

# EASTERN SIERRA CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES

*Our mission is to promote family self-sufficiency and improve the quality of children's lives through collecting and distributing reliable child support payments.*

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

### Our Summons and Complaint Process

#### WHAT IS A SUMMONS & COMPLAINT?

The child support court process begins when our office files a Summons and Complaint with the court to get a child support order. The Summons and Complaint includes:

- Information about the child's birth & parentage
- Amount of child support requested;
- Address and telephone number of the court,
- How to contact our agency; and
- A proposed child support amount.

**GIVE US A CALL:** Once served a Summons and Complaint please call or visit our office so we have the most up to date information in your case. Not responding may adversely affect the order in your case.

**FILL OUT AN ANSWER:** With the Summons and Complaint a **blank** Answer form will be sent. **You must** fill out and return the Answer to the Child Support Office within 30 days. If you do not respond within 30 days, the Court will enter a Default.

**SAVE TIME:** If the parties can agree to pay an appropriate amount of child support, we can prepare a Stipulation for your signature. This may result in you not needing to appear in Court.

#### WHAT IS A PROPOSED JUDGMENT?

Together with the Summons and Complaint, our office will provide a Proposed Judgment. This Proposed Judgment becomes the final order of the court if the parent being served does not respond. Filing an answer is critical to be sure we have accurate data for the Court.

#### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Q:** I do not think I am the father of the child (ren) listed on the Complaint. What do I do?

**A:** If you do not believe you are the father, you must return the completed Answer (included in the packet) to the Child Support Office. Once the Answer is filed with the court, a court date and genetic test appointment will be scheduled to determine if you are the father or not.

**Q:** I disagree with the child support amount, or one of the terms, set in the Proposed Judgment. What do I do?

**A:** You must return the completed Answer to the Child Support Office. If necessary, a court date will be set for the issues to be resolved.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us...

**BISHOP**  
1360 N. Main St, Suite 237  
Monday – Friday 8:00 – 5:00

**866-901-3212**

**MAMMOTH LAKES**  
126 Old Mammoth Rd Suite 202  
Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 – 4:00