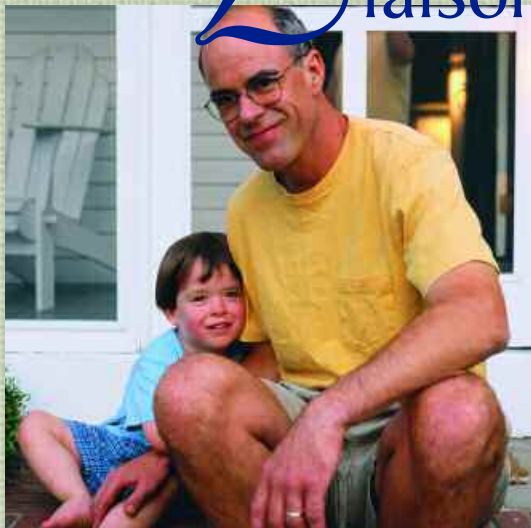


Court Liaison



State of Oklahoma

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Oklahoma Department
of Human Services
Child Support
Enforcement Division

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South Oklahoma City
Office of the Court Liaison



OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Court Liaison for the South Oklahoma City Child Support Office

Hello, my name is Ken Hartin and I am the Court Liaison for the South OKC Child Support Enforcement Office. Child Support Enforcement designed the Court Liaison Program to help non-custodial parents (NCP) find employment or locate other resources they may benefit from in order to pay their court ordered child support.

Working with employers, just like you, and community partners, we are able to help NCPs receive job skills training, GED, clothing, tools, transportation, food, housing and other services they may benefit from.

Income Assignments

Income assignments are just one of many actions Child Support Enforcement uses to collect money for the NCP's children. Income assignments do not mean your employee is in trouble or a bad person. It is the primary means that all states use to collect child support.

Oklahoma state statute mandates that all employers participate in withholding child support from any income or earnings paid to an employee, contractor or sub-contractor.

"Income" or "earnings" means any form of payment to an individual regardless of source including, but not limited to, wages, salary, commission, compensation as an independent contractor, workers' compensation, disability, annuity and retirement benefits, and any other payments made by any person, private entity, federal or state government, any unit of local government, school district, or any entity created by law; 12 O.S. § 1170 (A)(3).

If you have any questions about income assignments, feel free to call my office and I will be glad to answer any question you may have.

Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC)

Work Opportunity Tax Credit is a federal program that may give you, the employer, up to a \$2,100 tax credit per eligible worker. This credit is available the first year of employment when you employ a qualified person.

To qualify for the tax credit you must employ an individual who is:

- a person convicted of a felony and within the past year was either convicted or released from prison and during the last 6 months was a member of a low-income family;
- a member of a family that has received assistance from Aid to Dependent Children (AFDC) or its successor program Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) for any 9 months within the last 18 months;
- a veteran and member of a family that received food stamps for a least 3 of the 15 months preceding the date of hire;
- a person with a disability who has received or is receiving vocational rehabilitation from a rehabilitation agency approved by the state or the Department of Veterans Affairs. (Drug and alcohol rehabilitation does not qualify);
- a person age 18 through 24 who has a principal residence in an Empowerment Community or Enterprise Zone;
- a person receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits for any month during the 60 days preceding the date of hire.
- a person who is at least 18 but under age 25, and is a member of a family that has received food stamps for the last 6 months; or received food stamps for at least 3 of the last 5 months, and is no longer eligible to receive them.

This service is offered through the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission and you may contact them at:
(405) 557-5371

www.oesc.state.ok.us/ES/wotc-05.htm

Federal Bonding Program

Workforce Oklahoma, the Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City and The Education and Employment Ministry will file the paperwork for a qualifying employee with a fidelity bond company for coverage at your company. This bond will cover any type of theft, forgery, larceny or embezzlement. Any job, in any state, at any employer can be covered by the bond. There is no age requirement other than the legal age of employment for the job being performed.

The Court Liaison Program has several prospective employees who have non-violent felonies in their past and they need a second chance. Most of these prospects will make excellent employees.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, 99 percent of the Oklahoma bonded ex-offenders have proven honest. Nationally, the bonding company has paid out only two percent on the employees covered who have felony convictions. This information may be found at www.bonds4jobs.com

Court Liaison Answers Your Questions

Q. How does the WOTC benefit the employer?

A. The tax credit of \$2,100 is bottom-line profit, given back to the company for giving a qualified individual a second chance.

Q. Will the employer be charged a fee for the federal bond?

A. No. The Federal Bonding Program is a partnership between the U. S. Department of Labor and the McLaughlin Company, an insurance brokerage firm, as agent for Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America.

Q. Who is qualified for the Federal Bonding Program?

A. The Federal Bonding Program provides Fidelity Bonds that guarantee honesty for "at-risk", hard-to-place job seekers. The bonds cover the first six months of employment

Call Your Local Child Support Office

If you have questions about income assignments, WOTC, the Federal Bonding Program or the Court Liaison Program, call your local child support office. As the Court Liaison for the South Oklahoma City Child Support Enforcement Office, I will be happy to answer your questions. I may be reached at the telephone number listed on the back of this brochure.

Working together, you can help us reduce families on state aid, lower the tax burden on all Oklahomans and help restore dignity to non-custodial parents who have had problems paying their child support.



**Oklahoma Department
of Human Services
Child Support Enforcement Division
South Oklahoma City
Office of the Court Liaison**

Ken Hartin
2701 S Harvey Ave
Bank of America Building
PO Box 25637
Oklahoma City, OK 73125-9915

Phone: (405) 606-4228

Fax: (405) 606-4280

E-mail: Kenneth.Hartin@okdhs.org

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