



ERICSA 63RD ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE & EXPOSITION

MAY 3-7, 2026

Milwaukee

WISCONSIN

Intergovernmental Terminology: Are We All Speaking the Same Language?

Speakers

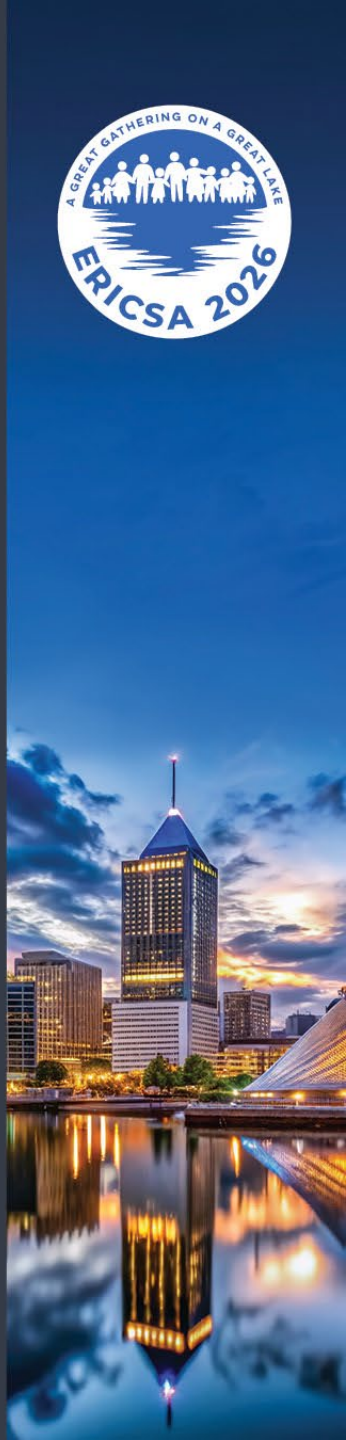
Susan Smith, Intergovernmental IV-D Program Liaison, Indiana State Child Support Bureau

Paul Gehm, MI State Court Administrative Office, Friend of the Court Bureau, Management Analyst

Bill Woods, Staff Attorney - Three Affiliated Tribes Division of Child Support Enforcement

Moderator

Theodora Andreopoulos, Esq., Support Magistrate, Bronx County Family Court



Neurodiversity, including autism and other neurological differences, is being diagnosed at increasing rates. According to the latest CDC data, 1 in 31 eight-year-old children and 1 in 45 adults have been diagnosed with autism. Over the next decade, an estimated 700,000 to over 1 million teens with autism will enter adulthood. More than two-thirds of neurodiverse adults, including those with autism, remain unemployed; in Pennsylvania, 80% of autistic adults with a college degree are unemployed. Some of these individuals may become clients or litigants in our child support programs, or even potential employees. This session will review common characteristics and traits within the autism and neurodiverse populations and explain how these can be misunderstood in courtroom or employment settings. We will discuss hiring barriers faced by neurodiverse individuals, as well as strategies, best practices, and training tools to better serve autistic/neurodiverse clients and employees. The session will also highlight the unique strengths neurodiverse individuals bring to the workplace and share successful examples of related initiatives from Pennsylvania courts.



Why Are We Here?

Lived Experience

Strengthen state-tribal coordination

Reduction of cases caught up in intergovernmental – “wizarding governments”

Improve how cases travel between jurisdictions (“Ministries of Magic”)

“A session where different Ministries of Magic fix how they share spells, messages, and authority so no case is lost in the wizarding bureaucracy”

Child Support and Harry Potter?

Child support Intergovernmental framework of agencies = “International Confederation of Wizards”

- Getting ministries to communicate better;
- Preventing “lost paper spells”; and
- Only one jurisdiction can hold the wand.

UIFSA + FFCCSOA = “Wizarding secrecy law”

State and Tribes = “Ministries of Magic”

IRG = “Owl Network”

Offering training for full “wizarding journey = Welcome to Hogwarts.

Legal Basics –

Jurisdiction

Venue

Hearsay

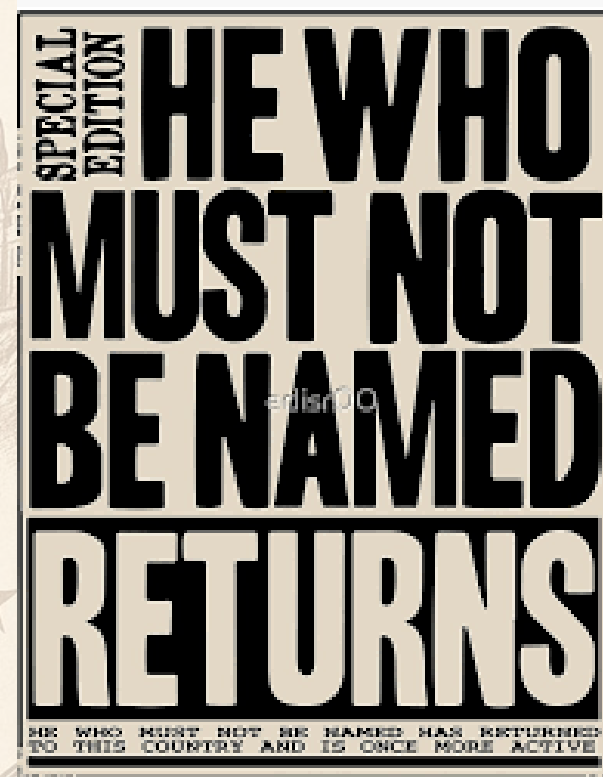
- Business Record Rule

Res Ipsa Loquitor

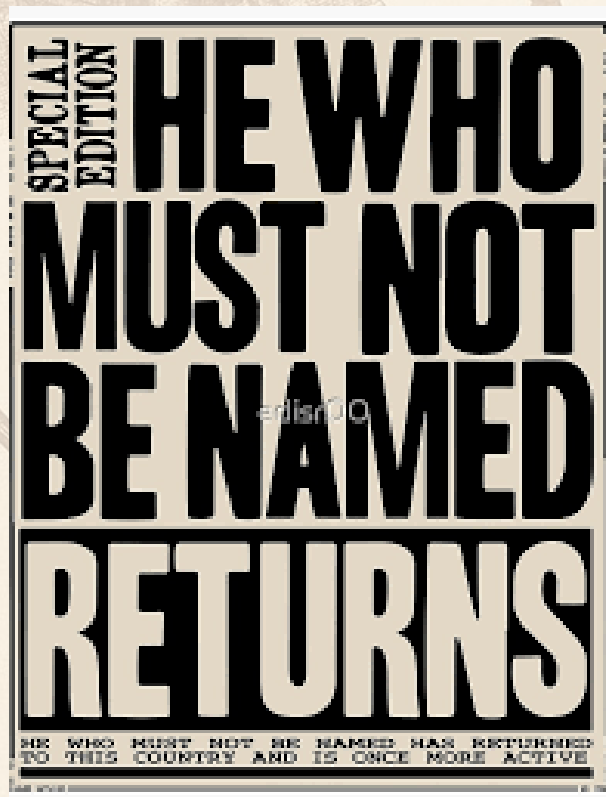
Prima Facie

Due Process

- Service of Process



Legal Basics –



In Pro Per

Privilege

Presumption

De Novo

Stare Decisis

Res Judicata

Per Curiam

Pro Hoc Vice

“Case” Basics and Intergov/Tribal

IV-D vs Non-IV-D

Case vs Docket

FTI

FPLS

Administrative vs Judicial Orders

FCR

Case Closure (suspended, dismissed; etc.)

FFCCSOA



“Case” Basics and Intergov/Tribal



CEJ

UIFSA

EDE

Per Capita

IRG

Tribal
Sovereignty/Sel-
Determination

UIFSA – Spell Recipe Book

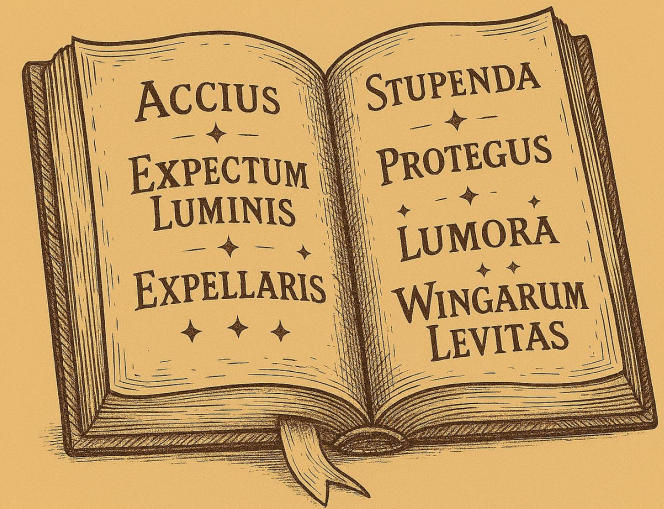
But local “flavor” is allowed

- Different rules, policies, and procedures

Regional “Dialect” – each program has its own terms and language

Hague Convention

Tribal



Parent/Party Terms

Petitioner/Respondent

Plaintiff/Defendant

Payer/Payor/Obligor/Debtor

Payee/Recipient/Obligee/Creditor

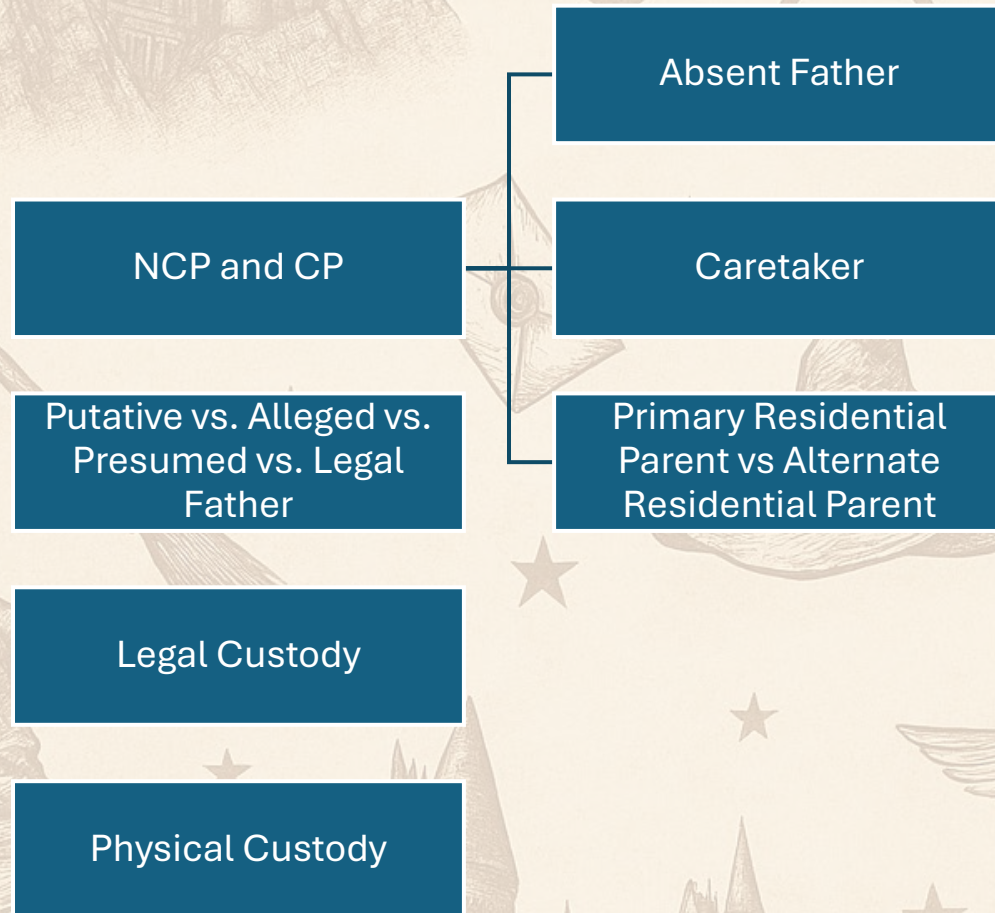
NCP/CP

Foster Care Placement - ICWA



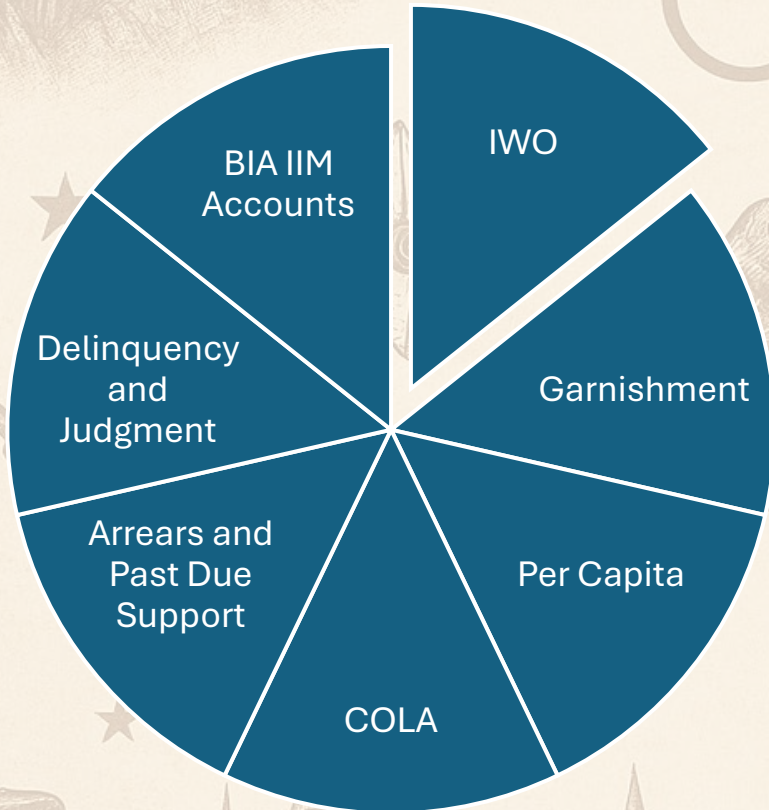
Business Insider

Custody and Parenting Time Terms



Inverse

Income and Payment Terms



Enforcement Terms

Contempt/Show Cause

Garnishment

Income Withholding

Freeze and Seize

BIA Encumbrances and Touhy Requests

Abatement (set to \$0; closed; dismissed; suspended; terminated)

Arrears Balance – know what to ask for

Case/Docket Level vs. Obligor Level



Now What? Know your Local Wizards

Try different
types of
communication

Start with who
you know, and
see what and
who they know

IRG

IJ Pledge



From: HD Wallpapers

Contact

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