

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF GWINNETT COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

Plaintiff/Petitioner,

v.

Defendant/Respondent

*

* Case No: _____

*

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* DHS/CSS Case No: _____

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CHILD SUPPORT ADDENDUM – STEP-DOWN PROVISIONS

Instructions: All parts of this Addendum must be completed, and it must be attached to all Final Orders and Judgments determining the amount of child support.

A Georgia child support step-down order is a legal provision in a Child Support Addendum or other Court Order that automatically reduces the total monthly child support obligation as each child's support terminates. It serves as a pre-calculated schedule for rebalancing child support.

It is generally used when the automatic adjustment is within a reasonably foreseeable time period, such as two to three years or less. It is not a best practice for long-term adjustments when it is likely that other financial circumstances will have also changed. For example, it is appropriate when a child is near graduation from high school, or age 17, or similar short-term circumstances.

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 19-6-15(c)(2), the Court makes the following applicable and required findings:

1. This addendum is issued as: ☐ a final; ☐ a temporary; ☐ an initial action; ☐ a modification action.

2. The Father's Gross Income is \$ _____ per month. O.C.G.A. § 19-6-15(c)(2)(C).

The Mother's Gross Income is \$ _____ per month. O.C.G.A. § 19-6-15(c)(2)(C).

(SEE CHILD SUPPORT WORKSHEET(S), hereinafter "CSW," of the ☐ Father ☐ Mother ☐ Court ☐ dated ☐ filed, _____ and incorporated by reference herein.) O.C.G.A. § 19-6-15(m)(1). **Pro-rata gross income, as used herein, is set forth on Line 3, CSW.**

3. **Health Dental and Vision Insurance for Children - O.C.G.A. § 19-6-15(c)(2)(D).**

[You must complete (a) or (b) of the following paragraphs.]

a) ☐ **Insurance Available** – The following insurance for the children involved in this action is

available at a reasonable cost to the through the employer of the ☐ Father / ☐ Mother:

☐ Health (medical, mental health, and hospitalization) ☐ Dental ☐ Vision

So long as it remains available, that parent shall maintain the types of insurance checked above for the benefit of the minor children, until child support for each child terminates as provided herein. occurs first.

The parent who maintains the insurance shall provide the other parent with an insurance identification card(s) or such other acceptable proof of insurance coverage and shall cooperate with the other parent in submitting claims under the policy.

b) ☐ **Insurance Not Available** – Insurance (other than Medicaid) is not currently available at this time to either party at a reasonable cost.

4. **Uninsured Health Care Expenses O.C.G.A. § 19-6-15(c)(2)(H).**

The ☐ Father shall pay _____% and the ☐ Mother shall pay _____ % of all expenses incurred for the children's health care (including medical, dental, mental health, hospital, vision care, pharmaceutical, psychological or therapy ordered by a treating medical provider) that are not covered by insurance.

The parent incurring the expense shall provide the other parent with written or digital notice and documentation of the uninsured expense (including digital transaction receipt, bill, or an explanation of benefits statement) reasonably promptly after incurring the expense. The other parent shall reimburse the incurring parent for their share within fourteen (14) calendar days after being sent the written or digital notice and documentation. Each parent shall provide the other parent with their respective digital payment methods for the payment and receipt of funds.

5. **Parenting Time Adjustment - O.C.G.A. § 19-6-15(c)(2)(F).**

For the purposes of child support, the non-custodial parent's parenting time adjustment is set forth in the CSW, Schedule C.

6. **Presumptive Amount of Support - O.C.G.A. § 19-6-15(c)(2)(A) and (B).**

The presumptive amount of child support as indicated by the CSW, Line 10, is \$_____ per month for Mother and \$_____ per month for Father.

7. ☐ **Work-Related Child Care - O.C.G.A. § 19-6-15(c)(2)(H).** (Check ONLY if applicable.)

☐ *The parents request* that Work Related Child Care expenses be divided and paid outside the CSW. Their payments shall be ☐ pro rata in proportion to their gross income; or ☐ the Father shall pay _____% and Mother shall pay _____%.

or

☐ *The Court finds* that Work Related Child Care expenses shall be divided and paid pro rata outside of the CSW, in proportion to their gross income; or ☐ the Father shall pay _____% and Mother shall pay _____%.

The primary custodial parent shall have the sole discretion to choose the provider for all reasonable, necessary, and work-related child care expenses incurred for the minor child(ren).

Both parents shall be listed with this child care provider.

Reimbursement Timeline: The parent who pays the provider shall provide reasonable written or digital notice to document this payment, including but not limited to, a digital transaction confirmation, bill, or receipt to the other parent. The reimbursing parent shall pay their pro rata share to the paying parent within forty-eight (48) hours of the date the notice and request for payment were sent.

8. **Deviation(s) - O.C.G.A. § 19-6-15(c)(2)(E)**

a. ☐ No Deviation.

b. ☐ Deviation. It has been determined that one or more of the Deviations allowed under O.C.G.A. §19-6-15 applies in this case. Schedule E of the CSW(s) referenced herein, explains the reasons for the deviation, how the application of the guidelines would be unjust or inappropriate considering the relative ability of each parent to provide support, and how the best interest of the children who are subject to this child support determination is served by deviation from the presumptive amount of child support.

9. **Final Amount and Payment Schedule:**

Support for _____ Children

Taking into consideration all of the applicable data from the CSW, the award of child support

which ☐ Mother / ☐ Father shall pay to ☐ Mother / ☐ Father for support of the child(ren) is \$_____ dollars per month. Said amount shall be paid monthly. ☐ OR, the aforesated monthly amount shall be paid ☐ weekly, amount of \$_____ ☐ bi-weekly = every two weeks, amount of \$_____ ☐ semi-monthly = 1st and 15th, amount of \$_____ .

Said payments shall begin on _____ and payable thereafter as set forth in this paragraph, until the child becomes 18 years of age, dies, marries, or otherwise becomes emancipated, except that if the child becomes 18 years of age while enrolled in and attending secondary school on a full-time basis, then such support shall continue until the child completes secondary school provided that such support shall not be required after the child attains 20 years of age. O.C.G.A. § 19-6-15(c)(2)(A) and (B).

**After Support Terminates for One Child (or twin children if their support terminates first)
Support Owed For Remaining Child(ren)**

(An additional, revised "CSW," which calculates support for only the remaining child(ren), which has been created by merely excluding the name of the child for whom support has terminated, is submitted by the ☐ Father ☐ Mother ☐ Court ☐ dated ☐ filed, _____ and incorporated by reference herein.) O.C.G.A. § 19-6-15(m)(1). This revised CSW shall be clearly marked as now excluding one child/or twin children if their support terminates first.)

Taking into consideration all of the applicable data from the additional, revised CSW, the award of child support which ☐ Mother / ☐ Father shall pay to ☐ Mother / ☐ Father for support of the child(ren) is \$_____ dollars per month. Said amount shall be paid monthly. ☐ OR, the aforesated monthly amount shall be paid ☐ weekly, amount of \$_____ ☐ bi-weekly = every two weeks, amount of \$_____ ☐ semi-monthly = 1st and 15th, amount of \$_____ .

Said payments shall begin on 1st day of the month after support for one child terminates, and payable thereafter as set forth in this paragraph, until the child becomes 18 years of age, dies, marries, or otherwise becomes emancipated, except that if the child becomes 18 years of age while enrolled in and attending secondary school on a full-time basis, then such support shall continue until the child

completes secondary school provided that such support shall not be required after the child attains 20 years of age. O.C.G.A. § 19-6-15(c)(2)(A) and (B).

So Ordered, this _____

Judge, Superior Court Gwinnett Judicial Circuit

☐ by designation.

Each parent shall sign if submitted by Mutual Consent.

Consented to by Father _____

Consented to by Mother _____