Non-Cash Payment Alternative (In-Kind) Child Support Orders COURT WORKFLOW – <u>Case Monitoring Process</u> (via Court review)

Once an initial Order (or Judgment) has been entered reflecting an in-kind child support arrangement, that order should have a <u>minimum</u> of 3 dates set, in monthly intervals, for monitoring to ensure that the order is working as intended and agreed upon by the parties.

The process for providing updated information to the court should be made as simple as possible, e.g. by developing an "Update Declaration" template that the parties can separately fill out and submit to the court (directly or via the local child support agency). The template should also include the option for the parties to mutually agree to "skip" either months 1 or 2 (but not month 3).

At the 3rd month mark, the parties should appear (can appear remotely) so court can determine whether it is appropriate to set further monitoring review dates (either quarterly, semi-annually or otherwise), or whether the case can be "let go", with clear instructions to the parties as to how to get back into court by the filing of a motion/request for order to modify should anyone wish to either get a modification of the inkind order, or convert back to a guideline order (in latter situation case is removed from pilot).



MONTHS 1 and 2: Update Declaration to be submitted one week before the review date.

A. If parties agree to "skip" review date, case goes off calendar & automatically moves to next month (previously set)

B. Court to provide service to parties for OFLF/FCS brief focused mediation for any needed "tweaks" or other changes (preferably before review date, or same-day, if possible)



AGREEMENT REACHED:

Court modifies order in accordance with the parties' agreement, ensuring LSCA input on any enforcement issues (If case is in month 1, it goes to month 2 review, and so forth)



NO AGREEMENT REACHED:

Court inquires whether it can assist the parties in any way, but if still no agreement, court sets guideline order, and case is taken out of in-kind pilot program (subsequent review dates vacated)



MONTH 3: Update Declaration to be submitted one week before the review date.

Same process as in "B" above, <u>plus</u>, court determines whether to set extended review dates.

If no further review dates requested by parties, information given on how to get back into court if needed.



EXTENDED MONITORING: Update Declaration to be submitted one week before the review date.

Same process as in "B" above (Months 1 and 2), plus court determines whether to set any further reviews.

If no further review dates requested by parties, information given on how to get back into court if needed.

General Issues (which will likely need a case-by-case determination):

- What about no-shows? (Does it matter if only one side shows up?)
- Can parties get back into pilot if they change their mind (both agree) at any stage?

General Note: By being in the pilot, with close monitoring, and the court having specifically reserved jurisdiction, any failures to abide by the in-kind orders can be immediately addressed, and if not resolved, can be quickly converted to a guideline order.

Court Workflow – Case Monitoring Process (6/9/2022)