

# PREPARING FOR YOUR COURT HEARING



## Before your hearing

In order for us to set a reliable child support amount, it is vital that we have complete and accurate information. At least two weeks before your hearing, use the self addressed envelope to provide your case manager the following:



Complete income & expense declaration



Three most recent pay stubs



Visitation schedule, including dates & duration



Child care verification, including expense receipts



A copy of your most recent federal tax returns. If self employed provide schedule C and profit/loss statements



You can avoid going to court by requesting a stipulation. This is a mutual agreement of the case participants.

## OUR MISSION

*Working to ensure children receive consistent & reliable child support from both parents.*

## FIND US ONLINE

[ventura.org/child-support-services](https://ventura.org/child-support-services)



@VCCHILDSUPPORT



@VENTURACOUNTY DEPARTMENTOFCHILDSUPPORT

## The day of your hearing

Court hearings take place at the Ventura County Hall of Justice located at 800 South Victoria Avenue Ventura, California 93009. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic court hearings are primarily being held virtually via Zoom. A link with the meeting information will be sent to you prior to the hearing. In person hearings are reserved only for those without access to the necessary technology. A commissioner will hear your case and make a decision on the child support order.

### Helpful tips:

- The court will start the day with a calendar call. This is a "roll call" to find out who is present.
- If you are late and miss roll call, your hearing may proceed without you or be delayed. In some cases your hearing could be cancelled.
- Be ready with your personal and financial information, have copies of the documents mentioned above.
- Prior to your hearing you will have the opportunity to meet with a child support professional/attorney to provide any updated personal and financial information prior to your hearing. If you are represented by an attorney, we will be unable to discuss your case unless your attorney present.

## The day of your hearing, cont'd.

- VDCCSS attorneys will present the facts and information provided by both parties to the superior court commissioner.
- The average length of a hearing is about 10 minutes.

## How is child support determined?

The court follows the statewide guideline calculator when setting a child support amount. Some factors to consider are:

- Monthly income for both parents
- Child care expenses
- Cost of health insurance
- Visitation

## After the hearing

- After the hearing you will receive a copy of the order by mail in about two weeks.
- Call us at (866) 901-3212 to learn about the next steps.

## Additional helpful information

- Only the court may grant a continuance or cancellation of your hearing.
- You may obtain a private attorney to represent you in court.
- Children are not allowed in the court room. There is a children's waiting room for children that are at least 2 1/2 years old and toilet trained. For more information call (805) 654-2963.
- VDCCSS does not represent either parent and encourages all parties to attend court and actively participate in their cases. No one else can appear for you, or represent your interests, except you or your attorney.

*Contact us today if you have questions regarding your upcoming court date*



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Camarillo, CA 93012



(866) 901-3212  
Mon - Fri 8am -5pm



(805) 316-6272  
Text Message



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