

# Supreme Court of Florida

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No. SC10-1468

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## **IN RE: AMENDMENTS TO THE FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE.**

[September 23, 2010]  
**CORRECTED OPINION**

PER CURIAM.

The Florida Bar’s Family Law Rules Committee (Committee) has filed a “fast-track” report proposing amendments to the Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Forms in order to implement the 2010 legislative amendments adopted in chapter 2010-199, sections 3 and 5, Laws of Florida. We have jurisdiction. See art. V, § 2(a), Fla. Const.; Fla. R. Jud. Admin. 2.140(e).

Under the Committee’s “fast-track” procedure for considering new legislation, the Committee proposes amendments to Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Forms 12.902(e) (Child Support Guidelines Worksheet) and 12.996(a) (Income Deduction Order (Non-Title IV Case)).<sup>1</sup> The Florida Bar Board of

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1. Form 12.996(a), as amended, is titled Income Deduction Order (Non-Title IV-D Case).

Governors unanimously approved the Committee's proposals. The proposed amendments are in response to chapter 2010-199, sections 3 and 5, Laws of Florida, which amend numerous provisions within chapter 61, Florida Statutes, pertaining to alimony and child support.<sup>2</sup> With regard to forms 12.902(e) and 12.996(a), the amendments require: removal of the first three combined net income amounts in the guidelines schedule; the elimination of the twenty-five percent reduction in calculating monthly child care costs to be added to the basic child support obligation; a decrease from forty percent to twenty percent of the overnights in a year that a parent must have with a child to qualify as a "substantial amount of time" for time-sharing (formerly visitation) purposes; and the addition of a "Child Support Reduction/Termination Schedule" to income deduction orders issued after October 1, 2010.

After considering the Committee's proposals and reviewing the relevant legislation, we amend forms 12.902(e) and 12.996(a) as reflected in the appendix to this opinion. The forms are fully engrossed and ready for use. The amendments to form 12.902(e) shall take effect on January 1, 2011, at 12:01 a.m.; the amendments to form 12.996(a) shall take effect on October 1, 2010, at 12:01 a.m. Because the amendments were not published for comment prior to their adoption,

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2. Chapter 2010-199, section 3, Laws of Florida, is effective October 1, 2010. See Ch. 2010-199, § 3, Laws of Fla. Chapter 2010-199, section 5, Laws of Florida is effective January 1, 2011. See Ch. 2010-199, § 6, Laws of Fla.

interested persons shall have sixty days from the date of this opinion in which to file comments with the Court.<sup>3</sup>

It is so ordered.

CANADY, C.J., and PARIENTE, LEWIS, QUINCE, POLSTON, LABARGA, and PERRY, JJ., concur.

**THE FILING OF A MOTION FOR REHEARING SHALL NOT ALTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THESE AMENDMENTS.**

Original Proceedings – The Florida Family Law Rules Committee

Steven P. Combs, Chair, Family Law Rules Committee, Jacksonville, Florida, and John F. Harkness, Jr., Executive Director, The Florida Bar, Tallahassee, Florida,

for Petitioner

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3. An original and nine paper copies of all comments must be filed with the Court on or before November 22, 2010, with a certificate of service verifying that a copy has been served on the committee chair, Steven Patrick Combs, 3217 Atlantic Boulevard, Jacksonville, Florida, 32207-8901, as well as a separate request for oral argument if the person filing the comment wishes to participate in oral argument, which may be scheduled in this case. The committee chair has until December 13, 2010, to file a response to any comments filed with the Court. Electronic copies of all comments and responses also must be filed in accordance with the Court's administrative order In re Mandatory Submission of Electronic Copies of Documents, Fla. Admin. Order No. AOSC04-84 (Sept. 13, 2004).

## APPENDIX

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE FORM 12.902(e), CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WORKSHEET (01/11)

#### When should this form be used?

You should complete this worksheet if **child support** is being requested in your case. If you know the income of the other **party**, this worksheet should accompany your **financial affidavit**. If you do not know the other party's income, this form must be completed after the other party files his or her financial affidavit, and **serves** a copy on you.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. You should file the original with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where your case is filed and keep a copy for your records.

#### What should I do next?

A copy of this form must be mailed or hand delivered to the other party in your case, if it is not **served** on him or her with your initial papers.

#### Where can I look for more information?

**Before proceeding, you should read "General Information for Self-Represented Litigants" found at the beginning of these forms.** The words that are in "**bold underline**" in these instructions are defined there. For further information, see section 61.30, Florida Statutes.

#### Special notes...

If this is a domestic violence case and you want to keep your address confidential for safety reasons, do not enter the address, telephone, and fax information at the bottom of this form. Instead, file **Petitioner's Request for Confidential Filing of Address**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.980(h).

The chart below contains the guideline amounts that you should use when calculating child support. This amount is based on the number of children and the combined income of the parents, and it is

Instructions for Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(e), Child Support Guidelines Worksheet (01/11)

divided between the parents in direct proportion to their income or earning capacity. From time to time, some of the amounts in the child support guidelines chart will change. Be sure you have the most recent version of the chart before using it.

Because the guidelines are based on monthly amounts, it may be necessary to convert some income and expense figures from other frequencies to monthly. You should do this as follows:

<b>If payment is twice per month</b>	Payment amount	x	2	=	<b>Monthly amount</b>
<b>If payment is every two weeks</b>	Payment amount	x	26	=	Yearly amount due
Yearly amount		÷	12	=	<b>Monthly amount</b>
<b>If payment is weekly</b>	Weekly amount	x	52	=	Yearly amount due
Yearly amount		÷	12	=	<b>Monthly amount</b>

If you or the other parent request that the court award an amount that is different than the guideline amount, you must also complete and attach a **Motion to Deviate from Child Support Guidelines**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.943.

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of a **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900(a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

### CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES CHART

Combined Monthly Available Income	One Child	Two Children	Three Children	Four Children	Five Children	Six Children
800.00	190	211	213	216	218	220
850.00	202	257	259	262	265	268
900.00	213	302	305	309	312	315
950.00	224	347	351	355	359	363
1000.00	235	365	397	402	406	410
1050.00	246	382	443	448	453	458
1100.00	258	400	489	495	500	505
1150.00	269	417	522	541	547	553
1200.00	280	435	544	588	594	600
1250.00	290	451	565	634	641	648
1300.00	300	467	584	659	688	695
1350.00	310	482	603	681	735	743
1400.00	320	498	623	702	765	790
1450.00	330	513	642	724	789	838
1500.00	340	529	662	746	813	869
1550.00	350	544	681	768	836	895
1600.00	360	560	701	790	860	920
1650.00	370	575	720	812	884	945
1700.00	380	591	740	833	907	971
1750.00	390	606	759	855	931	996
1800.00	400	622	779	877	955	1022
1850.00	410	638	798	900	979	1048
1900.00	421	654	818	923	1004	1074
1950.00	431	670	839	946	1029	1101
2000.00	442	686	859	968	1054	1128
2050.00	452	702	879	991	1079	1154
2100.00	463	718	899	1014	1104	1181
2150.00	473	734	919	1037	1129	1207
2200.00	484	751	940	1060	1154	1234
2250.00	494	767	960	1082	1179	1261
2300.00	505	783	980	1105	1204	1287
2350.00	515	799	1000	1128	1229	1314
2400.00	526	815	1020	1151	1254	1340
2450.00	536	831	1041	1174	1279	1367
2500.00	547	847	1061	1196	1304	1394
2550.00	557	864	1081	1219	1329	1420
2850.00	616	956	1197	1349	1471	1573
2900.00	626	971	1215	1370	1494	1598
2950.00	635	986	1234	1391	1517	1622
3000.00	644	1001	1252	1412	1540	1647

Instructions for Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(e), Child Support Guidelines Worksheet (01/11)

Combined Monthly Available Income	One Child	Two Children	Three Children	Four Children	Five Children	Six Children
3050.00	654	1016	1271	1433	1563	1671
3100.00	663	1031	1289	1453	1586	1695
3150.00	673	1045	1308	1474	1608	1720
3200.00	682	1060	1327	1495	1631	1744
3250.00	691	1075	1345	1516	1654	1769
3300.00	701	1090	1364	1537	1677	1793
3350.00	710	1105	1382	1558	1700	1818
3400.00	720	1120	1401	1579	1723	1842
3450.00	729	1135	1419	1599	1745	1867
3500.00	738	1149	1438	1620	1768	1891
3550.00	748	1164	1456	1641	1791	1915
3600.00	757	1179	1475	1662	1814	1940
3650.00	767	1194	1493	1683	1837	1964
3700.00	776	1208	1503	1702	1857	1987
3750.00	784	1221	1520	1721	1878	2009
3800.00	793	1234	1536	1740	1899	2031
3850.00	802	1248	1553	1759	1920	2053
3900.00	811	1261	1570	1778	1940	2075
3950.00	819	1275	1587	1797	1961	2097
4000.00	828	1288	1603	1816	1982	2119
4050.00	837	1302	1620	1835	2002	2141
4100.00	846	1315	1637	1854	2023	2163
4150.00	854	1329	1654	1873	2044	2185
4200.00	863	1342	1670	1892	2064	2207
4250.00	872	1355	1687	1911	2085	2229
4300.00	881	1369	1704	1930	2106	2251
4350.00	889	1382	1721	1949	2127	2273
4400.00	898	1396	1737	1968	2147	2295
4450.00	907	1409	1754	1987	2168	2317
4500.00	916	1423	1771	2006	2189	2339
4550.00	924	1436	1788	2024	2209	2361
4600.00	933	1450	1804	2043	2230	2384
4650.00	942	1463	1821	2062	2251	2406
4700.00	951	1477	1838	2081	2271	2428
4750.00	959	1490	1855	2100	2292	2450
4800.00	968	1503	1871	2119	2313	2472
4850.00	977	1517	1888	2138	2334	2494
4900.00	986	1530	1905	2157	2354	2516
4950.00	993	1542	1927	2174	2372	2535
5000.00	1000	1551	1939	2188	2387	2551
5050.00	1006	1561	1952	2202	2402	2567
5100.00	1013	1571	1964	2215	2417	2583
5150.00	1019	1580	1976	2229	2432	2599

Instructions for Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(e), Child Support Guidelines Worksheet (01/11)

Combined Monthly Available Income	One Child	Two Children	Three Children	Four Children	Five Children	Six Children
5200.00	1025	1590	1988	2243	2447	2615
5250.00	1032	1599	2000	2256	2462	2631
5300.00	1038	1609	2012	2270	2477	2647
5350.00	1045	1619	2024	2283	2492	2663
5400.00	1051	1628	2037	2297	2507	2679
5450.00	1057	1638	2049	2311	2522	2695
5500.00	1064	1647	2061	2324	2537	2711
5550.00	1070	1657	2073	2338	2552	2727
5600.00	1077	1667	2085	2352	2567	2743
5650.00	1083	1676	2097	2365	2582	2759
5700.00	1089	1686	2109	2379	2597	2775
5750.00	1096	1695	2122	2393	2612	2791
5800.00	1102	1705	2134	2406	2627	2807
5850.00	1107	1713	2144	2418	2639	2820
5900.00	1111	1721	2155	2429	2651	2833
5950.00	1116	1729	2165	2440	2663	2847
6000.00	1121	1737	2175	2451	2676	2860
6050.00	1126	1746	2185	2462	2688	2874
6100.00	1131	1754	2196	2473	2700	2887
6150.00	1136	1762	2206	2484	2712	2900
6200.00	1141	1770	2216	2495	2724	2914
6250.00	1145	1778	2227	2506	2737	2927
6300.00	1150	1786	2237	2517	2749	2941
6350.00	1155	1795	2247	2529	2761	2954
6400.00	1160	1803	2258	2540	2773	2967
6450.00	1165	1811	2268	2551	2785	2981
6500.00	1170	1819	2278	2562	2798	2994
6550.00	1175	1827	2288	2573	2810	3008
6600.00	1179	1835	2299	2584	2822	3021
6650.00	1184	1843	2309	2595	2834	3034
6700.00	1189	1850	2317	2604	2845	3045
6750.00	1193	1856	2325	2613	2854	3055
6800.00	1196	1862	2332	2621	2863	3064
6850.00	1200	1868	2340	2630	2872	3074
6900.00	1204	1873	2347	2639	2882	3084
6950.00	1208	1879	2355	2647	2891	3094
7000.00	1212	1885	2362	2656	2900	3103
7050.00	1216	1891	2370	2664	2909	3113
7100.00	1220	1897	2378	2673	2919	3123
7150.00	1224	1903	2385	2681	2928	3133
7200.00	1228	1909	2393	2690	2937	3142
7250.00	1232	1915	2400	2698	2946	3152
7300.00	1235	1921	2408	2707	2956	3162

Instructions for Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(e), Child Support Guidelines Worksheet (01/11)



Combined Monthly Available Income	One Child	Two Children	Three Children	Four Children	Five Children	Six Children
7350.00	1239	1927	2415	2716	2965	3172
7400.00	1243	1933	2423	2724	2974	3181
7450.00	1247	1939	2430	2733	2983	3191
7500.00	1251	1945	2438	2741	2993	3201
7550.00	1255	1951	2446	2750	3002	3211
7600.00	1259	1957	2453	2758	3011	3220
7650.00	1263	1963	2461	2767	3020	3230
7700.00	1267	1969	2468	2775	3030	3240
7750.00	1271	1975	2476	2784	3039	3250
7800.00	1274	1981	2483	2792	3048	3259
7850.00	1278	1987	2491	2801	3057	3269
7900.00	1282	1992	2498	2810	3067	3279
7950.00	1286	1998	2506	2818	3076	3289
8000.00	1290	2004	2513	2827	3085	3298
8050.00	1294	2010	2521	2835	3094	3308
8100.00	1298	2016	2529	2844	3104	3318
8150.00	1302	2022	2536	2852	3113	3328
8200.00	1306	2028	2544	2861	3122	3337
8250.00	1310	2034	2551	2869	3131	3347
8300.00	1313	2040	2559	2878	3141	3357
8350.00	1317	2046	2566	2887	3150	3367
8400.00	1321	2052	2574	2895	3159	3376
8450.00	1325	2058	2581	2904	3168	3386
8500.00	1329	2064	2589	2912	3178	3396
8550.00	1333	2070	2597	2921	3187	3406
8600.00	1337	2076	2604	2929	3196	3415
8650.00	1341	2082	2612	2938	3205	3425
8700.00	1345	2088	2619	2946	3215	3435
8750.00	1349	2094	2627	2955	3224	3445
8800.00	1352	2100	2634	2963	3233	3454
8850.00	1356	2106	2642	2972	3242	3464
8900.00	1360	2111	2649	2981	3252	3474
8950.00	1364	2117	2657	2989	3261	3484
9000.00	1368	2123	2664	2998	3270	3493
9050.00	1372	2129	2672	3006	3279	3503
9100.00	1376	2135	2680	3015	3289	3513
9150.00	1380	2141	2687	3023	3298	3523
9200.00	1384	2147	2695	3032	3307	3532
9250.00	1388	2153	2702	3040	3316	3542
9300.00	1391	2159	2710	3049	3326	3552
9350.00	1395	2165	2717	3058	3335	3562
9400.00	1399	2171	2725	3066	3344	3571
9450.00	1403	2177	2732	3075	3353	3581

Instructions for Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(e), Child Support Guidelines Worksheet (01/11)

Combined Monthly Available Income	One Child	Two Children	Three Children	Four Children	Five Children	Six Children
9500.00	1407	2183	2740	3083	3363	3591
9550.00	1411	2189	2748	3092	3372	3601
9600.00	1415	2195	2755	3100	3381	3610
9650.00	1419	2201	2763	3109	3390	3620
9700.00	1422	2206	2767	3115	3396	3628
9750.00	1425	2210	2772	3121	3402	3634
9800.00	1427	2213	2776	3126	3408	3641
9850.00	1430	2217	2781	3132	3414	3647
9900.00	1432	2221	2786	3137	3420	3653
9950.00	1435	2225	2791	3143	3426	3659
10000.00	1437	2228	2795	3148	3432	3666

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
IN AND FOR \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Division: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner,

and

\_\_\_\_\_  
Respondent.

### NOTICE OF FILING CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WORKSHEET

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that {name} \_\_\_\_\_, is filing his/her Child Support Guidelines Worksheet attached and labeled Exhibit 1.

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of this Notice of Filing with the Child Support Guidelines Worksheet was [check **one** only] ( ) mailed ( ) faxed and mailed ( ) hand delivered to the person(s) listed below on {date} \_\_\_\_\_.

**Other party or his/her attorney:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Party

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WORKSHEET</b>			
	A. FATHER	B. MOTHER	TOTAL
1. Present Net Monthly Income Enter the amount from line number 27, Section I of Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.902(b) or (c), Financial Affidavit.			
2. Basic Monthly Obligation There is (are) {number} ____ minor child(ren) common to the parties. Using the total amount from line 1, enter the appropriate amount from the child support guidelines chart.			
3. Percent of Financial Responsibility Divide the amount on line 1A by the total amount on line 1 to get Father's percentage financial responsibility. Enter answer on line 3A. Divide the amount on line 1B by the total amount on line 1 to get Mother's percentage financial responsibility. Enter answer on line 3B.	%	%	
4. Share of Basic Monthly Obligation Multiply the number on line 2 by the percentage on line 3A to get Father's share of basic obligation. Enter answer on line 4A. Multiply the number on line 2 by the percentage on line 3B to get Mother's share of basic obligation. Enter answer on line 4B.			
<b>Additional Support — Health Insurance, Child Care &amp; Other</b>			
5. a. 100% of Monthly Child Care Costs [Child care costs should not exceed the level required to provide quality care from a licensed source. See section 61.30(7), Fla. Stat. for more information.]			

CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WORKSHEET			
	A. FATHER	B. MOTHER	TOTAL
b. Total Monthly Child(ren)'s Health Insurance Cost [This is only amounts actually paid for health insurance on the child(ren).]			
c. Total Monthly Child(ren)'s Noncovered Medical, Dental and Prescription Medication Costs			
d. Total Monthly Child Care & Health Costs [Add lines 5a+5b+5c]			
6. Additional Support Payments Multiply the number on line 5d by the percentage on line 3A to determine the Father's share. Enter answer on line 6A. Multiply the number on line 5d by the percentage on line 3B to determine the Mother's share. Enter answer on line 6B.			
Statutory Adjustments/Credits			
7.			
a. Monthly child care payments actually made			
b. Monthly health insurance payments actually made			
c. Other payments/credits actually made for any noncovered medical, dental and prescription medication expenses of the child(ren) not ordered to be separately paid on a percentage basis. [See § 61.30 (8), Florida Statutes]			
8. Total Support Payments actually made [Add 7a through 7c]			
9. <b>MINIMUM CHILD SUPPORT OBLIGATION FOR EACH PARENT</b> [Line 4 plus line 6; minus line 8]			

<b>CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WORKSHEET</b>			
	A. FATHER	B. MOTHER	TOTAL
<b>Substantial Time-Sharing (GROSS UP METHOD) If each parent exercises time-sharing at least 20 percent of the overnights in the year (73 overnights in the year), complete Nos. 10 through 21</b>			
10. Basic Monthly Obligation x 150% [ Multiply line 2 by 1.5]			
11. Increased Basic Obligation for each parent Multiply the number on line 10 by the percentage on line 3A to determine the Father's share. Enter answer on line 11A. Multiply the number on line 10 by the percentage on line 3B to determine the Mother's share. Enter answer on line 11B.			
12. Percentage of overnight stays with each parent The child(ren) spend(s) _____ overnight stays with the father each year. Using the number on the above line, multiply it by 100 and divide by 365. Enter this number on line 12A. The child(ren) spend(s) _____ overnight stays with the mother each year. Using the number on the above line, multiply it by 100 and divide by 365. Enter this number on line 12B.	%	%	
13. Parent's support multiplied by other Parent's percentage of overnights [Multiply line 11A by line 12B. Enter this number in 13A. Multiply line 11B by line 12A. Enter this number in 13B.]			
<b>Additional Support — Health Insurance, Child Care &amp; Other</b>			

<b>CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WORKSHEET</b>			
	<b>A. FATHER</b>	<b>B. MOTHER</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
14.			
a. Total Monthly Child Care Costs [Child care costs should not exceed the level required to provide quality care from a licensed source. See section 61.30(7), Fla. Stat. for more information.]			
b. Total Monthly Child(ren)'s Health Insurance Cost. [This is only amounts actually paid for health insurance on the child(ren).]			
c. Total Monthly Child(ren)'s Noncovered Medical, Dental and Prescription Costs.			
d. Total Monthly Child Care & Health Costs [Add lines 14a+14b+14c]			
15. Additional Support Payments Multiply the number on line 14d by the percentage on line 3A to determine the Father's share. Enter answer on line 15A. Multiply the number on line 14d by the percentage on line 3B to determine the Mother's share. Enter answer on line 15B.			
<b>Statutory Adjustments/Credits</b>			
16.			
a. Monthly child care payments actually made			
b. Monthly health insurance payments actually made			

CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES WORKSHEET			
	A. FATHER	B. MOTHER	TOTAL
c. Other payments/credits actually made for any noncovered medical, dental and prescription medication expenses of the child(ren) not ordered to be separately paid on a percentage basis. [See § 61.30 (8), Florida Statutes]			
17. Total Support Payments actually made [Add 16a through 16c]			
18. Total Additional Support Transfer Amount [Line 15 minus line 17; Enter any negative number as zero]			
19. Total Child Support Owed from Father to Mother [Add line 13A+18A]			
20. Total Child Support Owed from Mother to Father [Add line 13B+18B]			
21. <b>Actual Child Support to Be Paid.</b> [Comparing lines 19 and 20, Subtract the smaller amount owed from the larger amount owed and enter the result in the column for the parent that owes the larger amount of support]	\$	\$	

**ADJUSTMENTS TO GUIDELINES AMOUNT.** If you or the other parent is requesting the Court to award a child support amount that is more or less than the child support guidelines, you must complete and file Motion to Deviate from Child Support Guidelines, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.943.

[check **one** only]

- a.  **Deviation from the guidelines amount is requested.** The Motion to Deviate from Child Support Guidelines, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.943, is attached.
- b.  **Deviation from the guidelines amount is NOT requested.** The Motion to Deviate from Child Support Guidelines, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.943, is not attached.

**IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW:** [fill in all blanks]

I, {full legal name and trade name of nonlawyer} \_\_\_\_\_,  
a nonlawyer, located at {street} \_\_\_\_\_, {city} \_\_\_\_\_,  
{state} \_\_\_\_\_, {phone} \_\_\_\_\_, helped {name} \_\_\_\_\_,  
who is the [check **one** only]  petitioner **or**  respondent, fill out this form.



## INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF PROCEDURE FORM 12.996(a), INCOME DEDUCTION ORDER (10/10)

### When should this form be used?

This form should be used in non-Title IV-D cases when the court has ordered that support be paid by the **obligor's payor** through an income deduction order.

This form includes several blanks that must be filled in as applicable. The obligor is the person who is obligated to pay the support ordered by the court and the **obligee** is the person entitled to receive the support awarded by the court.

In Paragraph 1, one of the three lines must be checked off. The court order that establishes the support award and/or the settlement or mediation agreement entered into between the parties should state the effective date of the **Income Deduction Order**. The appropriate effective date should be checked off in Paragraph 1.

The blank lines in Paragraph 2 should be completed tracking the same terms of support as are in the court order that establishes the support award and/or the settlement or mediation agreement. The first blank in each line should state the amount of the support payment and the second blank in each line should state the time period that covers said support award. For example, if the child support is \$100 per month the first blank would say \$ "100" and the second blank in that line would say "month". Similarly, if the payments are to be payable weekly, then the second blank would say "week". If there are any arrearages owed at the time the **Income Deduction Order** is entered, they must be included in the line for arrearages, along with the amount and frequency of the payments due for the arrearages, which shall be no less than 20% of the current support obligation. If the payments are to be payable through the State Disbursement Unit, the actual dollar amount of the service fee for the support awarded in your case (4% of each payment not to exceed \$5.25 per payment) should be included on the appropriate line.

Paragraph 6 must be completed to show what percentage, if any, of a one-time payment made to the obligor should be applied to any arrearage in support that may be due to the obligee.

You must complete the schedule in paragraph 7 to show the amount of child support for all the minor children at the time of the entry of this order and the amount of the child support that will be owed for any remaining child(ren) after one or more of the children are no longer entitled to receive child support. You should also show in the schedule the day, month, and year that the child support obligation terminates for each minor child. The date child support terminates should be listed as the child's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday unless the court has found that section 743.07(2), Florida Statutes, applies, or the parties have otherwise agreed to a different date. You should use the record existing at the time of this order for the basis of computing all child support obligations.

## What should I do next?

For this order to be effective, it must be signed by the **judge**. This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you must first send a copy to the other **party** or his or her **attorney**, if he or she is represented by an attorney, for approval or objection to the form before you send it to the judge assigned to your case. If the opposing party or his or her attorney, if represented, approves the form order, you may send the original proposed order and two copies to the judge assigned to your case with a letter telling the judge that you have first sent a copy of this proposed order to the opposing counsel or party, if unrepresented, and that they have no objection to the judge signing this order. If the other party or his or her attorney, if represented, has an objection to the proposed order as completed by you, you must tell the judge that you have sent a copy of this proposed order to the opposing party or his or her counsel, if represented, and that they specifically object to the entry of the proposed form **Income Deduction Order**. You must also send stamped self-addressed envelopes to the judge addressed to you and the opposing party or his or her attorney, if represented. You should keep a copy for your own records. If the judge signs the **Income Deduction Order**, the judge will mail you and the opposing party (or their attorney) copies of the signed order in the envelopes you provide to the court.

## Where can I look for more information?

**Before proceeding, you should read “General Information for Self-Represented Litigants” found at the beginning of these forms.** The words that are in “**bold underline**” in these instructions are defined there. For further information see section 61.1301, Florida Statutes.

## Special Instructions...

When the **Income Deduction Order** becomes effective (either immediately or delayed until arrearage), you must then also send a copy of the **Income Deduction Order** to the obligor’s employer along with a **Notice to Payor**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.996(b), for the **Income Deduction Order** to take effect.

It is your responsibility to determine what extra steps and/or forms, if any, must be taken, supplied, and/or filed to insure the **Income Deduction Order** is implemented.

Remember, a person who is NOT an attorney is called a nonlawyer. If a nonlawyer helps you fill out these forms, that person must give you a copy of a **Disclosure from Nonlawyer**, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.900(a), before he or she helps you. A nonlawyer helping you fill out these forms also **must** put his or her name, address, and telephone number on the bottom of the last page of every form he or she helps you complete.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
IN AND FOR \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Division: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner,  
and  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Respondent.

**INCOME DEDUCTION ORDER (Non-Title IV-D Case)**

TO: ANY PRESENT OR SUBSEQUENT EMPLOYERS/PAYORS OF OBLIGOR  
{name} \_\_\_\_\_

YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED to make regular deductions from all income due and payable to the above-named obligor in accordance with the terms of this order as follows:

1. This Income Deduction Order shall be effective  
[Choose only one]

- immediately.
- upon a delinquency in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ but not to exceed one month's payment, pursuant to the order establishing, enforcing, or modifying the obligation.
- beginning {date} \_\_\_\_\_.

2. You shall deduct:

\$\_\_\_\_\_ per \_\_\_\_\_ for child support. Child support shall be automatically reduced or terminated consistent with the schedule in paragraph 7.

\$\_\_\_\_\_ per \_\_\_\_\_ for permanent alimony

\$\_\_\_\_\_ per \_\_\_\_\_ for rehabilitative alimony

\$\_\_\_\_\_ per \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ arrears totaling \$\_\_\_\_\_

The deduction for arrears shall be no less than 20% of the current support obligation. After the full amount of any arrears is paid, you shall deduct for attorneys' fees and costs owed until the full amount is paid.

\$\_\_\_\_\_ per \_\_\_\_\_ for attorneys' fees and costs totaling \$\_\_\_\_\_

\$\_\_\_\_\_ per \_\_\_\_\_ for State of Florida Disbursement Unit fee  
(4% of each payment not to exceed \$5.25 per payment)

Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure Form 12.996(a), Income Deduction Order (10/10)

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Total amount of income to be deducted each pay period

3. You shall pay the deducted amount to the "State of Florida Disbursement Unit", and mail it to the State of Florida Disbursement Unit P.O. Box 8500, Tallahassee, FL 32314-8500, (tel.) (877) 769-0251. All payments must include the obligor's name (last, middle, first), obligor's social security number, obligee's name (last, middle, first), name of county where court order originated, and case number. All payments must be made by check, money order, cashier's check, certified check, or through the Internet with access provided by the State of Florida [www.floridasdu.com](http://www.floridasdu.com). No credit will be given for any payments made directly to the obligee without a court order permitting direct payments.
4. If a delinquency accrues after the order establishing, modifying, or enforcing the obligation has been entered and there is no order for repayment of the delinquency or a preexisting arrearage, a payor shall deduct an additional 20 percent of the current support obligation or other amount agreed to by the parties until the delinquency and any attorneys' fees and costs are paid in full. No deduction may be applied to attorneys' fees and costs until the delinquency is paid in full.
5. You shall not deduct in excess of the amounts allowed under the Consumer Credit Protection Act, 15 U.S.C. §673(b), as amended.
6. You shall deduct ( Choose only one) ( ) the full amount, ( ) \_\_\_\_\_%, or ( ) none of the income which is payable to the obligor in the form of a bonus or other similar one-time payment, up to the amount of arrearage reported in the Income Deduction Order or the remaining balance thereof, and forward the payment to the State of Florida Disbursement Unit. For purposes of this subparagraph, "bonus" means a payment in addition to an obligor's usual compensation and which is in addition to any amounts contracted for or otherwise legally due and shall not include any commission payments due an obligor.
7. Child Support Reduction/Termination Schedule. Child support shall be automatically reduced or terminated as set forth in the following schedule:

Please list children by initials from eldest to youngest		Insert in this column the day, month, and year the child support obligation terminates for each designated child (see instructions)		Insert in this column the amount of child support for all minor children remaining (including designated child).
Child 1 (Eldest)	<i>From the effective date of this Income</i>		<i>child support for Child 1 and all other younger child(ren)</i>	

Initials & year of birth:	<i>Deduction Order until the following date:</i>		<i>should be paid in the following monthly amount:</i>	
<b>Child 2</b> Initials & year of birth:	<i>After the date set forth in the row above until the following date:</i>		<i>child support for Child 2 and all other younger child(ren) should be paid in the following monthly amount:</i>	
<b>Child 3</b> Initials & year of birth:	<i>After the date set forth in the row above until the following date:</i>		<i>child support for Child 3 and all other younger child(ren) should be paid in the following monthly amount:</i>	
<b>Child 4</b> Initials & year of birth:	<i>After the date set forth in the row above until the following date:</i>		<i>child support for Child 4 and all other younger child(ren) should be paid in the following monthly amount:</i>	
<b>Child 5</b> Initials & year of birth:	<i>After the date set forth in the row above until the following date:</i>		<i>child support for Child 5 and all other younger child(ren) should be paid in the following monthly amount:</i>	

*(Continue on additional pages for additional children)*

8. This Income Deduction Order shall remain in effect so long as the underlying order of support is effective or until further order of the court.

**STATEMENT OF OBLIGOR’S RIGHTS, REMEDIES, AND DUTIES**

9. The obligor is required to pay all amounts and fees specified within this Income Deduction Order.
10. The amounts deducted may not be in excess of that allowed under the Consumer Credit Protection Act, 15 U.S.C. §1673(b) as amended.
11. This income deduction order applies to all of the obligor’s current and subsequent payors and periods of employment.
12. A copy of the Income Deduction Order will be served upon the obligor’s payor or payors.

13. Enforcement of the Income Deduction Order may only be contested on the ground of mistake of fact regarding the amount owed pursuant to the order establishing, enforcing, or modifying the obligation, the arrearages, or the identity of the obligor, the payor, or the obligee.
14. The obligor is required to notify the obligee and, when the obligee is receiving IV-D services, the IV-D agency, within 7 days of any changes in the obligor's address, payors, and the addresses of the obligor's payors.
15. In a Title IV-D case, if an obligation to pay current support is reduced or terminated due to emancipation of a child and the obligor owes an arrearage, retroactive support, delinquency, or costs, income deduction continues at the rate in effect immediately prior to emancipation until all arrearages, retroactive support, delinquencies, and costs are paid in full or until the amount of withholding is modified.

ORDERED on \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
CIRCUIT JUDGE

COPIES TO:

Obligee

Obligor

Other: \_\_\_\_\_