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60TH ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE & EXPOSITION

MONDAY, MAY 22 - FRIDAY, MAY 26, 2023

Intergovernmental Establishment

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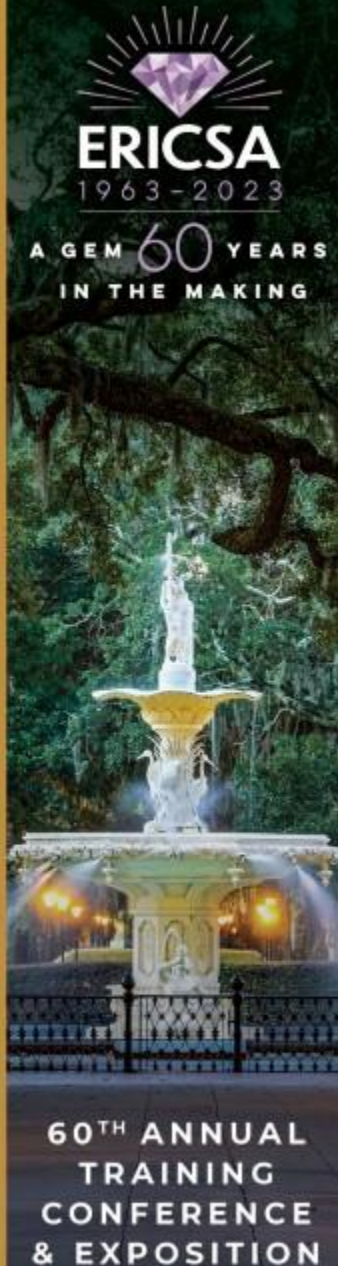
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Tools to Working an Establishment Case

It is important to have the right tools to complete a task/project. The right tools help to decrease the amount of time spent on a particular task as well as the effort expended in completing it. After all, we don't want to spend valuable time jotting from person to person for an answer, only to find out that we had the resource right in front of our nose. Today, to increase your toolkit for intergovernmental establishment, we will discuss Georgia's procedures for establishing paternity and a support order. Then, we will open the discussion for each of you to provide specific information about your states' establishment procedures. The outcome of our discussion will yield more specific information on each states' procedures to help reduce the inquiries for case processing and updates.



Paternity Establishment in Georgia

GA has a PA/BC template that states can use to request unofficial copies of the Paternity Acknowledgment/Birth Certificate. (see handout)

The father's name on the birth certificate does not constitute a conclusive presumption of paternity. (O.C.G.A. 19-7-46.1).

A presumption exists if the putative father signed the Voluntary Acknowledgment of Paternity, and his name is on the birth certificate. When the mother is married, the husband is presumed to be the father.

A Declaration in Support of Establishing Parentage is needed for each child where paternity is at issue.

Effective July 1, 2015, Paternity testing is mandated by State law on all DCSS cases in which paternity has not already been established for children born out-of-wedlock. [Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 290-7-1-.04(b)]

When paternity testing is ordered, Georgia will coordinate the testing with our contracted lab. The lab will mail the appointment letter to your state's child support office and mail an appointment letter to the CP/CU (except DFCS).

Support Order Establishment in Georgia



Georgia does not establish support retroactively. (O.C.G.A. § 19-6-15)



Non-Parent Custodian must have legal custody to establish a support order unless Custodian receives benefits on behalf of child. Based on definition of non-parent in support order guidelines [O.C.G.A. § 19-6-15 (a)(15), Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 290-7-1-.04(f)]



In Georgia, child support follows the child. So, if custody changes to a person other than the NCP, the support will be redirected to the new custodian upon application. (Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 290-7-1-.15(b))

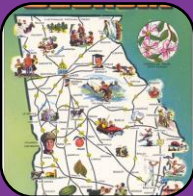


Completion of the General Testimony is paramount to establishing a support order as GA uses the Shared Income Model to calculate a monthly child support order. (O.C.G.A. 19-6-15)



Intergovernmental Establishment Tools Summary

The intent of our discussion today has been to grow your intergovernmental toolkit by increasing your knowledge and arming you with tools related to:



Specific procedures for establishing paternity and a support order in Georgia, and



Specific establishment procedures unique to your state.