

**39-7,140. Jurisdiction; service; notice.** (a) The secretary shall have jurisdiction over:

- (1) Any person receiving IV-D services from the secretary;
- (2) any person within or without this state who may be made subject to the jurisdiction of the courts of this state for the purpose of determining the person's duty of support or for establishing or enforcing a support order;
- (3) any person without this state who may be made subject to the jurisdiction of the secretary for IV-D purposes by the laws of the jurisdiction in which the person resides or may be found; and
- (4) any person who may be made subject to the jurisdiction of the courts of this state because the person is or may be in possession or control of property of the responsible parent, is or may be indebted to the responsible parent or is or may be the responsible parent's payor as defined in the income withholding act and amendments thereto.

(b) The jurisdiction of the secretary over any person shall commence at the time the person is served with an initial notice or order in any IV-D administrative proceeding or, for a person receiving IV-D services from the secretary, at the time the secretary's IV-D services begin. "Initial notice or order" includes a subpoena, an order for genetic tests, a notice of lien, an income withholding order and an order to restrict transfer.

The secretary's jurisdiction over the responsible parent shall continue so long as IV-D administrative proceedings are pending or so long as a duty of support exists, whichever is longer, regardless of the responsible parent's subsequent departure from this state.

(c) Except as provided in subsection (d) or as otherwise specifically required by law, service of any subpoena, notice or order in any IV-D administrative proceeding upon any person shall be by regular mail addressed to the person's last known address. Service by mail is complete upon mailing. Nothing in this subsection shall prevent the secretary and any person from agreeing to an alternative method of service, including but not limited to electronic data transfer. Any person accepting an alternative method of service under this subsection shall not be liable to any person solely because of the method of service.

(d) Service upon the responsible parent of an order for genetic tests shall be made only by personal service or registered mail, return receipt requested.

(e) If service of any notice or order in a IV-D administrative proceeding must be made only by personal service or registered mail, return receipt requested is qualified to serve the notice or order [\*].

(f) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, substantial compliance with the requirements for any method of service provided by this section shall effect valid service if, upon review, the hearing officer or tribunal finds that, notwithstanding some irregularity or omission, the person served was made aware that an action or proceeding was pending in which the person's person, status or property could be affected.

After commencement of any IV-D administrative proceeding, service upon the secretary of any notice or document in the same IV-D administrative proceeding at any address other than the current address provided by the secretary shall not be effective service upon or notice to the secretary.

**History:** L. 1997, ch. 182, § 9; July 3.

\* Subsection apparently should have read: "(e) Service of any notice or order in a IV-D administrative proceeding must be made only by personal service or registered mail, return receipt requested."