Changing Child Support in California

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When your divorce was final, either you or your spouse was probably awarded primary physical custody of your children. At that time, the court took many factors into consideration to determine what amount of child support the non-custodial parent would pay to the primary custodial parent. Although California has statutory child support guidelines that can be used to estimate child support, the commissioner or family law judge has authority to make the final decision.

With the passage of time, circumstances often change. You may feel as though you are paying excessive child support under the circumstances, particularly if your income suffered a setback during the recent recession. On the other hand, you may believe you are receiving too little child support due to similar circumstances on the receiving end.

Some common reasons to seek a child support modification include changes in the receiving parent's income, changes in the paying parent's income, changes in the relative time spent with the children, changes in child care costs, and other factors related to the welfare and wellbeing of the child.

There are a couple of ways to go about changing child support in California. One method is to simply contact your former spouse and discuss the reasons you need the change. If the two of you can reach an agreement, you should put it in writing and have it made into a court order immediately, preferably with the help of an experienced California family law attorney.

If you and your former spouse cannot agree to modify child support, then you will need to seek the help of an attorney experienced in aggressively litigating family law matters to petition the court for a modification.

If you feel that your child support order is due for a modification, contact an experienced, aggressive family law attorney. At the <u>Law Offices of Judy L. Burger</u>, we will discuss your options with you and persistently pursue the best outcome possible for you in modifying your child support order.

<u>Judy L. Burger</u> is known for her aggressive representation of clients in high conflict cases in and around the San Francisco Bay and Sacramento areas. If you are a parent looking to review your support order, call us today to learn more about how we can help. Call (415)293-8314 in the San Francisco Bay area or (916)631-1935 in the Sacramento area, or contact us online via our <u>confidential inquiry form</u>.