

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES

P.O. Box 419064, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9064



June 25, 2003

CSS LETTER: 03-12

ALL IV-D DIRECTORS
 ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
 ALL BOARDS OF SUPERVISORS

SUBJECT: ALASKA PERMANENT FUND DIVIDEND MATCH

The Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) is again participating in an offset of the Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD) payments distributed to non-custodial parents who are qualified Alaskan residents.

This letter is to explain what the Alaska PFD is and what actions will be required of the Local Child Support Agencies (LCSAs) in implementing this offset. The PFD, previously known as the Pipeline Fund, was established by the State of Alaska to disburse to the citizens of the state the excess oil revenues generated by the creation of the Alaska oil pipeline. Under this program, every resident of Alaska is entitled to an annual dividend payment between October and November of each year. The size of each year's dividend is calculated using a formula that takes into account the fund's performance over the previous five years. Since 1996 the dividend has exceeded \$1,000 per year.

DCSS has submitted a file to the State of Alaska to be matched against its 2003 PFD database. The file was created from the Integrated Database (IDB) which contains all California NCPs owing arrears. Alaska, will match California child support cases against its PFD database and return a file that contains any matches between IDB and the PFD database. The 800,000 IDB records will be matched against the 600,000 records contained in the Alaska PFD database. DCSS will provide each local child support agency (LCSA) with a list of NCPs that match the PFD file. In order to pursue an offset, the LCSA must initiate a UIFSA petition, if one has not already been

Reason for this Transmittal

- State Law or Regulation Change
- Federal Law or Regulation Change
- Court Order or Settlement Change
- Clarification requested by One or More Counties
- Initiated by DCSS

DCSS-SY-2003-CTY-0105



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www.childsup.cahwnet.gov

established, or request Alaska to open a Permanent Fund Dividend Only (PFDO) case. Note: Alaska has mandated a minimum offset amount of \$50.00. LCSAs must submit their UIFSA petitions or PFDO requests to Alaska by **August 15, 2003**. One of the following actions will be required:

A. If a UIFSA petition has already been submitted to Alaska requesting enforcement action against the NCP and Alaska is enforcing, there is no need to resubmit the request. Alaska will automatically match all existing UIFSA cases it is enforcing against the 2003 PFD fund and make an offset when a match occurs.

B. If California has never submitted a UIFSA petition to Alaska requesting enforcement action against the NCP and the LCSA desires to only offset the PFD, the LCSA must initiate a UIFSA petition. Once Alaska has established the UIFSA case, it will only offset the PFD and close the UIFSA case. This action is necessary because Alaska cannot offset the PFD without an active UIFSA case.

C. If the LCSA desires to submit the NCP for offset of the PFD and has previously submitted the NCP for PFD offset, a PFD Only (PFDO) action may be requested. PFDO cases are closed after each annual PFD has been collected, and the LCSA is required to provide a new form each year that the PFDO offset is requested.

We have enclosed an information packet provided by the State of Alaska for requesting a PFDO offset on new or existing closed cases and already open or existing cases.

Please be aware that Alaska will not check the matches against its caseload to verify whether or not there is an existing UIFSA case. It will be the responsibility of each LCSA to edit its own case match file and determine if a UIFSA action is necessary.

We look forward to working with the LCSAs to increase financial support to the children of California through this annual program.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please contact Jadine Takeuchi at (916) 464-5376 or Melanie Henderson at (916) 464-5519.

Sincerely,

JOAN OBERT
Deputy Director
Technology Services Division

Enclosure