

FOCB Advisory Committee
February 15, 2013

Members Present: Amy Yu, Doug Howard, Peter Dever, Lynn Bullard, Jeff Winters

Staff Members Present: Elizabeth Stomski (FOCB Analyst), Holland Klar (FOCB Law Clerk/Scribe)

1. Call to Order 1:03 pm (fire alarm/evacuation delay)
2. Administrative Matters
 - a. Review minutes from November 16, 2012 meeting
3. Public Comment
 - a. No requests for public comment have been received by today's meeting date.
4. Correspondence since November 16, 2012
 - a. One email was received from individual complaining about parenting time order and compliance in Kent Co. Email was received by several individuals at SCAO, who responded separately. Due to the other responses the FOCB did not respond on behalf of the committee.
 - i. This is a case issue, not a policy issue, and so the board is not asked to respond
5. Old Business
 - a. FOC Arrears Management Policy – Published on OCS' website in October 2012. FOCB is requesting input from the committee members as to any experiences they've had with the arrears management program, or any additional thoughts on or suggested improvements to the policy.
 - b. The FOCB Analysts request feedback on the arrears management calculator. The committee discussed issues where the NCP is doing everything they can to comply with the child support order, but does not qualify for state-owed arrears forgiveness under the policy. FOCB will share these concerns with OCS, who has sole authority to address these issues.

NOTE: Subsequent discussions with OCS indicate they are reviewing the policy, but originally created it to help only those NCP's in situations of extreme difficulty. They report that they will review their policy to see if they agree that it is too restrictive.
6. New Business
 - a. Establishing paternity in abuse/neglect cases- A child's legal father has the right to participate in abuse/neglect proceedings involving the child. However, there is often no legal father established if the child was born out of wedlock. FOCB is seeing input on best practices when establishing paternity in an abuse/neglect case.

The committee had a lengthy discussion on the issues and practicality of establishing paternity in an NA case, including training NA staff on DNA

gathering, due process issues (notice), and timeliness. The committee requested the item be retained for the May agenda.

- b. FOC Bench warrant Subcommittee under FOCA
 - i. Lynn Bullard participated in phone hearing this morning, and discussed aspects of bench warrants for failure to appear at a show-cause hearing. The NCP may be picked up on the bench warrant after a traffic violation in another county. The other county may release the NCP due to overcrowding. There is also concern with the FOC office having to send people to transfer the NCP to the county that issued the bench warrant.
 - c. FOC Forms Committee meeting in March
 - i. Amy Yu sits on this committee. The committee will discuss whether to clarify gross versus periodic alimony, and specify that the FOC won't collect on a property judgment
 - d. Elizabeth Stomski summarized some of Bill Bartels' current work.
7. Member's closing comments
- a. Doug Howard presented a summary of a recent conference in Washington DC on child support issues.
 - 1. Moving from child support enforcement to family oriented program for a more balanced approach
 - 2. Visitation and parenting program
 - 3. How health care reform affects medical support in the orders. The federal child support program may be taking a hands-off approach to the reform's impacts on the child support program.

Adjourn 2:11pm

Next meeting scheduled for May 17