



News Release

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Amnesty days offered to parents behind on child support payments *County and District Court partner to offer helpful alternative to those facing arrest*

Aurora, Colo. – Arapahoe County’s Child Support Enforcement Division has partnered with the 18th Judicial District to offer its first-ever amnesty days to citizens who are facing arrest related to failure to pay child support. Instead of being arrested, 143 parents will have the unique opportunity to show up to the County and work out options to get back on track with child support payments.

In order to take advantage of the amnesty program, parents with an active bench warrant must appear at Arapahoe/Douglas Works! at Community College of Aurora at Lowry (9235 E. 10th Drive., Denver, CO 80230) anytime between 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. on March 15, April 15 or May 14. To participate, parents must bring a payment for 1.5 months of their child support obligation, in cash or money order payable to the Family Support Registry.

County staff will sit down with all participants to work out payment options, address driver’s license issues related to past non-payment of child support, assist with modifying a support order, work out parenting time issues and even offer help finding employment. Any child support obligor is welcome to participate in Arapahoe County’s Parents to Work Program, which connects them with the Arapahoe/Douglas Works! workforce center for free, intensive job-search assistance, as well as possible work-training experience.

“We understand that parents may be facing unemployment or other barriers to paying child support, so these three amnesty days offer a critical opportunity to come forward without fear of arrest and work out a solution in your child’s best interest,” said Arapahoe County Commissioner Frank Weddig.

There currently are 143 County residents facing active bench warrants for failure to appear in court related to non-payment of child support. The average monthly support obligation of those individuals is \$319.98.

For those parents who fail to take advantage of the amnesty days, a bench warrant issued will remain active, and they can be arrested. In December 2009, Arapahoe County Sheriff’s Office conducted a targeted effort and arrested 13 individuals for active warrants related to child support. Following that sweep, offenders have made support payments totaling \$13,650.50 for their children.

If you are a child support obligor and have questions about the amnesty days, please call 303-752-8855.

If you need assistance with establishing or enforcing a child support order, please call 303-752-8900 or visit www.co.arapahoe.co.us.

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