



Hopkins County Court at Law

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TERMINATING AN INCOME WITHHOLDING ORDER

After the court signs a decree ordering one person (the Obligor) to pay child support to another person (the Obligee), the court usually also signs an Income Withholding Order (IWO). The IWO has the effect of automatically deducting child support from the Obligor's paycheck on a weekly, monthly, etc. basis – and this money is sent to the Obligee to help provide for the child's expenses.

However, once a child "ages out" (reaches adulthood, etc.), the IWO can be reduced or terminated as appropriate with an Order Terminating IWO. Many people believe that once a child turns 18, the IWO is automatically reduced or terminated. However, this is incorrect. In some cases, for example, the Obligor is in arrears on child support at the time the child ages out. In such a case, the IWO would not change until the arrearage is paid in full.

There are two ways to terminate an IWO: agreed and non-agreed.

Procedure for Terminating IWO in Agreed Cases:

1. Obligor provides proof that:
 - i. Child is 18 years old and has graduated from high school; or
 - ii. Child is deceased; or
 - iii. Child's legal disabilities of minority have been removed by marriage or court order; and
2. Obligor provides proposed Order Terminating IWO signed by BOTH obligor and obligee

After the Obligor submits this to the court coordinator, the judge will review and sign the Order Terminating IWO as appropriate.

Procedure for Terminating IWO in Non-Agreed Cases:

1. Obligor files Petition to Terminate Withholding for Child Support
2. Obligee must be served with the Petition or file a waiver of service/answer
3. Obligor schedules hearing with the court and Obligor notifies Obligee of date/time
4. Obligor brings copy of proposed Order Terminating IWO to the hearing
5. Court makes ruling and signs, as appropriate

The Court Coordinator can be contacted at ccl@hopkinscountytexas.org

All self-represented litigants must use the forms at Texaslawhelp.org (links available below)

[Petition](#)
[Order:](#)