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The Legal Aid Fax

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Family interjurisdictional support orders

The provincial government has launched a new website to help people apply for interjurisdictional support orders (ISO) when one person lives outside BC. The website simplifies the process by automatically generating the right forms after the user answers questions online. If users do not have access to a printer, they can order the forms they completed online. See www.isoforms.bc.ca.

If a client complains that they never received a response to an ISO application they made, refer them to your local family justice counsellor's (FJC) office. The FJC can request that the government's Maintenance Enforcement and Locate Service track down the application and move the matter along, even in other jurisdictions.

Vancouver bar recognition

The Legal Services Society (LSS) presented awards to Bruce Clokie, Art Demeulemeester, and Phil Rankin at a recognition event held June 20 in acknowledgement of their achievements and outstanding service over the years. Criteria used in the process of selecting lawyers for recognition include their willingness to take on difficult cases, their years and quality of legal aid service, and their community service. See the LSS news release at www.lss.bc.ca (Newsroom > News releases).

Free registration for family CLE courses

LSS and the Continuing Legal Education Society are offering bursaries to family lawyers for upcoming CLE family law conferences:

- 1. Getting Started in Interdisciplinary Collaborative Practice (September 21 22, 2006)
- 2. Family Law Bootcamp Level II (October 19 20, 2006)

LSS will pay the full registration fee for one of these two-day conferences for a limited number of tariff lawyers who agree to take 12 referrals in the next 12 months. Preference will be given to junior lawyers. To apply, send an e-mail to lawyersresources@lss.bc.ca indicating your call date, the conference you want to attend, and your agreement to accept 12 referrals in the next 12 months. The Law Foundation funds this bursary as part of the LSS quality assurance initiative. **Spaces are limited, so apply early!**

Lawyers who don't qualify can still get a 25% discount on the registration fee if they agree to take 12 referrals in the next 12 months.

Free access to CLE's family law materials

LSS, with Law Foundation funding, has contracted with the Continuing Legal Education Society to provide tariff lawyers with access to two invaluable online family law resources. The **BC Family Practice Manual** is a comprehensive, practical resource covering all aspects of family practice, while the **Family Law Sourcebook for BC** offers concise statements of applicable legal principles and practice in key areas of family law. Lawyers who agree to accept 12 referrals in the next 12 months will be eligible to access these resources through CLE Online. For more information, send an e-mail to lawyersresources@lss.bc.ca.

Changes to accommodation & BCMA rates

For information about new accommodation rates for government staff and service providers (effective Jun 1/06) and for BCMA rates (effective Apr 1/06), see Notice to Counsel #51 at www.lss.bc.ca (For lawyers > Notices to Counsel).

Vancouver criminal duty counsel roster

Vancouver lawyers who want to join the Criminal Duty Counsel roster can obtain an application form at www.lss.bc.ca (For lawyers > Online resources > Forms) or by e-mailing helpdesk.criminal@lss.bc.ca.

Billing tips

- 1. For criminal accounts, record the court location where the services were provided (not where the charge was laid or waived from).
- When billing for hourly items that have a maximum number of hours (i.e., general preparation), indicate the actual number of hours you spent, not the maximum. This gives LSS an additional way to analyze where unpaid work is being done and the areas where increases are most needed.
- At this time, interpretation disbursements are not billable through E-billing. Claiming interpretation as a miscellaneous expense will result in a delay in payment as we adjust your account.
- 4. Administration fees can be billed only once per referral (not per information) and can be claimed on accounts with other services (a separate account is not required). It is not necessary to provide a service date.