

# FRIEND OF THE COURT BUREAU ADVISORY COMMITTEE NOTES

Friday, November 18, 2016

Michigan Hall of Justice  
925 W. Ottawa St., Lansing, Michigan

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## Old Business

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### Legislative Update

- Currently, there is nothing new
- New legislative session in January

### UIFSA 2008 Hague Update

- On January 1, 2017, Michigan becomes an official Hague Convention member
- Access to 30 countries
  - o Canada is not a Hague Convention State/Member (will operate with them as a reciprocity country)
  - o Britain is still part of the Hague Convention even though they have separated from the European Union
- UIFSA forms are pending
  - o We should have them by the end of this year.
  - o Until the forms are integrated with MiSCES, courts have to use hard copies
- Hague Convention website: hcch.net
- Hague uses iSupport (electronical document exchange program); will be integrated into our system

### Case Law Update – *Lake v. Putnam*

- Same-sex marriage divorce issue
  - o Two women, who were not married, and had a child
  - o The biological mother left with the child
  - o The other mother wanted visitation
- A third-party does not have standing, even if the third-party resides with the child and has a personal stake in the outcome of the litigation.
- The non-biological parent does not have any visitation or custody rights to the child.
  - o The other parent does not have any biological ties to the child
  - o No intent to get married, even though same-sex marriage became legal while the child was growing up

### PayNearMe (PNM) Update

- Child support payments can be made at 7-11 or Family Dollar stores
- Just scan barcode provided to customer by website or app, no case information needed
- Program started in mid-August
- Has been very successful and continual growth in usage, transactions and amounts
  - o Received approximately \$200,000 or more from PNM usage by customers
  - o The average payment is approximately \$225-\$250
  - o Payments have been as high as \$1,000
  - o No reported issues on ease of use by customers

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## New Business

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### **FOCB Update**

#### Child Support Formula and Guidelines Update

- The new formula is out and updated on the website
- Trainings have started and there are more upcoming
- The biggest discussion has been the reasonable cost of healthcare increase
  - o Normally, only one party should be ordered to carry health insurance for the child(ren)
  - o Third party, such as spouse, can provide healthcare

#### Intergovernmental Workgroup

- Calls with other states
- Contact with Central Registry in other states
- General questions

#### Fall Conference

- 12 Sessions
- Session on Child Support Formula updates provided twice
- Largest attendance

#### Domestic Violence Best Practice Guide

- Checklists
- Practical Guide for caseworkers
  - o Identifying issues
  - o Signs to look for
  - o Domestic violence screening
- Anticipated completion date: June 2017

#### FOC New Employee Training (January 2017)

- Every year
- Usually on Wednesday and Thursday
- Employees who have been at the FOC for a year or less (checking up with MJI if it's mandatory)
- Webcasted

### **Child Support Payment Update**

#### Partner Forum 2016

- Over 100 people
- Still waiting for surveys to come back

#### Statewide IVR

- Every county will have the same IVR number by the end of the month (877-543-2660)
- Issues: Robotic Voice
  - o Difficult to understand
  - o Hinders customer service