



2024 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Minnesota Family Support & Recovery Council
in partnership with Minnesota County Attorney's Association



ACAs, CSMs & ExPro...Oh My!

Thursday, October 9, 2024





Jennifer Cooklock, Assistant Ramsey County Attorney

Lisa Kontz, Child Support Division Head, Dakota County Attorney's Office

Sara Lauthen, Child Support Magistrate, 4th Judicial District

Fue Lo Thao, Child Support Magistrate, 3rd Judicial District

Jill Prohofsky, Chief Child Support Magistrate - Moderator

Agenda

- Pleadings
- Hearings / Case Presentation
- Past Support
- Contempt
- Income
- Parenting time/PEA
- Child care
- Transition to new laws
- Subsequent children
- Consolidation
- CSM prep





Pleadings

What information should be in the Case Information Sheets?

What if a case is going by default and there's a change or a typo?

Why are more default orders being rejected than in the past?

Hearings / Case Presentation



Updates

How should we deal with updates?

What if we have a New Hire hit but no other info?

Testimony

What do Magistrates want from me?

Do I need to question any parties other than the CSO?



Past Support

What is the best way to present a request for past support?

What about last minute requests?

How should we resolve the gap in time between when pleadings are prepared and when we get to court?

Contempt



What does this look like in the expedited process?

What does this look like in the District Court?

Why is our CSM discouraging or trying to put a time limit on rolling contempts?

Income

Should income be imputed at 30 hours or 40?

If a party gives the agency their tax returns, should those be filed with the court?





Parenting time expense adjustment

Can parties agree to apply a PEA when there is no court order for parenting time?

What if there is a conditional court order for PT, saying what it will be in the future when certain conditions are met?

What should we do if we can't calculate the number of overnights?

If we can calculate overnights, when should we show our math?

Child care



Can a work-related expense include job search efforts?

What sort of proof of this expense is required?



Transition to new laws

How do counties handle prospective legislation?

How do you prepare pleading when there is an upcoming change in the law or to the guidelines?

What do Magistrates do to transition to a new law or legislation?





Subsequent children

When parties already have a child support order, how do we get an order for a subsequent joint child?

How do we calculate support for the subsequent joint child?

Consolidation

Can we?

Should we?

Same family?

Scope of the action?



Case Type	INTO	Case Type	Yes or No
Support for child 1	➡	Support for child 2	YES
Support for child 1	➡	Custody for child 1	YES
Support for child 1	➡	Paternity (final) for child 1	YES
Support for child 1	➡	Dissolution with Child for child 1	YES
Custody for child 1	➡	Custody for child 2	YES
Custody for child 1	➡	Support for child 1	NO
Custody for child 1	➡	Paternity (final) for child 1	YES
Custody for child 1	➡	Dissolution with Child for child 1	YES
Paternity for child 1	➡	Paternity for child 2	YES
Paternity for child 1	➡	Support for child 1	NO
Paternity for child 1	➡	Custody for child 1	NO
Paternity for child 1	➡	Dissolution with Child for child 1	NO
Dissolution with Child for child 1	➡	Support for child 2	NO
Dissolution with Child for child 1	➡	Custody for child 1	NO
Dissolution with Child for child 1	➡	Paternity for child 1	NO

CSM prep



How do Magistrates prepare for hearing calendars?





CLV Update: Friday @ 9am

- Relative caretakers
- Contempt
- CP request to reserve basic support when child care assistance is open
- Effect on establishment order when parties subsequently marry
- PA reimbursement
- Multiple family support calculations



What is the wackiest thing you've seen in a remote hearing?

