IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

 $\overline{90}23$ Misc. Docket No. 07-

APPROVAL OF LOCAL RULE FOR THE FAMILY DISTRICT COURTS OF TARRANT COUNTY REGARDING TITLE IV-D CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES

ORDERED that:

Pursuant to Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 3a, the following Local Rule for the Family District Courts of Tarrant County Regarding Title IV-D Child Support Services is approved.

In Chambers, this 30^{th} day of January, 2007.

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Wallace B. Jefferson, Chief

Nathan L. Hecht, Justice

Harriet O'Neill, Justice

aminight J. Dale Wainwright, Justice

Scott Brister, Justice

David M. Medina, Justice ledina

Paul W. Green, Justice

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Phil Johnson, Justice

P.U

Don R. Willett, Justice



CAROLYN STEWART COURT REPORTER (817) 884-2724 RANDY CATTERTON

District Judge 231st Judicial District of Texas Tarrant County Family Law Center 200 E. Weatherford Street Fort Worth, Texas 76196 (817) 884-3796 FAX (817) 884-3577

January 8, 2007

NORMA A. BAZÁN Court Coordinator (817) 884-1580

Supreme Court of Texas P. O. Box 12248 Austin, TX 78711 Attn: Mr. Jody Hughes

Re: Local Rules Regarding Title IV-D Child Support Services

Dear Mr. Hughes:

Enclosed please find the original of a proposed Local Rule approved by the family law Judges of Tarrant County, Texas and by Judge Jeff Walker, Presiding Judge of the 8th Administrative Judicial Region. I am also enclosing a copy of a letter from Norris Branham, Director of the Tarrant County Domestic Relations Office which explains the need for the rule.

I ask that the proposed Local Rule please be presented to the Court for approval.

If any additional information is needed or if there is any other step in this process that I have failed to take, please contact me at the above address or telephone number.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and cooperation.

Yours very truly Randy Catterton

RC/nab Enclosure



TARRANT COUNTY

DOMESTIC RELATIONS OFFICE

FAMILY LAW CENTER 200 E. WEATHERFORD, 2ND FLOOR FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76196-0290 (817) 884-1015 FAX (817) 884-2591

December 19, 2006.

JESSICA BOLDT Director of Child Support Registry & Monitoring

> **CHRISTINA S. GLENN** Director of Family Court Services

MARY JAY HANCOCK Director of Legal Enforcement

DONNA LARSON Director of Community Supervision

Honorable Randy Catterton Judge, 231st Judicial District of Texas Tarrant County Family Law Center 200 E. Weatherford Street Fort Worth, Texas 76196

Re: Proposed Local Rule: Application for and Refusal of Title IV-D Child Support Services by the Domestic Relations Office

Dear Judge Catterton:

Enclosed please find the Order For Application For And Refusal Of Title IV-D Child Support Services signed by the Tarrant County Family District Judges with its attached Proposed Local Rule For Tarrant County. Please note that this Proposed Local Rule is submitted for the purpose of amending the Local Rule Regarding Application for and Refusal of Title IV-D Child Support Services, Tarrant County Family District Courts, Misc. Docket No. 00-9063, signed by the Supreme Court of Texas on April 12, 2000.

Please submit this Order with attached Proposed Local Rule to Judge Jeff Walker, the presiding judge for the Eighth Administrative Judicial Region, for his approval with your request that he forward it to the Texas Supreme Court for its consideration.

If additional information is needed, please let me know. Thank you again for your time and attention to this matter.

Yours very truly,

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Norris Branham

NORRIS BRANHAM Executive Director

ORDER FOR APPLICATION FOR AND REFUSAL OF TITLE IV-D CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES

On this date the undersigned, the Family District Judges of Tarrant County, Texas, having determined that it is in the best interest of the children of Tarrant County in each final divorce decree that orders child support and is signed on or after October 16, 2000 by the presiding judge of a Tarrant County Family District Court and in each final paternity decree not based on an action initiated by a Title IV-D agency that orders child support and is signed by the presiding judge of a Tarrant County Family District Court after the effective date of the Local Rule that results from this order, find that the obligee in any such divorce decree or paternity order shall be deemed to have made an application for Title IV-D Child Support Services and that it is necessary to adopt local rules for the procedure.

It is therefore ORDERED that the Proposed Local Rule for Tarrant County attached hereto and made a part of this order for all purposes is hereby adopted and shall include by reference the Local Rules of the District Courts of Tarrant County and shall pertain to all Title IV-D Child Support Services provided pursuant to said Local Rule.

Signed this <u>18th</u> day of December, 2006.

Randy Catterton, Judge 12.15.06 231st District Court

William Harris, Judge 233rd District Court

Frank Sullivan, Judge 322nd District Court

Jerome-S. Hennigan, Judge 324th District Court

Judith Wells, Judge 325th District Court

Debra Lehrmann, Judge 360th District Court

12-18-06

Anna

Jean Boyd, Judge 323rd District Court

12-18-06

Hon. Jeff Walker, Presiding Judge Eighth Administrative Judicial Region

PROPOSED LOCAL RULE FOR TARRANT COUNTY

Application for and Refusal of Title IV-D Child Support Services by the Domestic Relations Office

- a. Each final divorce decree that includes an order to pay child support and is signed on or after October 16, 2000 by the presiding judge or associate judge of a Tarrant County Family District Court and each final paternity decree not obtained by a Title IV-D agency that includes an order to pay child support and is signed by the presiding judge or associate judge of a Tarrant County Family District Court after the effective date of this local rule shall be deemed to include an application for Title IV-D child support services provided through the Tarrant County Domestic Relations Office and Office of the Texas Attorney General pursuant to Chapter 231 of the Texas Family Code.
- b. Unless required to accept such services pursuant to other laws, a recipient or obligee of child support entitled to receive Title IV-D child support services pursuant to this local rule may decline such services by filing a written Refusal of Child Support Services.
- c. Refusal of Title IV-D child support services pursuant to this local rule does not preclude that person from making a subsequent written application to the Office of the Texas Attorney General for Title IV-D child support services.
- d. The provisions of this local rule supercede in its entirety the Local Rule Regarding Application for and Refusal of Title IV-D Child Support Services, Tarrant County Family District Courts, Misc. Docket No. 00-9063, signed by the Supreme Court of Texas on April 12, 2000.