an abortion, and from disclosing this information to any person. The court shall not release the name of, or any other identifying information concerning, a minor who files a judicial bypass appeal.

(2) All statistical and general information that the court system may have concerning judicial bypass appeals is confidential, except the number of appeals filed, granted, and denied statewide each year is public information.

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DATED: March 3, 2011

EFFECTIVE DATE: *nunc pro tunc* to December 14, 2010

/s/
Chief Justice Carpeneti

/s/
Justice Fabe

/s/
Justice Winfree

/s/
Justice Christen

/s/
Justice Stowers