August 16, 2006

NOTICE TO ATTORNEYS
CHILD SUPPORT REGISTRY FORM "FL-191"

Federal Law – US Code 42 USC 654b – requires all states to establish a central location for processing child support payments for cases being enforced by the local child support agency, and all other child support cases where the child support payment is made via wage withholding order. The Department of Child Support Services in California has created a State Disbursement Unit (SDU) to fulfill this requirement. The SDU will receive and process all private (non-Title IV-D) child support cases made via wage withholding order.

California Family Code section 4014 provides, in part, that any judgment of paternity and any order for child support entered and modified shall include a provision requiring the parties to keep updated address and other pertinent information with the Statewide Child Support Registry. California Rule of Court 5.330 requires Child Support Case Registry Form (FL-191) be completed by the parties upon the establishment or modification of a private support order.

Payments will be redirected in the following way:

- The wage assignment order is obtained by the parent owed support, which is subsequently served on the paying parent's employer.

- The employer sends child support payments to the SDU.

- The SDU will forward support payment to the parent owed support at the address contained in the State Case Registry, relieving the obligor's employer from sending payments directly to the parent owed support as identified in the wage assignment order.

FORM FL-191 IS MANDATORY. Failure to prepare and file this form may preclude the SDU from being able to collect and disburse the private child support obligation without interruption.

Clerks have been directed not to process Findings and Orders after Hearing and Judgments that have a child support or family support order unless form FL-191 is attached.

Failure to file this form could also result in a criminal prosecution against the obligor, or action against the attorney.

The California Department of Child Support Services has established the following website for additional information concerning the California State Disbursement Unit: https://www.casdu.com/CAS_SDU/. In addition, a SDU Customer Service Help Desk phone number is available at: 1-866-325-1010.