



Third Judicial Circuit of Michigan



701 COLEMAN A. YOUNG MUNICIPAL CENTER • 2 WOODWARD AVE • DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226-3413

For Immediate Release

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Subject: **August is Child Support Month in Michigan**

Detroit, MI - In recognition of the tireless efforts child support workers, employers, state and county departments, hospitals, and community partners provide by supporting our Michigan children and parents, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer has declared August 2022 as Child Support Month in Michigan.

“Employees of Wayne County Friend of the Court are some of the hardest working, most passionate and dedicated people I know,” said Erin Lincoln, Wayne County Friend of the Court and Deputy Court Administrator. “They come to work every day truly caring about the families and children they serve.”

The Michigan Child Support Program is a partnership of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Office of Child Support (OCS), Friend of the Court offices, prosecuting attorney offices, the State Court Administrative Office, employers, hospitals, as well as other community agencies. The Michigan Child Support Program strives to help parents support their children both financially and emotionally.

The program provides professional, non-judgmental services to mothers, fathers, grandparents and guardians to get the financial resources they need for their children. It also provides parents of all income levels with assistance in obtaining financial support and medical insurance coverage for their children, helps locate parents, establishes paternity and opens and manages child support cases and collects and disburses support payments.

Recent highlights for Wayne County Friend of the Court include:

- 276,053 cases served by the employees in 2021.
- \$293,333,265.03 collected and distributed in support for 2021.
- 10,119 reviews and investigations to ensure child support are properly charging.
- Zoom hearings continue for Friend of the Court Referees, increasing access to court hearings and negating the need for travel and parking costs.



The Mission of Third Judicial Circuit Court is to provide accessible and equal justice with timely dispute resolution. **The Third Judicial Circuit** has jurisdiction over Civil, Criminal, and Family matters arising in the County of Wayne. The National Center for State Courts has cited the Third Circuit Court as one of the model urban courts in the United States for case flow management and the timely disposition of the Court's docket. For more information, visit our website www.3rdcc.org, follow us at Twitter@3rdccorg, and like us on Facebook @3rdccorg.



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- The Friend of the Court payment window reopened to take in-person payments five days per week.
- Customer Service reopened to in-person service two days per week and virtual appointments are conducted the other three days.

“The work of our partners in the Michigan Child Support Program has never mattered more than now,” said Erin Frisch, director of the Michigan Office of Child Support. “As many Michigan families continue to feel the impact of the pandemic through economic instability and inflation, child support can make the difference in paying for groceries, clothing and healthcare.”

For information about the Wayne County Friend of the Court, please visit <http://www.3rdcc.org/divisions/friend-of-the-court>. Those with questions about their child support case may call 1-844-785-7593.

For further questions, please call the Family Domestic Deputy Court Administrator at 313-224-6639.



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