

2006 Annual Report

Deputy Director: Brenda J. Gilreath

2006 Accomplishments:

Collections: Child Support Enforcement collected \$36,601,225.38 in support payments. The tax offset program garnered \$1,447,868.78; collections on criminal nonsupport cases totaled \$1,079,528.72; \$105,399.94 was collected by financial institution freeze and seize, and collections on driver's license suspensions totaled \$308,463.07.

Hearings: In 2006, Child Support Enforcement conducted 921 (internal) hearings and participated in 5,616 judicial hearings. Additionally, 331 lump sum orders resulted in \$139,108.03 intercepted for past due child support mostly from employers or employee benefit plans.

State Recognition: The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Office of Child Support, honored Clermont County Child Support Enforcement with two Performance Awards in 2006 for "Overall Top Percentage Performer," large caseload division; and "Highest Percentage for Federal Fiscal 2005 for Paternity Established," large caseload division. This is the second year the agency has received the honor.

In addition, the agency received statewide recognition during the Ohio Family Support Association/Ohio CSE Directors' Association Joint Conference held in Worthington, Ohio in October. The Ohio Family Support Association honored the agency with a 2006 Best Practice Award for the Water & Sewer Flier which included program awareness information and featured three individuals wanted for felony nonsupport of dependents. Also during this conference, the agency's Legal Division was honored with two awards: 2006 Attorney of the Year and a 2006 Pioneer Award. These awards were attributed to efforts associated with innovation and networking.

Statewide recognition continued when two local Child Support Enforcement Partners, the Domestic Relations Court and the Sheriff's Office, received prestigious honors during the Ohio CSEA Directors' Association Annual Partners Conference "Connecting for Children" held in Newark, Ohio during November.

Clermont County Domestic Relations Court Judge, Michael J. Voris, was honored with an Excellence Award as Judge of the Year. This award is presented to a county judge who has strengthened the child support program by implementing more effective measures in the judicial system. Judge Voris was nominated for this recognition as a result of the Alternative Sentencing Program which he piloted during 2006. The program is a six-week education course designed for obligors who have come before the court for failure to make regular child support payments. The curriculum is aimed at helping obligors become responsible in all ways that affect their children's lives.

Clermont County Sheriff A.J. Rodenberg was also honored with an Excellence Award by OCDA during the awards ceremony for “Child Support Partner of the Year.” Sheriff Rodenberg received this honor as a result of his commitment to and support of the child support program. This award recognizes child support partners or individuals who have made significant contributions to the child support program and have improved the lives of children through their efforts to promote effective child support enforcement. Sheriff Rodenberg’s commitment to the child support program was exhibited through the 2006 Annual Roundup of Most Wanted Child Support Offenders which was held during August wherein 127 individuals wanted on civil or criminal warrants for failure to pay or for failure to appear for scheduled hearings were arrested. These arrests resulted in collections exceeding \$73,000 by year-end.

Amnesty: As a kick off to our annual child support month campaign, for the second year in a row, amnesty was offered in July for parents who were behind on making child support payments and who met certain criteria. The child support agency suspended or withdrew legal action pending on cases, including bench warrants and contempt citations, for those parents who made satisfactory arrangements to pay their child support. The agency also focused on reinstating drivers’ licenses that had been suspended for failure to pay child support for obligors who made a significant payment toward the arrearage and provided employment information or agreed to utilize the services of the local Business and Workforce Resource Center. As a result of the amnesty offer, 96 calls were received and \$19,602.62 was collected during July, with a total of \$69,281.19 on these cases by the end of the year.

2006 Child Support Month Celebration: The 2006 Child Support Month theme and graphic design “Love and Support Go Hand in Hand” was the result of an employee contest. The theme was used throughout the month on our website and on advertising. The theme, including the graphic design, ultimately received statewide recognition when the Ohio CSE Directors’ Association used the theme and graphic design for their 2007 statewide spring conference.

In addition to the Roundup, information about most wanted child support offenders was aired on local government cable television, published in local newspapers, and printed on posters displayed at area businesses and on the CSE agency website.

To promote a positive approach toward child support with students in Clermont County, the CSE Order Establishment Unit raised money from raffles and bake sales which was donated to Grant Career Center to use for pregnant and parenting student programs.

A coloring contest for children was held. We had 42 entries that were displayed in the CSE Collection’s lobby. Winners were selected from the 3-5, 6-9 and 10-12 age groups. An awards ceremony took place in early September and all winners received McDonald’s gift cards, a certificate with a copy of their picture, crayons, snacks, and balloons.

2006 Statistics as of 12/31/2006

Criminal Nonsupport/Diversion/Probation Cases: 539

Interstate Cases: 881

Paternity Establishment/Pre-Order Cases: 1,781

Third Party/Caretaker Enforcement Cases: 1,372

Enforcement Cases: 10,021

Total Case Count: 14,594

During Federal Fiscal Year 2006 this office served 42,663 individuals (27,704 adults and 14,959 children).