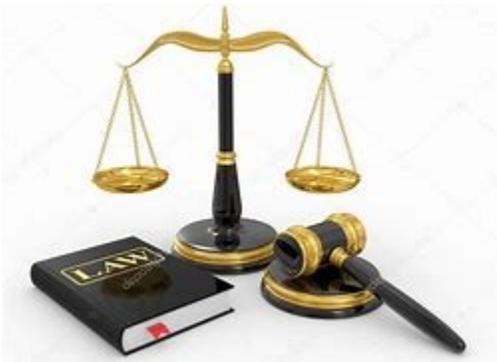


ENFORCING YOUR CHILD SUPPORT ORDER



***Wayne County Prosecutor's
Office***

Child Support Division

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Richmond, IN 47374

(765) 973-9285

How can I enforce my child support order?

You can enforce your child support order by opening a case with the Child Support Division, hiring a private attorney, or filing paperwork with the Court without the assistance of an attorney. There are several different ways that the Child Support Division can help you enforce a child support order, including delinquency letters, contempt citation, income withholding orders and interception of income tax refunds.

Will it cost me anything for these services?

There is no charge for services through the Child Support Division.

Can child support be garnished from the parent's paycheck?

Indiana law requires that all child support payments be garnished from a parent's paycheck through an income withholding order. You can report the parent's place of employment to the Child Support Division, or they may be able to find a place of employment in one of their databases. Once the Child Support Division knows the parent's place of employment, they will send out an income withholding order.

What is a contempt citation?

A contempt citation orders a parent to come into court because he or she has failed to pay child support as ordered. You can file contempt through the Child Support Division, a private attorney, or on your own in the Wayne County Clerk's Office.

How does the Child Support Division handle contempt citations?

The first time that a parent receives a contempt citation, the Child Support Division asks the parent to sign an Agreed Order, which orders him or her to appear in court each week in which support is not paid.

If the parent fails to comply with the Agreed Order, the parent may face up to 180 days of incarceration. In this case, the law requires that the parent be appointed an attorney if he or she cannot afford one.

Can a parent's driver's license be suspended if he or she fails to pay child support as ordered?

If a parent owes more than \$2,000 in child support, the Child Support Division can suspend his or her driver's license in order to make the parent pay support.

How else can the Child Support Division collect child support?

The Child Support Division may be able to intercept federal and state income tax refunds, lottery winnings, and money in bank accounts from parents who owe child support arrearages, and suspends the passports of those who owe more than \$2,500 in child support arrearages.

Can a parent be charged with a crime for failure to pay child support as ordered?

Yes. A parent may be charged with Nonsupport of a Dependent for failure to pay child support, which is a Level 6 felony under Indiana law. However, the offense is a Level 5 felony if the parent has a previous conviction for failure to pay child support.

Can I enforce a child support order against a parent who lives out of state?

Yes, but the procedures are different for a parent who lives out of state. The Child Support Division cannot simply file a contempt citation or otherwise enforce a support order against a parent who lives out of state. However, under Indiana law, there are ways that the Child Support Division can still enforce your order. The Child Support Division must ask the state in which the parent lives to register the support order and enforce it. As a result, the interstate enforcement process may take longer than the regular enforcement process.