

Getting Child Support Reduced in Utah

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During the process of divorce, one of the most important factors involves raising children. In some situations, child support is paid from one spouse to another; however, these court proceedings are unable to predict the future. A change in marital status, serious injury that impacts employment, and other factors that lead to a loss of income could make a previous child support agreement simply untenable. ***For those wondering “can a lawyer help lower child support,” the answer is, yes.*** Either parent is able to file a petition with the court to modify an arrangement that was agreed to previously. This could include either petitioning for more support or filing for lower child support. There are a few tips that people should keep in mind that get child support reduced.

Try To Negotiate with the Other Parent

Before filing anything with the courts, it is important to reach out to the other parent and try to work it out with him or her. ***If both parents are in agreement on a new number, it is more likely the court will approve it. This can also save a lot of time and money.*** There is a lot of financial and emotional stress that can come with going to court, so working with the other spouse can be helpful. Negotiating with the other parent is a good first step; however, if the situation is truly untenable, arrears might continue to build up until a new agreement is made. Therefore, try to work quickly.

Document All Changes

If there is something that has changed that renders the previous child support agreement untenable, be sure to keep track of everything. ***This includes documentation that proves a loss of someone’s job, bank statements that show changing financial***

situations, any existing debts that impact the ability of someone to continue paying child support, or even a simple pay cut. All of this needs to be documented because this is going to impact the court's decision. Furthermore, these changes are only going to matter if they take place after the current child support agreement was put into place.

Keep Paying Something During the Process

It can take a while to go to court and get the agreement changed. Even those who cannot afford to pay the full amount should continue to pay something. ***This will show the court that the parent is still acting in good faith to try to pay as much as they can despite the current financial situation.*** This will prevent the judge from getting angry and could increase the petition's chance of being successful.

Contact an Experienced Utah Child Support Lawyer

Finally, be sure to reach out to an experienced child support lawyer for help. It is possible to lower child support in the state of Utah; however, in order to have the best chance of success, it is important to rely on the experience of an attorney. The Law Office of David Pedrazas, PLLC, is here to defend the rights of his clients. Our goal is to make sure that everyone is educated and can make informed decisions that will lead to a better outcome. Contact us today to learn more about our services!