

## **STATE OF CONNECTICUT – CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES COMMISSION MEETING**

Minutes for the June 6, 2024 meeting, *via Microsoft Meetings*. Agenda items bolded. Scribe, Beth Rude, DSS/OCSS

### **5:07 pm – Call to order, provision for meeting minutes**

Chief Family Support Magistrate Michael Ferguson, Commission Chair, called meeting to order and roll call.

Present: Chair CFSM Ferguson; Graham Shaffer; Cara Pavalock D’Amato; Virginia Brown; Amy McNamara; Darren Pruslow, Vice Chair; Susan Hamilton.

Not Present: Carolyn Signorelli; Gary Winfield; Campbell Barrett; Scott Storms; Rose Cologne; Michael Werner.

Quorum achieved. May meeting was cancelled for lack of quorum. G. Shaffer moved to adopt the minutes from the April 4, 2024 meeting, seconded by D. Pruslow. Approved.

### **5:10 pm - Updated Guidelines Schedule from Dr. Jane Venohr based on previous decisions by Commission and most recent economic data, including:**

- **Updated to the most current Betson-Rothbarth study of child-rearing expenditures.**
- **Realignment of the BR study, which is based on national data, for CT incomes based on most recent Census data.**
- **Updated for recent inflation through Feb 2024**
- **Updated low-income adjustment using the parameters agreed to by the Commission**

**Extend the schedule from \$4,000 net weekly income to \$5,000 net per week (combined income).**

Circulated to the members, the guidelines schedule with the February 2024 inflation data that also reflects the decisions made by the commission up to this date. Chair stated the updated schedule should be included in the minutes so the public can review. G. Shaffer stated the agenda and all attachments circulated to the members for the meetings as well as the recordings of each meeting are always posted on the DSS website for the public to review. Chair points out there are changes to the lower income levels as well as the schedule being increased up to the \$5000 net level from \$4000 to reflect the data that is available. A. McNamara asked if there is a description of the process required to advance the guidelines to the \$6000 level? G. Shaffer explained that Dr. Venohr did not have the Connecticut data available to extend the guidelines to that level. A. McNamara and G. Shaffer will get in touch with Dr. Venohr to discuss this further.

### **5:14 pm - Recommendation of Chair, Vice Chair, and attorneys Shaffer, Signorelli, Werner, and Hamilton concerning order on arrearage at the time the child emancipates**

Chair Ferguson circulated the draft language recommended by the sub-group to the commission members for review and discussion concerning the order on arrearages at the time the child emancipates. Under current guidelines, if there is no current support order when the child emancipates, 100% of the current support order shall now become the payment on the arrearage. The proposed language states that if there is a current order when the child emancipates, the arrears payment will be 20% of the current order. But if there is no current order when the child emancipates, the arrearage payment shall be at least 20% and up to 100% of the current order at the discretion of the judge of magistrate. Discussion. G. Shaffer moved to amend subsection (d) of Section 46b-215a-3a of the Regulations of CT State Agencies to reflect the language currently before the commission detailed in the agenda attachment. Seconded by S. Hamilton. Approved by the Commission.

### **5:20 pm - Reminder there will be no meetings in July or August and to use this time to finish deliberation on outstanding topics**

No meeting in July or August, next meeting in September. Committees to meet over the summer to report out on the pending topics. Brief discussion of the CT Parentage Act and the possibility of treating the issue of more than two parents as a deviation. Need to discuss extra-curricular activities, shared custody, high income orders, and lump sum awards under Jenkins. Please be ready to give some updates on where you are in your deliberations if you have not completed your recommendations by the September meeting. Would like to open these meetings up to public comment in the fall, October/November perhaps.

**5:23 pm – Adjournment.** Next meeting Thursday, September 5, 2024 at 5:00pm.



Agenda - 6.6.24.doc



CT Feb 24 prices  
realigned 125 2024 |



draft language re  
arrearage order at ti