

Comments to the Child Support Guidelines Review Panel Document 6 – August 31, 2013 through November 30, 2013

From August 31, 2013 through November 30, 2013, seven (7) emails were sent to the Child Support Guidelines Review Panel. Four (4) emails pertained to a specific DCSE case and were referred to DCSE for a case specific response. Three (3) emails addressed general topics. All inquiries received a response.

All identifying information on case specific inquiries has been crossed out and salutations and closings have been deleted.

1. From: TK
Sent: Wednesday, October 02, 2013 2:56 PM
Subject: XXXXXX XXXXXX 's case # XXXXXXXX

To whom it concerns:

I would like to request a case review for my case. I have contacted someone at your office and was told that I needed to send a letter stating that I wanted to have a review. If there is anything else that you may need please feel free to contact me. My cell number is XXX-XXX-XXXX. Thank you for everything!

2. From: FR
Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2013 2:07 PM
Subject: Review case # XXXXXXXX

To Whom It May Concern;

I XXXXXX XXXXXX as the custodial parent am requesting that my child support case# XXXXXXXX be reviewed because the amount of support that was ordered back then was for only one child and I had a second child by the same noncustodial parent. He was born in 06/24/03. His name is XXXXXX XXXXXX and this court order was set before he was born. So I'm requesting a review because the cost of living went up, plus his is in the rear for over \$20,000 and he gets paid overtime and I'm pretty sure it may be off the books so child support don't know about it. Please consider this request. I greatly appreciate it.

3. From: AC
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2013 2:20 PM
Subject: Guideline changes

Good afternoon,

How would I be able to find out if any changes have been made to child support guidelines based on the review panel meetings

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Have a nice day,

4. From: JW

Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2013 9:25 AM

Subject: Please carefully consider the implications

My name is XXXXXX XXXXXX. I live in Arlington, VA. I'm a software engineer at Google. I have 50/50 shared custody of my two daughters ages 8 and 10. My ex-wife exploded the marriage for frivolous reasons about 2.5 years ago. I'm a Christian man and I don't believe in divorce.

I was able to get a workable settlement in place. The glaring exception being an unreasonable child support burden. The ex-wife has a Nuclear Engineering degree and an MBA, and is fully able to support herself and a household, and yet I still pay substantial child support thanks to a non-negotiable formula. Since the divorce was not my idea, and she had no grounds, the injustice is difficult to swallow. Circumstances aren't considered under Virginia law, which redistributes my income irrespective of the facts. This prevents leaving my job and taking a pay cut to do a tech startup company. Less jobs created, less taxes paid. No-fault divorce is a bane on society.

I am aware that many men live with much worse outcomes.

Generous child support payments irrespective of circumstance are not good for children. It's an awful incentive to break up a family for selfish reasons. Living in a broken home, in many cases separated from a parent, usually the father, is not good for children. Incentives that lead to broken homes are not good for children. I have seen this firsthand.

The current system incentivizes divorce by annuitizing the marriage relationship as a reward for selfish and immoral behaviour. Children suffer the most. It's hard to believe the system operates like this while claiming to be "in the best interests of the children." The law must be changed. Presumptive shared custody and child support reform would address the most glaring incentives for exploding marriages for cash and prizes. Not for my own case but for future cases where committed/faithful spouses are taken advantage of, where the only thing that matters to the ex-spouse is that steady stream of cash payments.

Please carefully consider the implications, and unintended consequences, while reviewing the child support guidelines.

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5. From: RM
Sent: Tuesday, November 05, 2013 8:28 AM
Subject: guidelines-

Where can I find the guideline for calculating child payment? – the fact that I am the facilitate for a men group- I would like to express and emphasize the need for prevention and intervention education.

Thank you

6. From: EA
Sent: Wednesday, November 06, 2013 12:44 PM
Subject: please help

yes my support is based on me being in the army which is 619 a month im no longer in the army and requested a reveiw in march and wasnt granted a court date till november im unemployed but pay what i can well i live in georgia and without funds couldnt make the hearing but requested a telephonic hearing through the courts called and faxed over a letter explain it all to my case worker well my case was dismissed in court and the amount stayed the same but im no longer in the military and still unemployed i just need some help and some light sheded on this because im confused it was an administrative reveiw how could the judge just dismiss it and im still with the same payment and falling farther behind

7. From: RC
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2013 10:23 AM
Subject: Unable to amend support

It has been my experience as a noncustodial parent, for more than 6 years, the DCSE case workers and also management have misinformed me concerning the amendment process. I have for years gone throughout the courts to have my support order amended, which is what I have been told. After speaking to Mr. Ron Harris, he informed me that the process can go through DCSE prior to the courts as a request. I have spoken to several case workers who all have mistaken my request for an amendment, in light of a new custody order. This according to Mr. Harris could have been at least questioned as a "change in circumstances."