



Commonwealth of Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Top-performing child support collectors honored in Frankfort awards ceremony

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Sept. 25, 2019) - The Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) has recognized the state's 20 most successful child support collection partners from the past year, along with other employees who have increased payments for families served by the child support program.

The Frankfort ceremony was hosted by the CHFS Child Support Enforcement program (CSE), which is part of the CHFS Department for Income Support (DIS). CSE administers child support throughout Kentucky and contracts with local officials to manage responsibilities jointly. DIS Commissioner W. Bryan Hubbard, who leads the CSE Division said child support is a lifeline.

"Child Support Enforcement functions as the third largest anti-poverty program in the United States. Kentucky's Child Support Enforcement program delivers more than \$400,000,000 in child support payments every year to families across the Commonwealth," Hubbard said. "The delivery of this financial lifeline requires the

devoted commitment of state child support staff, 120 county attorney offices, and the hundreds of individuals who drive the mission.”

Top performing counties with 1,000 or fewer cases are as follows:

- Adair County, County Attorney Jennifer Hutchison-Corbin
- Crittenden County, County Attorney Rebecca Johnson
- Green County, County Attorney Russ Goff
- Hancock County, County Attorney Paul Madden Jr.
- Hart County, County Attorney Mike Nichols
- Lyon County, County Attorney Lee Wilson
- McLean County, County Attorney Donna Dant
- Morgan County, County Attorney Myles Holbrook

Top performing counties with 1,000-2,000 cases are as follows:

- Allen County, County Attorney Hallye Arterburn
- Breckinridge County, County Attorney Bradley Butler
- Meade County, County Attorney Jessica Roberts
- Ohio County, County Attorney Justin Keown
- Oldham County, County Attorney John K. Carter
- Russell County, County Attorney Kevin Shearer
- Taylor County, County Attorney John D. Bertram

Top performing counties with 2,000-4,000 cases are as follows:

- Bell County, County Attorney Neil Ward
- Harlan County, County Attorney Fred Busroe Jr.
- Hopkins County, County Attorney Byron Hobgood

Top performing counties with 4,000 cases or more are as follows:

- Boone County, County Attorney Robert Neace
- Christian County, County Attorney John T. Soyars

Rankings are based on paternity establishment, child support order establishment, current child support collections and past-due collections. Commissioner Hubbard expressed appreciation for all who were recognized at the awards ceremony.

“The work is challenging and often thankless,” he said. “Individuals and offices recognized today exemplify the noblest virtues citizens wish to see within the hearts of their public servants. It is a privilege to honor the best among us today.”

Several other awards were also given to contractors and CSE staff.

They are as follows:

- Contracting Official Office of the Year – Harlan County Attorney’s Office
- John R. Fendley Child Support Attorney of the Year – Kyle Evans, Henderson County Attorney’s Office
- Tim Olds Outstanding Customer Service Award – Rhonda Cundiff, Hardin County Attorney’s Office
- Contracting Official Employee of the Year – Laura “Maria” Dowdy, Ballard County Attorney’s Office
- State Child Support Field Office Employee of the Year – Kelli Blair, Northeastern Regional Office
- Central Office Employee of the Year – Michael Lamb, Program Services Branch
- Commissioner’s Award – Melissa Rife, Budget and Reports Unit

Additional information is available at <http://chfs.ky.gov/>.

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The Cabinet for Health and Family Services is home to most of the state's human services and healthcare programs, including the Department for Medicaid Services, the Department for Community Based Services the Department for Public Health, the Department for Aging and Independent Living and the Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities. CHFS is one of the largest agencies in state government, with nearly 8,000 full- and part-time employees located across the Commonwealth focused on improving the lives and health of Kentuckians.