

CT Child Support Guidelines Commission

Minutes for the 12/1/22 meeting, *via Microsoft Teams*

(Agenda Items Bolded)

5:00 pm. – Roll call by Chair Chief Family Support Magistrate Michael Ferguson

Present: Chair, Graham Shaffer, Sean Kehoe, Scott Storms, Virginia Brown, Amy McNamara, Darren Pruslow, Zoe Stout.

Not Present: Vice Chair Lucy Potter, Gary Winfield, Campbell Barrett, Craig Fishbein, Steven Hernandez.

Quorum obtained.

Graham Shaffer moved to adopt the minutes from the last meeting, Darren Pruslow seconds. Vote, Scott Storms abstained, all others approve and motion carried.

5:03 pm. – Topics for Commission Consideration: (Chair reviewed these topics)

- Imputation of income in minimum wage orders
- Changes needed for higher income orders – ex. how to handle cash and executive compensation orders
- How to handle orders where income is lower than what is contemplated by the guidelines
- How to handle lump sum awards in light of Jenkins, ie: Jenkins calculation.
- Adoption of current order when there is an arrearage at the time the child emancipates
- Arrearages calculations
- Methodology for order in instances of shared custody
- Crediting other orders, even if not fully paid, when calculating available income
- Addressing instances when there are more than two parents following the passage of the CT Parentage Act
- Providing or defining a method for calculating monthly and/or biweekly expression of child support in the guidelines
- Setting an age at which a child care contribution order terminates unless otherwise ordered by the court
- Giving credit for the voluntary support of a dependent child who is not residing with an obligor, ie. Treating such a child as a qualified dependent when calculating a presumptive child support order.

Chair - Any other issues to be added to this list of topics for the commission to consider? Amy MacNamara, as the representative of the CT Bar Association Family Law Section, would like the opportunity to bring this list to their committee advising her on their topics of interest and ask if they have additional topics they wish to have addressed at this guidelines commission. Agreed that the family law section of the bar should have that opportunity and hopefully will have any additions by February or March guidelines commission meetings. If any other members have topics they wish to consider, please send an email about this topic to the Chair, Vice Chair and Graham Shaffer. At some point the window of additions to this list will close.

5:08 pm. – Possibility of future in person meetings. Chair, the February meeting will be remote as well as March. Graham Shaffer requests a month or two notice of in person meetings to make sure that the DSS office chosen can accommodate the meeting with a room, technology, and parking.

5:12 pm – The open discussion. Graham Shaffer provided update on the DSS contract with Jane Venohr to provide the economic study so important to the guidelines commission. She will attend the February meeting and discuss a variety of topics including:

- methodology of guidelines calculation
- a preliminary look at what the guidelines may look like based on our current guidelines and prospective economic changes based on what she is seeing in neighboring states
- answer questions from commission members

Very important for all commission members to attend this February meeting. If you have any questions about this please reach out to Graham Shaffer and he'll be happy to speak with you.

Additionally, CTN, the C-SPAN for the CT General Assembly, may wish to broadcast that meeting. Chair impressing on members the importance of attending the February meeting.

5:16 pm – Adjournment. Next meeting February 2, 2023. Meeting adjourned.

