

A Guide to
Child Support
and
How Probate and
Family Courts
Handle Cases
Involving Child Support

Produced By
Community Legal Services And Counseling Center

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You Have the Right to Financial Support For Your Children

Massachusetts law says that children are entitled to the financial support of both of their parents and that both parents have an obligation to support their children.

When you raise your children by yourself or live apart from your children's other parent, financial support from the other parent can be extremely important to maintain their health and well-being and ensure that they have proper shelter, food, clothing, and other basic necessities.

If your children's other parent refuses or fails to provide adequate financial support for the children, you have the right to go to court to get a child support order that requires the other parent to pay child support.

You have the right to have child support paid on a regular basis.

The purchase of things for the child by the other parent does not count as "child support."

You can get a child support order in the Probate and Family Court (the "Probate Court"). In the District Court you can get a child support order as part of a Chapter 209A abuse prevention ("restraining order") case.

What are the differences between probate courts and other courts in handling child support cases?

Probate courts handle a broad range of family law issues and are better equipped to make child support orders than other courts.

Although district courts can make child support orders, probate courts are better equipped to do so because they have personnel and appropriate court forms for these cases.

District, superior and probate courts all handle Chapter 209A restraining orders, and each of those courts can include a support order in the restraining order.

What does the Probate Court do and how does it handle cases involving child support?

Probate courts handle many types of family law cases and issues, including child support. They have far-reaching powers in family law cases. They handle family law and child support cases that do not involve domestic violence and those that do.

Probate courts handle divorce, paternity, custody, visitation, and child support cases, as well as abuse cases and many other types of cases involving families and children.

Probate Courts deal with support, custody, and visitation in cases involving both married parents and unmarried parents.

Probate courts have extensive powers. In addition to ordering child support they can:

- ◆ issue abuse prevention, support, and custody/visitation orders that overrule or change orders issued by other courts under Chapter 209A.
- ◆ grant divorces.
- ◆ order a parent to provide health insurance.
- ◆ make custody orders. The Probate Court has the power to enter shared custody orders, sole custody orders, and orders that provide for legal as well as physical custody.
- ◆ set up and make orders for visitation.
- ◆ divide marital property.
- ◆ order one spouse to support the other spouse (called “alimony” or “spousal support”).
- ◆ make orders to prevent a spouse from removing, hiding, spending, or using up marital property and assets.
- ◆ make orders attaching or “freezing” bank accounts or other assets to insure the payment of child support.

It is important to remember that probate courts use their powers impartially. They can use the powers described above to help either party in a case so long as that party shows that he or she has the legal right to receive that help.

Basic Rules For Determining Child Support

How do courts determine the amount of child support to order?

The courts use the “Child Support Guidelines” to figure the amount of child support. These guidelines use a formula to calculate the amount of child support. The formula takes into consideration the “gross” (total before taxes are taken out) weekly income of the person who will be paying child support as well as the number of children, the children’s ages, and the cost of health insurance. The person who pays child support is called the obligor. The Child Support Guidelines Worksheet that is used to figure the amount of child support is on page 21 of this booklet.

The amount of child support that an obligor must pay is based on a certain percentage of his or her gross weekly income. These percentages are on the Child Support Guidelines Obligation Schedule on page 20. (Note: After considering all the circumstances, a court can increase or decrease the amount of child support by as much as 2%.)

The court also takes into account the earnings of the parent who has the child living with him or her if that parent’s income is greater than \$20,000. The worksheet shows how this is done.

All support orders must require that support be deducted from the obligor's wages by his or her employer and sent through the Department of Revenue to the receiving parent (called the obligee), unless the obligee receives welfare.

An order that requires the employer to take the child support from the wages is called an income assignment or wage assignment.

If you receive welfare, then the child support collected by the DOR goes to the state, except for \$50 each month, which goes to you.

What if the other parent says he or she can't pay child support because he or she already has other children to support?

If the other parent already pays child support for children other than yours, that is not an excuse for not supporting your children. However, if there are prior orders requiring the other parent to pay support, and they are actually being paid by the other parent, the court deducts those payments from the other parent's gross income before applying the child support formula. The place for including this deduction is on the Child Support Guidelines Worksheet.

What happens if the obligor is not working?

If the court decides that a person is either purposely unemployed or underemployed, the judge can order that person to pay child support based on his or her potential earning capacity rather than actual earnings.

The child support guidelines say that the court may consider potential earning capacity if it decides that either parent is earning substantially less than he or she could through reasonable effort. When determining potential earning capacity the court takes education, training, and employment history into consideration. The court considers potential earning capacity when it decides that the parent is capable of working and is unemployed, working part-time or is working a job, trade, or profession other than the one for which he or she was trained.

The court can order an obligor who is unemployed or underemployed to do a job search, which means the obligor must check in with the family service office every week to report on job search progress, until the obligor gets a job.

While these rules apply both to parents who have children living with them and parents who do not, they do not apply to parents with children under six living in the home.

Unemployment compensation, disability benefits, and worker's compensation all count as income.

Child Support And Health Insurance

What kind of order can the court make for obtaining or maintaining health coverage or paying for uninsured medical expenses for my children?

If the obligor has health insurance or other health coverage on a group plan available through an employer or organization or can get health insurance at a reasonable cost that may be extended to cover your children, the court must order him or her to provide coverage for the children.

If the health coverage is to be provided by the obligor, the support order is reduced by $\frac{1}{2}$ the cost of the family coverage. But if the obligor already has health insurance coverage which can be amended to add the children at no additional cost, then there is no reduction of the support order.

If you are providing the health insurance coverage for the children, the child support guidelines require that your child support be increased by $\frac{1}{2}$ the weekly cost to you of providing that coverage. But if you already have health insurance coverage which can be amended to add the children at no additional cost, then there is no increase.

The parent who has custody of the children is responsible for the first \$100 per child per year of routine uninsured medical and dental expenses.

The Court can order the other parent to pay all or part of the routine uninsured medical and dental expenses beyond the first \$100 per child per year as well as extraordinary medical expenses such as orthodonture or psychological counseling.

Common Questions And Answers About The Right To Receive Child Support

Can I receive child support even if I am not married to the other parent?

Yes. The only difference is the kind of case you would file in court to ask for child support. If you are married to the child's parent, you could file a complaint for divorce or a complaint for support. If you are not married to the child's parent, you could file a complaint to establish paternity or a complaint for support under Chapter 209C. Probate courts have printed forms for each of these kinds of complaints. You can find the forms on court websites, such as www.mcpfc.com (Middlesex Probate Court) and www.probatecourtionella.com (Suffolk Probate Court).

Can I get a child support order for children over 18?

Yes. The court can make orders for support, maintenance, and education for children between 18 and 21, if they live with their parent and are mainly dependent on that parent for their maintenance. The court can also make these orders for 21 and 22 year olds if they live with their parent and are mainly dependent on that parent for their maintenance and if they are in school, except for school beyond college.

What is the connection between child support and visitation?

As a general rule, there is no connection between paying child support and visitation rights.

Child support is usually determined by applying the Massachusetts Child Support Guidelines. As a general rule, child support payments and visitation rights are not connected. Visitation rights are granted where it is in the best interest of the child for there to be visitation.

Paying child support does not automatically entitle the person paying support to have visitation rights with the child. Failure to pay child support will not automatically stop visitation rights.

Similarly, the parent who visits does not, for that reason alone, pay child support. The parent who does not visit is not relieved of the duty to pay child support.

The duty to pay child support is based on the child support guidelines without referring to visitation.

Common Questions And Answers About Getting Child Support in the Probate Court

What do I need to file in court to get a child support order?

To start the process of getting a child support order you must file a complaint on a printed form provided by the court.

The kinds of complaints you can file include:

If you are married to the other party:

- Complaint for Divorce

If you are married and need child support but do not want to seek a divorce, then one of the two other marital action complaints may be suitable:

- Complaint for Separate Support
- Complaint for Support, General Laws, chapter 209, section 32F

If you are not married to the other parent, then to get a child support order you would need to file one of the complaints used when the parties are not married to each other:

- Complaint to Establish Paternity, General Laws, chapter 209C

- Complaint for Support, Custody, Visitation pursuant to General Laws, chapter 209C

You can also request child support on a Chapter 209A Abuse Prevention Complaint.

You will also need to file a financial statement, an official court form that is extremely important and serious. On your financial statement you put your income, expenses, assets, bank accounts and debts. Because you sign the financial statement under penalties of perjury, you can be punished by the court for making false statements on the statement. You will need to file a financial statement at each hearing when you ask for support.

You must also arrange to have the complaint and summons served by a deputy sheriff or constable; fill out, file, and serve a written Motion for a Temporary Support Order; and schedule a hearing where you present the Motion to the court.

Are there court costs involved in getting a child support order, and what if I cannot afford them?

The complaint for Divorce and the Complaint for Separate Support (see page 11) have filing fees; the other complaints do not. There is a fee to be paid to a deputy sheriff or other officials for serving complaints, summons and other court papers. If you receive public assistance or if your income is very low, you may be eligible to have the filing fees waived and to have the state pay the cost of serving the papers. In order

to do so, you fill out a form called an Affidavit of Indigency and have it approved by the appropriate court personnel, usually an assistant register of probate.

If I file for divorce, do I have to wait until I get my divorce for the court to order child support?

No. If you have filed a divorce case, you can file a Motion for a Temporary Support Order and have a hearing where the court makes a temporary order of support for your children or you. The temporary order remains in effect until changed by the court or until the divorce case is heard by the court.

What is the Family Service Office and what does it have to do with child support?

- How did my child support case end up at the Family Service Office (FSO)?

When you are at the Probate & Family Court for a child support hearing, you will usually be sent by the Court to the Family Service Office. Cases are referred to the FSO when court documents show that certain issues are in dispute: custody, visitation, and child support are the most common.

- What will the FSO actually do with my case?

The FSO will conduct what is called “dispute intervention.” This involves the parties meeting with a Family Service Officer

to assess issues and, if possible, coming to an agreement on one or more of the issues before the court. In the dispute intervention process the Family Service Officer gathers information about the case from the parties or their attorneys and evaluates and assists parties in negotiating and writing up full or partial agreements. The Family Service Officer reports information to the judge or makes recommendations, if asked by the judge.

In child support cases the FSO will review the financial statements and other financial information such as paystubs, do the child support guidelines calculations, and write up agreements.

If the person who is supposed to pay child support has abused you, see the section about the FSO on page 19 of this booklet.

- In general, what does the FSO do?

- ◆ The FSO helps identify what problems or disagreements are before the court.
- ◆ The judge may order the FSO to gather facts about the case and report them to the court.
- ◆ The judge may ask the FSO for recommendations.
- ◆ The FSO calculates how much child support should be paid using the Child Support Guidelines.
- ◆ The FSO evaluates whether the parties can come to a full or partial agreement.
- ◆ The FSO, where possible, helps you come to an agreement

and write up an agreement covering issues on which the parties can agree.

- ◆ The FSO does long term investigations and reports in writing to the court.

Can the Probate Court do anything to keep the other party from hiding assets?

Yes. Effective January 1, 2000 a new rule went into effect which provides that in divorce and separate support cases both parties are automatically restrained, by court order, from selling, concealing, or transferring real estate or personal property. Personal property includes financial assets such as bank accounts. This is a court rule, Rule 411.

Can probate courts freeze the assets of the other party and make these assets available for the support of the children?

Yes. The Probate Court has the power to attach or freeze bank accounts and other financial assets and make them available for child support. However, the court is not able to attach assets unless you know where they are located, for example in what bank. The procedure is complicated.

How are child support payments collected?

The law requires that child support payments be made to the Department of Revenue (DOR) Child Support Enforcement Division. The DOR then sends the child support to you. The

law also requires that child support be paid by the obligor's employer from the obligor's paycheck. This is called income assignment. When you get a child support order at the Probate Court, you fill out and turn in a DOR Child Support Enforcement Services Application Form to the DOR office at the court.

What can I do if I get a child support order and the other parent disobeys the order by not paying?

You can file a Complaint for Contempt, which is a legal case that asks the court to force the disobedient person to obey a court order, such as a child support order, by holding him or her in "contempt of court." The summons that the court issues in a contempt case requires the person alleged to be in violation of an order to appear in court at a particular time and show the court why he or she should not be held in contempt of court.

The court can force a person whom it has held in contempt of court to obey the order by ordering him or her pay the child support that has gone unpaid (either all at once or in regular installments), by ordering him or her to participate in court-monitored job search (if he or she claims to have been unable to pay the child support because of being unemployed), or by ordering the person to be put in jail.

There is a court form for the Complaint for Contempt.

Common Questions And Answers About Child Support When There Has Been Domestic Violence

Can I receive child support if I am staying in a shelter for battered women?

Yes. However, you will need to talk to the staff at your shelter to see if their safety policies permit you to receive child support checks at the shelter's post office box, or whether you need to set up your own post office box or arrange to have the child support sent to a third person. Safety planning is important in choosing how you arrange to receive child support.

How can I file for child support if I don't feel safe disclosing my address on court papers?

There are court procedures for having your address "impounded," which means that the address is kept secret by the court. The procedure for impounding your address in a Chapter 209A restraining order case is very straightforward and involves checking off a box on the petition. In other kinds of cases, you must file a "Motion to Impound Address."

How does the other parent send me child support if I am staying in a shelter for battered women or if my address has been kept secret in court proceedings?

The law requires that child support payments be made payable to the DOR Child Support Enforcement Division. The DOR then sends the child support to you. Do not forget, the law also requires that child support be paid by the obligor's employer, so in most cases the child support is sent by the obligor's employer to the DOR and then to you, or to the Department of Transitional Assistance if you are on welfare.

Will the DOR keep my address secret?

The information collected by the DOR is not public information. If disclosure of your personal information would place you or your family at risk of physical or emotional harm, the DOR will take additional steps to safeguard your information. You can request that additional safeguards be taken to protect your personal information when you fill out the DOR Child Support Application Form, Section 6: Information Safeguards For Those At Risk of Harm.

If I want my Chapter 209A Restraining Order to include a child support order, what must I do?

You must check the box on the complaint that asks for child support and you must ask the judge to have your order say that child support will be decided at the next hearing.

If I go to court to get a child support order, can the abuser use the court hearing to ask the court for custody or visitation rights?

Yes, but it is important to remember that each party must follow the court rules. The rules require each party to give the other proper notice of what issues the court will be dealing with, whether it is child support, custody, or visitation. The rules require that the other party receive written notice of the hearing at least 7 days before the hearing. If the notice is being mailed, it must be mailed at least 10 days before the hearing. If the other party does not send you proper written notice of the request for visitation or custody, the court will not hear the request that day and you do not have to discuss it or talk about it that day .

If I go to court and am sent to the FSO, described on page 13 of this booklet, will I have to meet face-to-face with my abuser?

No. You will not be required to meet with the Family Service Officer and the abusive person at the same time. The Family Service Office rules say that trying to negotiate an agreement may be inappropriate where there are power differences or the presence of intimidation. If you have a restraining order, be sure to tell the FSO.

Child Support Guidelines Obligation Schedule

Child Support Obligation Schedule

A. Basic Order

The basic child support obligation, based upon the income of the non-custodial parent is as follows:

Gross Weekly Income	Number of Children		
	1	2	3
\$0- \$100	Discretion of the court, but no less than \$80.00 per month		
\$101-\$280	21%	24%	27%
\$281 - \$750	\$59 +23% (% refers to all dollars over \$280)	\$67+28%	\$76+31%
\$751 - max.	\$167+25% (% refers to all dollars over \$750)	\$199+30%	\$222+33%

For children in excess of 3 covered by the order, the support shall be no less than that for 3 children; should a judge order support at the 3 child level, written findings shall describe the circumstances of the particular case which warrant the minimum order. Within the discretion of the court, and in consideration of the totality of the circumstances of the parties, the Basic Order may be either increased or decreased by 2%. An adjustment of 2% shall not be considered a deviation.

B. Age Differential

The above orders are to be increased to reflect the costs of raising older children. The following is intended to be applied to the age of the oldest child in the household for whom support is sought under the pending action.

Age of Oldest Child	Percentage Increase Basic Order Applies
0 -12	
13 - 18	Basic Order + 10% of Basic Order
Over 18	If statute permits, at discretion of the Court

C. Custodial Parent Income Adjustment

Where the custodial parent works and earns income in excess of \$20,000 after consideration of child care expenses, the support order is to be reduced by the percentage that the excess represents in relation to the combined incomes of both parents minus the custodial parent's disregard.

Child Support Guidelines Worksheet

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

The Trial Court

_____ Division Probate and Family Court Department Docket No. _____

vs.

Worksheet

Child Support Guidelines

Worksheet Completed by _____ (Fill In Date Completed) _____ All provisions of the guidelines should be reviewed prior to the completion of the worksheet. These guidelines will apply (absent a prior agreement acceptable to both parties) in cases where combined gross income of both parties does not exceed \$135,000 and where the income of the non-custodial parent does not exceed \$100,000. Worksheets shall be completed for all cases.

1. Basic Order

- a) Non-custodial gross weekly income (less prior support orders actually paid, for child/family other than the family seeking this order) \$ _____
- b) Basic order (from chart) (A) \$ _____

2. Adjustment for Age of Children

- a) If age of oldest child is 13-18, calculate 10% times (A) (2a) _____
- b) Adjusted order (A) + (2a) (B) \$ _____

3. Custodial Parent Income Adjustment

- a) Custodial parent gross income (annual) \$ _____
- b) Less \$20,000.00 -20,000.00
- c) Less child care cost (annual) \$ - _____
- d) Custodial adjusted gross (3d) \$ _____
- e) Non-custodial gross (annual) (3e) \$ _____
- f) Total available gross (3d) + (3e) (3f) \$ _____
- g) Line (3d) _____ Line (3f) _____
- h) (3d) divided by (3f) _____ %
- i) Adjustment for custodial (line 3h%) X (B) (C) \$ _____

4. Calculation of Final Order

- a) Adjusted order, (B) above (B) \$ _____
- b) Less adjustment for income (C) above (C) - _____
- c) Less 50% of weekly cost to obligor of family group health insurance [section G(1)] - _____
- or
- Plus 50% weekly cost of obligee's family group health insurance [section G(1)] + _____
- Weekly Support Order (B) - (C) +/- (4c) \$ _____

Chart for Basic Child Support Orders

(as of July 2002; subject to change by order of the Trial Court)

- To begin, locate the Non-Custodial Parent's Gross Weekly Income.
- Then go across the page from the income to the column for the number of children you have with the Defendant.
- The number in this column is the basic order (A) that you put down on the Child Support Worksheet (page 21).

INCOME	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children
0-100	not less than	18.46	
101	21	24	27
105	22	25	28
110	23	26	29
115	24	28	31
120	25	29	32
125	26	30	34
130	27	31	35
135	28	32	36
140	29	34	38
145	30	35	39
150	32	36	41
155	33	37	42
160	34	38	43
165	35	40	45
170	36	41	46
175	37	42	47
180	38	43	49
185	39	44	50
190	40	46	51
200	41	47	53
205	42	48	54
210	43	49	55
215	44	50	57
220	45	52	58
225	46	53	59
230	47	54	61
235	48	55	62
240	49	56	63
245	50	58	65
250	51	59	66
255	53	60	68
260	54	61	69
265	55	62	70
270	57	65	73
275	58	66	74
280	59	67	76
285	60	68	78

INCOME	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children
290	61	70	79
295	62	71	81
300	64	73	82
305	65	74	84
310	66	75	85
315	67	77	87
320	68	78	88
325	69	80	90
330	71	81	92
335	72	82	93
340	73	84	95
345	74	85	96
350	75	87	98
355	76	88	99
360	77	89	101
365	79	91	102
370	80	92	104
375	81	94	105
380	82	95	107
385	83	96	109
390	84	98	110
395	85	99	112
400	87	101	113
405	88	102	115
410	89	103	116
415	90	105	118
420	91	106	119
425	92	108	121
430	94	109	123
435	95	110	124
440	96	112	126
445	97	113	127
450	98	115	129
455	99	116	130
460	100	117	132
465	102	119	133
470	103	120	135
475	104	122	136
480	105	123	138
485	106	124	140
490	107	126	141
495	108	127	143
500	110	129	144
505	111	130	146
510	112	131	147
515	113	133	149
520	114	134	150
525	115	136	152
530	117	137	154
535	118	138	155

INCOME	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children
540	119	140	157
545	120	141	158
550	121	143	160
555	122	144	161
560	123	145	163
565	125	147	164
570	126	148	166
575	127	150	167
580	128	151	169
585	129	152	171
590	130	154	172
595	131	155	174
600	133	157	175
605	134	158	177
610	135	159	178
615	136	161	180
620	137	162	181
625	138	164	183
630	140	165	185
635	141	166	186
640	142	168	188
645	143	169	189
650	144	171	191
655	145	172	192
660	146	173	194
665	148	175	195
670	149	176	197
675	150	178	198
680	151	179	200
685	152	180	202
690	153	182	203
695	154	183	205
700	156	185	206
705	157	186	208
710	158	187	209
715	159	189	211
720	160	190	212
725	161	192	214
730	163	193	216
735	164	194	217
740	165	196	219
745	166	197	220
750	167	199	222
755	168	201	224
780	170	202	225
785	171	204	227
790	172	205	229
795	178	213	237
800	180	214	239
805	181	216	240
810	182	217	242

INCOME	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children
815	183	219	243
820	185	220	245
825	186	222	247
830	187	223	248
835	188	225	250
840	190	226	252
845	191	228	253
850	192	229	255
855	193	231	257
860	195	232	258
865	196	234	260
870	197	235	262
875	198	237	263
880	200	238	265
885	201	240	267
890	202	241	268
895	203	243	270
900	205	244	272
905	206	246	273
910	207	247	275
915	208	249	276
920	210	250	278
925	211	252	280
930	212	253	281
935	213	255	283
940	215	256	285
945	216	258	286
950	217	259	288
955	218	261	290
960	220	262	291
965	221	264	293
970	222	265	295
975	223	267	296
980	225	268	298
985	226	270	300
990	227	271	301
995	228	273	303
1000	230	274	305
1005	231	276	306
1010	232	277	308
1015	233	279	309
1020	235	280	311
1025	236	282	313
1030	237	283	314
1035	238	285	316
1040	240	286	318
1045	241	288	319
1050	242	289	321

The Complete Basic Child Support Orders Chart, including incomes over \$1,050, is available online at www.masslegalhelp.org

Getting Help

Getting help from the Department of Revenue

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Revenue has a Child Support Enforcement Division that can help you get child support. The DOR can bring actions in court to get child support orders. It has a parent locator service to find absent parents so that they can be ordered to pay child support. It is able to get information about the income and place of employment of the other parent. It is also able to find out where the other parent lives. It can intercept tax refunds for child support. You can call their toll-free number 1-800-332-2733 for information about their services, or go to their child support enforcement website at www.cse.state.ma.us.

The DOR has child support enforcement division staff on duty at each Probate & Family Court.

You can get DOR child support services by filling out a DOR application form which is available at the Probate & Family Court or by calling the toll free number.

Getting help at the Probate Court

The Probate & Family Courts have a volunteer lawyer program called the "Lawyer of the Day." The Lawyer of the Day helps low-income people who don't have lawyers fill out basic court forms.

Is it important to have an attorney in the Probate Court?

Yes. Family law is complicated. Also, it is very hard to deal with cases involving domestic abuse on your own. Although you are not required to have an attorney if you go to Probate Court, it is very important to try to get legal help.

If you go to Probate Court, try to get legal help.

Getting legal assistance and other help

Free Legal Assistance for People with Low Incomes

The following agencies provide free legal assistance in family law cases for low-income people living in the greater Boston area.

Community Legal Services

And Counseling Center 617-661-1010

Cambridge & Somerville Legal Services.....617-603-2700

TDD617-494-1757

Greater Boston Legal Services..... 617-371-1234

TDD 617-371-1228

Helpful Websites

www.masslegalhelp.org (click on Family Law, then on Child Support)

www.masslegalservices.org

www.mcpfc.com (Middlesex Probate and Family Court)

www.probatecourtiannella.com (Suffolk Probate and Family Court)

Reduced Fee Panels for Low Income People

National Lawyers Guild617-227-7008

Boston Bar Association617-742-0625

Massachusetts Bar Association617-654-0400

1-800-392-6164

Women's Bar Association617-589-9420

If you still need a referral, call the Legal Advocacy and Resource Center at 617-371-1234 or 1-800-323-3205.

Battered Women's Services for Support, Advocacy and Shelter

Asian Shelter and Advocacy Project617-338-2355

Casa Myrna Vazquez 1-800-992-2600

Elizabeth Stone House617-522-3417

F.I.N.E.X. House617-288-1054

Harbor COVE617-884-9909

Renewal House617-566-6881

Respond617-623-5900

Transition House617-661-7203

REACH.....781-899-8676

1-800-899-4000

Probate & Family Courts for Middlesex, Suffolk, and Norfolk Counties

Middlesex Probate & Family Court617-768-5800

in Cambridge

Suffolk Probate & Family Court617-788-8300

in Boston

Norfolk Probate & Family Court781-830-1200

in Dedham

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