



family law

by: Mr. Lindsey Benson Green, Esq.

"THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S ROLE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE FAMILY LAW ATTORNEY"

The District Attorney's office (D.A.), both in Ventura and Los Angeles County, can enforce a child support and/or spousal support obligation. While the D.A.'s office is responsible for enforcement of child/spousal support, it also has the responsibility of enforcing a parent to obtain medical care for the minor children. The ideal situation is to have a family law attorney obtain a child support and or spousal support judgment either in a divorce proceeding or paternity proceeding, and if any problems arise in terms of enforcement after the judgment, seek the D.A. on the non paying parent or spouse.

The D.A.'s office responsible for enforcing child support, spousal support and medical care is known as the Family Support Division. The closest Family Support Division to the Conejo Valley in Los Angeles County is located in Encino while the office in Ventura County is located on Telephone Road in Ventura.

The Family Support Division can be effective despite recent articles in the Los Angeles Times to the contrary. The D.A. has other functions such as locating an absent parent and the parent's assets, collecting child support arrears (past due child support), and collecting spousal support arrears.

The Family Support Division can collect child and spousal sup-

port arrears by methods no otherwise available to private attorneys. The D.A.'s Office can subject non paying parents or spouses to a criminal court hearing, seize their state or federal income tax returns, unemployment benefits, worker's comp benefits and even lottery winnings. The D.A. can even suspend driver's licenses and professional licenses (i.e. medical / legal / contractor's licenses) for failure to pay child and/or spousal support.

Most importantly, if your private family law attorney works closely with a D.A. from the Family Support Division, results could be timely payments of child/spousal support without delinquent non paying parents and spouses.

Mr. Lindsey Benson Green is a family law attorney in private practice and a partner in the law firm of Gumm & Green, LLP in Westlake Village, California. He can be reached at (818) 707-4233, (805) 577-7657 or toll free (888) 444-6244.

