

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES

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



June 18, 2007

LCSA LETTER: 07-11

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 (NCPs) 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 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. The amount of the payment has ranged from a high of over \$1,963.86 in 2000 to a low of \$331.40 in 1984. The PFD payment in 2006 was \$1,106.96.

The criteria for a resident of Alaska to receive the 2007 dividend are as follows:

- a. Must have been a resident of Alaska since December 31, 2005;
- b. Must apply for the PFD no later than midnight March 31, 2007;
- c. Cannot have been out of Alaska for more than 90 days during 2005, unless the absence was for one of the acceptable reasons such as military service;
- d. If the absence was for an acceptable reason, must have been in Alaska for 72 consecutive hours during 2005 or 2006; and
- e. Must be a U.S. citizen.

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 has submitted a file to the State of Alaska to be matched against its 2007 PFD database. The file was created from the Intercept 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 Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA) petition, if one has not already been established, or request Alaska to open a Permanent Fund Dividend Only (PFDO) case. Note: Alaska has mandated a minimum offset amount of \$50.00. Alaska must receive the LCSA UIFSA petitions or PFDO requests by **August 17, 2007**. One of the following actions will be required:

- A. If California has submitted a UIFSA petition 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 2007 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 and, in Section I of the Child Support Enforcement Transmittal #1 – Initial Request, check Box #10 and insert “PFD Only.” 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 California previously submitted the NCP for offset of the PFD only and the LCSA again desires to submit the NCP for offset of the PFD only, a PFD Only (PFDO) action may be requested by completing the Child Support Enforcement Transmittal #1 – Initial Request and, in Section I, checking Box #10 and inserting “PFD Only.” 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. Additionally, please provide the Alaska case number from the prior PFDO case on the transmittal.

We have enclosed an information packet provided by the State of Alaska for requesting a PFDO offset on new cases or existing closed cases. **Please note that in Section II of the Child Support Enforcement Transmittal #1 – Initial Request, the amount of arrears must be separated into principal and interest.**

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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 Thi Luong at (916) 845-6980 or Melanie Henderson at (916) 845-3641.

Sincerely,

/S/

ROBERT JONES
Acting Deputy Director
Operations Division

Enclosures