



## News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **State Honors Top Performing County Child Support Agencies for 2012**

SACRAMENTO – The California Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) recognized California’s top performing local child support agencies (LCSAs) for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2012, at its Statewide Directors Meeting, this week.

“We are proud of the hard work that all our counties perform daily,” said DCSS Interim Director Kathleen Hrepich. “Once each year, we recognize those counties that have exceeded the annual goals set for performance in the child support program. These top performers are to be especially commended, given the difficult economic conditions in which all child support professionals operate. Higher performance means more real dollars for California’s families and children.”

Interim Director Hrepich presented awards for LCSAs with the top overall performance, by caseload size, most improved performance on five federal performance measures, and dollars distributed. The department also presented awards to local agencies that increased their distributed collections by more than 3 percent over the previous year.

The special “**Director’s Excellence Award**” was presented to two counties: Marin and San Bernardino. For this award, the recipients not only had to exceed all five federal performance measures, but they also had to increase their total distributed collections by 3 percent or more over the previous year.

Five counties were honored for **top overall performance by caseload size**. They ranked highest among their caseload size in all federal performance measures: San Diego (very large county), Ventura (large), Sonoma (medium), San Luis Obispo (small) and Marin (very small).

Five child support agencies showed the **most improvement** in overall performance, by caseload size: San Diego (very large county), Stanislaus (large), Sonoma (medium), Napa (small) and Marin (very small).

The “**Top 10 Award**” for those that performed best out of all 51 agencies on overall performance are listed by ranking as follows: 1. Marin, 2. San Luis Obispo, 3. Plumas, 4. Sierra/Nevada, 5. El Dorado, 6. Sonoma, 7. Ventura, 8. Central Sierra (Amador/Alpine/Calaveras/Tuolumne), 8. Lassen and 10. Napa. Two agencies were tied for 8<sup>th</sup>.

Combined, the “Top 10” local child support agencies manage 4.9 percent of the state’s total caseload and distributed 6.7 percent of the state’s total distributed collections. They distributed \$155,578,314 in child support during this past FFY.

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The county chosen for having the **greatest percentage increase** over the prior year in distributed collections was Marin, which showed a 9.4 percent increase from FFY 2011 to FFY 2012.

There were eleven local agencies recognized for increasing their distributed collections by more than 3 percent over the previous year: Marin, El Dorado, Lake, Kern, Imperial, Yuba, Colusa, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Butte and Contra Costa.

The California Department of Child Support Services and the 51 Local Child Support Agencies operate the largest child support system in the nation with approximately 1.3 million cases. In FFY 2012, which runs from October through September, California's child support program collected and distributed more than \$2.3 billion in child support payments.

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