

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of:)
)
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CHILD) Administrative Order
SUPPORT GUIDELINES REVIEW) No. 2020 - 10
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE FAMILY)
COURT IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE)
_____)

Pursuant to the Arizona Revised Statutes § 25-320(D), the Supreme Court shall establish guidelines for determining the amount of child support and review the guidelines at least once every four years to ensure that their application results in the determination of appropriate child support amounts.

In accordance with Arizona Code of Judicial Administration § 1-104, the Chief Justice established the standing Family Court Improvement Committee (Committee) to assist the Arizona Judicial Council in carrying out its responsibilities. Administrative Order (A.O.) No. 2019-115 requires that the Committee conduct the federally-mandated quadrennial Child Support Guidelines review and make recommendations on issues raised by the 2017 Committee for an Interim Review of the Child Support Guidelines. This A.O. also allows the Committee Chairperson, in concurrence with the Chief Justice, to establish subcommittees. Therefore, pursuant to Article VI, Section 3, of the Arizona Constitution,

IT IS ORDERED that the Family Court Improvement Committee Child Support Guidelines Review Subcommittee is established to review the current statewide child support guidelines and make recommendations as provided below:

1. Limited Purpose.

Phase I:

The Subcommittee shall review and make recommendations regarding issues referred for further studies by the 2017 Committee for an Interim Review of the Child Support Guidelines. Further, the Subcommittee may make recommendations regarding other improvements to the guidelines.

Phase II:

The Subcommittee shall:

- Consider economic and labor market data; the impact of guideline policies and amounts on custodial and noncustodial parents who have family incomes below 200 percent of the Federal poverty level, and factors that impact compliance with child support orders;
- Analyze case data on the application of and deviations from the child support guidelines, as well as the rates of default and imputed child support orders and orders determined using the low-income adjustment.
- Provide a meaningful opportunity for public input, including input from low-income custodial and noncustodial parents and their representatives.

2. Membership and Term.

The individuals listed on Appendix A are appointed as members of the Child Support Guidelines Review Subcommittee beginning upon entry of this Order. The terms of the Subcommittee and the members shall expire at the conclusion of the project, scheduled for December 2020.

3. Meetings.

Subcommittee meetings shall be scheduled at the discretion of the Subcommittee Chairperson. Pursuant to Arizona Code of Judicial Administration § 1-202, all meetings shall comply with the public meeting policy of the Arizona Judicial Branch.

4. Administrative Support.

The Administrative Office of the Courts shall provide staff for the subcommittee who may conduct or coordinate research as requested by the subcommittee.

5. Reports.

The Family Court Improvement Committee shall submit a final report to the Arizona Judicial Council at the December 2020 meeting.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Child Support Guidelines Review Subcommittee shall publish on the Arizona Judicial Branch internet and make accessible to the public all reports, a subcommittee membership list, the effective date of the guidelines, and the dates of the next review.

Dated this 8th day of January, 2020.

ROBERT BRUTINEL
Chief Justice

Appendix A
Membership List
Child Support Guidelines Review Subcommittee

Chair

Judge David Gass
Court of Appeals, Division I

Members

Judge Bruce R. Cohen
Family Court Presiding Judge
Superior Court in Maricopa County

Carol Park Aden
Attorney
Community Legal Services

Commissioner Joseph Goldstein
Superior Court in Yavapai County

Steve Wolfson
Attorney
Dickinson Wright, PLLC

Rosa Torrez
Operations Administrator
Department of Economic Security
Division of Child Support Services

Mary Boyte Henderson
Attorney
Mary Katherine Boyte, PC

Janet Sell
Unit Chief Counsel
Office of the Attorney General
Child and Family Protection Division
Child Support Services Section

Jennifer A. Mihalovich
State Bar of Arizona Representative
Stewart Law Group

Joi Hollis, Ph.D.
Conciliation Court Director
Superior Court in Pima County

Laura C Belleau
Attorney
Karp & Weiss

Vance Simms, Custodial Parent

Amanda Stanford
Clerk of the Court
Superior Court in Pinal County

Cherie Wasiel, Non-Custodial Parent

Kellie DiCarlo
Certified Legal Document Preparer
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