

Ask the CEO: Mike Higgins

“What to do when you can’t collect your Child Support”

By Phil Reifenberg - Editor - Child-Support-Info.org

Mike Higgins is CEO of National Child Support, a Cincinnati based child support collection agency. Higgins, 45, comes from a strong technology background and his firm utilizes leading edge technology to pursue and collect unpaid child support for custodial parents.

How bad is the Child Support Crisis?

Currently over \$102 billion dollars is owed to custodial parents nationwide. The growth in unpaid child support has placed a tremendous burden upon state and federal child support agencies. Budget restrictions often prevent agencies from expanding to meet the ever increasing need. Many cases do not receive the individualized attention they require. The real concern however, is that this money is needed for the raising of children. They are the ones being penalized when a spouse does not pay child support. To make matters worse, because there is not money coming in, the remaining parent must take on additional jobs, often resulting in less supervision, which further breaks down the family structure.

How do you fix this problem?

We believe that this problem can be solved by a combination of the public and private sector resources. National Child Support comes in when a person has exhausted their state and local child support collection agency resources. The law enables companies who collect child support to be much more aggressive than traditional collection agencies. National Child Support also has advanced technology and techniques that enables us to find and collect from the delinquent parents.

Who pays for this private collection service?

In private child support collection, lawyers and many of our competitors require a cash deposit to begin. The custodial parent pays these fees, but we believe there is a better way. We do not charge any upfront fees and we only get paid when our client gets paid. Most states allow you to collect interest on the uncollected balance and in many cases the accrued interest covers our fees.

If I’m owed Child Support, where do I start?

First, make sure you have a court order that defines how much you are owed and the frequency of payment. Second, work with your local agency. They are your public advocate to get your child support. Finally, when all else fails, contact a child support collection company. They are the solution when the system fails you.

To determine the amount of child support you are owed or to get assistance with your case, contact National Child Support at 888-95-Child or go to their website at www.nationalchilddsupport.com/applynow.asp