Stanislaus County Department of Child Support Services David Ingersoll, Director

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## <u>California Child Support Program Launches</u> <u>"Get Back on the Road Again" Program</u>

Parents Given Opportunity to Reinstate Driver Licenses Suspended for Child Support Debts.

-- SACRAMENTO—The Stanislaus County Department of Child Support Services and the California Department of Child Support Services are offering parents who have had their driver license suspended for non-payment of child support an opportunity to get it restored. The "Get Back on the Road Again" public awareness program targets parents who have had their license suspended because they did not meet their full child support obligations. The "Get Back on the Road Again" program is available to parents with child support cases in all California counties. This opportunity is available on specific dates at each local child support agency throughout California during August 2009.

"We want to assist the noncustodial parent who may be having a tough time financially but wants to do the right thing for his or her children," said David Ingersoll, Director of the Stanislaus County Local Child Support Agency. "For a limited time, the Department of Child Support Services will release a driver license when the noncustodial parent meets the following conditions:

- > Makes a payment equal to one month of their child support obligation,
- > Makes an additional payment of at least \$25 towards arrears,
- Provides his or her current employment status and if applicable provides information regarding his or her current financial situation,
- > Evaluations will be done on a case-by-case basis.

Under a 1996 California law, noncustodial parents who do not pay their child support may have their driver license suspended until they bring their payments current. The law also impacts business and professional licenses issued by the State of California such as licenses held by doctors, lawyers, contractors, cosmetologists, and others.

"It is critical that we do everything we can to see that our children have the economic security they need to grow into healthy, self-sufficient adults. In addition, it helps taxpayers by recouping money to repay welfare benefits," said Jim DeMartini, Chairman of the Board.

The mission statement of the Stanislaus County Department of Child Support Services is to establish and enforce support orders, in compliance with federal and state law, while providing excellent customer service.

Parents interested in participating in the "Get Back on the Road Again" program should visit the DCSS website at <u>www.childsup.ca.gov</u> for specific dates and locations. You may also call toll free 1 (866) 901-3212.

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For additional information for the media, call: Tamara Thomas, Assistant Director Stanislaus County Department of Child Support Services (209) 558-3062

Editors: Additional information on the "Get Back on the Road Again" program can be found on the DCSS website at <u>www.childsup.ca.gov</u>.