### IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

Misc. Docket No. 07- 9023

## 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 30th day of January, 2007.

Wallace B. Jefferson, Chief Justice

Nathan L. Hecht, Justice

Harriet O'Neill, Justice

Scott Brister, Justice

David M. Medina, Justice

Paul W. Green, Justice

Phil Johnson, Justice

# Posted 2/7/07

### 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 18th day of December, 2006.

Randy Catterton, Judge 12.15.06

231st District Court

William Harris, Judge 233rd District Court

Frank Sullivan, Judge

322<sup>nd</sup> District Court

Jean Boyd, Judge 323<sup>rd</sup> District Court

Jerome S. Hennigan, Judge

324th District Court 12 15 0 6

324<sup>th</sup> District Court

Judith Wells, Judge 325th District Court

325<sup>th</sup>/District Court

Debra Lehrmann, Judge

360<sup>th</sup> 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.