



**Prosecuting Attorney**  
County of Summit

**NEWS**

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**CONTACT: April Wiesner**

**Phone: (330) 643-8386**

**[wiesner@prosecutor.summitoh.net](mailto:wiesner@prosecutor.summitoh.net)**

**CSEA Collects \$30 Million from Deadbeat Parents**

*Summit County committed to supporting children, announces August amnesty event*

**AKRON, OHIO – July 15, 2013** – Summit County Prosecuting Attorney Sherri Bevan Walsh today announced that the Summit County Child Support Enforcement Agency (CSEA) has collected \$30 million from criminal non-support cases since the Criminal Non-Support Unit was created in 2001.

“I believe children benefit most from having active, involved parents – parents who show up at Little League games, help with homework and honor their financial responsibilities,” said Prosecutor Walsh. “Prosecution is a worst-case scenario, reserved for those people who adamantly refuse to comply with the court’s order to pay child support. Many parents start paying child support when they are faced with losing their driver’s license or even going to prison. The results of our Criminal Non-Support Unit prove that aggressive prosecution works.”

The Criminal Non-Support Unit, a division of CSEA, prosecutes parents who are at least \$5,000 behind on their child support payments and have not made a payment in more than six months. Prosecution is a last resort after other enforcement tools – such as driver’s license suspension, income withholding, liens and tax offsets – are exhausted.

“I know that it can be very difficult to make those payments, especially when you’re under- or unemployed or are otherwise experiencing a financial hardship,” said Prosecutor Walsh. “That’s why we’re once again hosting Child Support Solutions, a two-day amnesty event for parents with active child support cases within the Summit County CSEA.”

At Child Support Solutions, parents can meet one-on-one with CSEA caseworkers to discuss payment options, receive free genetic paternity testing, reinstate their driver’s licenses, sign up for employment services through The Job Center, register for parenting classes and even resolve outstanding child support-related warrants. Partner organizations offering their services at this event include the Summit County Sheriff’s Office, the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles, the Summit County Executive’s Office, the Summit County Fiscal Office, the Department of Veterans Affairs, Fathers & Sons of Northeast Ohio, Man 2 Man, the Summit County Clerk of Courts, the Summit County Court of Common Pleas, Summit County Domestic Relations Court, The Job Center and Fame Fathers. Child Support Solutions is 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Friday, August 16 and Saturday, August 17 at The Job Center at 1040 East Tallmadge Avenue in Akron.

**About CSEA**

The Summit County Child Support Enforcement Agency collects nearly \$84 million annually and handles more than 51,000 child support cases. Each year it establishes support orders for approximately 4,000 children. Since its inception in 2001, the Criminal Non-Support program has collected more than \$30 million through its aggressive prosecution of individuals neglecting to pay child support. You can learn more about CSEA on its website: <http://co.summitoh.net/prosecutor/index.php/divisions/child-support-enforcement>.