

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES

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

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

October 29, 2003

LCSA LETTER: 03-25

ALL IV-D DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: RELEASE OF POLICY INQUIRY RESPONSE TO SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY DATED SEPTEMBER 15, 2003 TITLED: CASE OPENING – APPLICATION FOR SERVICES

The Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) recently responded to a policy inquiry from San Bernardino County regarding how legal custody may impact case opening and the establishment of a child support order. Our response has generated a number of questions from various local child support agencies (LCSAs) throughout the State.

As with all policy inquiries submitted, our response specifically addressed the scenario described by San Bernardino County. The policy inquiry included distinct circumstances and details to a specific application for services and case opening situation. As such, the response was drafted with San Bernardino's unique scenario in mind. This response does not necessarily apply to other scenarios covering the same general topic.

However, due to the number of additional questions of the issue of legal custody, DCSS is continuing to examine the issue and will issue a CSS Letter clarifying the original response and policy in the near future. Until such time, LCSAs should continue all program activities as business as usual until the CSS Letter is released.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please contact Shar Schroeffer, Branch Chief of the Policy Branch, at (916) 464-5055.

Sincerely,

DONNA S. HERSHKOWITZ
Deputy Director
Child Support Services Division