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James M. Biernat Jr., Chief Judge
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News



For Immediate Release

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Wayne and Macomb Friends of the Court Joint Bench Warrant Amnesty Program

Wayne and Macomb County Friends of the Court are announcing a joint bench warrant amnesty program aimed at providing payers with outstanding civil child support bench warrants from either county the opportunity to appear at an off-site venue or Friend of the Court office of their choice to resolve their warrants. If Payers bring a \$500.00 payment the warrant will be dismissed. The program will be an **ARREST FREE ZONE**.

The joint venture will offer two off-site locations on Saturday, October 21st and Saturday, October 28th, from 1 pm to 4 pm. Payers may appear at the Detroit Public Library, 5201 Woodward Ave., Detroit, or the Max Thompson Family Resource Center, 11370 Hupp, Warren. Payers should bring a \$500.00 payment of cash, credit card or money order per warrant, as well as government identification. Payers may also appear at either Friend of the Court office between Monday, October 23rd and Friday, October 27th. Macomb County Friend of the Court office hours are from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Those wishing to appear in Wayne County should appear at the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, Two Woodward Avenue, Detroit, in courtroom 1907 between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. **Payers will not be arrested on their child support warrants and court costs will not be assessed.**

Wayne and Macomb Friends of the Court are issuing the following joint statement: *“This is a cooperative effort between Wayne and Macomb County to better serve the families of our counties. We want to avoid the trauma that an arrest may present while finding a way to more positively engage with payers. In the process we will work to resolve outstanding warrants and, most importantly, pursue arrangements that allow for long term, consistent financial support for children.”*

Payers that appear will also be advised of options to have their charging child support adjusted and of programs to have state owed arrears forgiven. Friend of the Court account information is available on line at: www.michigan.gov/michildsupport.

To speak with someone about the program, contact the Wayne County Friend of the Court Call Center at 1-877- 543-2660 or the Macomb County Friend of the Court at 1-586- 469-5160. Information is also available on-line at <https://www.3rdcc.org/> or <http://foc.macombgov.org/>.