Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles

In re the Marriage/Matter of: PETITIONER: X.	: Case No.: BD : TENTATIVE DECISION : ON THE ISSUE OF CHILD SUPPORT: : (California Rules of Court, Rule 3.1590)
and	: (Catifornia Rates of Court, Rate 5.1390)
RESPONDENT:	

In this document, the Court announces its Tentative Decision. The Tentative Decision will be the Statement of Decision unless within ten (10) days either party files and serves a document that specifies controverted issues or makes proposals not covered in the Tentative Decision as provided by *California Rules of Court*, *Rule 3.1590(c)*. Pending further order or entry of Judgment, the Tentative Decision constitutes the temporary orders of the Court.

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After considering all the admissible evidence and the arguments of counsel, and good cause appearing, the Court announces its Memorandum of Decision and Statement of Decision:¹

1. General Provisions

1.1. Authority to Order Child Support

This is an order for support as defined by Family Code Sections 150 and 155.² The Court finds authority to order child support in this proceeding as authorized under Sections 3600 and 3650. See: Marriage of Dick (1993) 15 Cal. App. 4th 144, Marriage of Economou (1990) 224 Cal. App. 3d 1466. Under Section 3604, nothing in this order prejudices the rights of the parties with respect to any subsequent order. This proceeding is brought' under the Family Code which confers jurisdiction upon the Court to order child support under Section 4001. As required by Section 4003 and consistent with the readiness of the parties and subject to other proceedings entitled to earlier or greater statutory priority, the Court gave this matter preference in the determination of child support.

1.2. Duration of Order for Child Support

The Court finds that each party has an equal responsibility to support the minor child (Section 3900). As provided by Section 3601, an order for child support shall continue in effect, as to each unmarried child until terminated

¹ As used in this decision, the word party or parents are used interchangeably. All references to gender are intentionally omitted. For ease of reference, the Court uses the word party or parent in lieu of the words "Obligee" or "Obligor" (See Section 3550). Where appropriate the decision identifies the payor and recipient of support by reference to their party designation as either Petitioner or Respondent. The singular minor child includes the plural minor children (Section 10).

² Unless indicated to the contrary, all statutory references are made to the Family Code.

or modified by order of court or termination by operation of law when the minor child has attained the age of 18, or is a full time high school student and is not self supporting, until the child completes the 12th grade or attains the age of 19 years, whichever shall first occur. (*Section 3901*. See *Marriage of Hubner (2001)* 94 Cal. App. 4th 175.)

1.3. Duty to Notify

Under Section 4007, the Court orders that the party receiving child support shall notify the payor in writing within 15 days of any contingency that would cause child support to terminate under this order.

1.4. Retroactive Modification of Support

The Court modifies support under this order consistent with its discretion and under the limitations of Section 3603. To the extent applicable and consistent with the provisions of Section 4009, the Court has considered its authority to make orders for support retroactive. Nothing in this order modifies or terminates any order for amounts accrued before the date of the filing of the notice of motion or order to show cause to modify or terminate under Section 3651(c). Consistent with the provisions of Section 3653(a), this order is made retroactive to the date set forth in the order, and does not violate the provisions of federal law (42 U.S.C. Section 666(a)(9)).

1.5. Reasons for Denying Retroactive Modification of Support To the extent that the Court has denied retroactive modification of support to an earlier date, the Court articulates the good cause justifying the denial of earlier retroactive under Section 3653(b) (See Marriage of Leonard (2004) 119 Cal. App. 4th 546):

1.5.1. X

1.6. Inquiry Into Issues Related to Receipt of Public Assistance
The Court inquired whether the party seeking support is receiving or has an application pending for public assistance. And if so, the Court issued its

order for payment of support through the offices of the Child Support Services Department.

1.7. No Spousal Privilege

Consistent with Section 3551, the Court finds there is no spousal privilege between either party or their respective spouse on matters related to the evidence received by the Court in making its order.

1.8. Tax Returns

The Court considered the parties' state and federal income tax returns. The tax returns were deemed relevant under Section 3552. The Court made provision for the returns to be held as a confidential record of the court and where appropriate the tax returns were removed from the file and returned to the party propounding the return. The Court finds that the disclosure of income information is relevant despite any claim of extraordinarily high income since the Court must make a finding of Guideline Child Support. See Marriage of Hubner, Id. Consistent with the privacy protections of Section 3665, the Court warns the parties against disclosure of the other's tax returns to anyone other than the Court, the party's attorney or advisors in this proceeding.

1.9. Income and Expense Declarations

Consistent with Section 95 and California Rules of Court, Rules 5.118 and 5.128, the Court considered the income and expense declaration forms of the parties in the form adopted by the Judicial Council (FL-150 and attachments). The Court finds that the parties' respective most current income and expense declaration forms are timely as defined by law. To the

³ The phrase "Guideline Child Support" means the amount of child support determined by application of the Statewide Uniform Guideline for Child Support as calculated by applying the formula expressed in *Section 4055*.

extent the Court finds the income and expense declarations of the parties are incomplete and inaccurate, the Court has assessed attorney's fees and sanctions against the offending party under *Section 3667* and under its general authority to award attorney's fees under *Section 2030*, et seq.

- 1.10. Consideration of Property Available to Either Party
 Under Section 4008, the Court considered the appropriateness of awarding support based on all property available to either party.⁴
- 1.11. Failure to Exercise Custodial Access Time

 In fixing Guideline Child Support the Court made a calculation of time share under Section 4055, but the existence or enforcement of child support owed by the payor is not affected by a failure or refusal by the custodial parent to implement any rights as to custody or visitation as mandated by Section 3556.
- 1.12. Severability of Child Support Obligation
 Under Section 3585, the Court finds that the child support provisions of any agreement or order are law-imposed and are made under the power of the Court to order child support.
- 1.13. Order for Family Support
 To the extent that this decision combines an order for child and spousal support as family support, as authorized by Section 3586, the Court finds it has authority to refrain from making a separate order for child support.

⁴ To the extent that either party's income and expense declaration or any attached or separately filed property declaration or schedule of assets and debts included blanks, or the use of words such as unknown, or to be determined, or varies, or "TBD" or other incomplete, vague, unsubstantiated references, the Court considered these omissions on the issue of credibility and where appropriate adversely determined facts against the errant party. See *Evidence Code Sections* 403,412,413,623 and 665.

2.1. In General

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The policy of the State of California provides that parents owe their minor children a duty of support under *Section 4053(a)*. Based on this policy, the Court has authority to order job training placement or vocational rehabilitation for either parent.

2.2. Authority to Order Job Training

Section 3558 authorizes an order for job training, placement, vocational rehabilitation and work programs. The Court can fix the scope of the training and require documentation of participation to assist the Court in determining whether a parent is making a good faith attempt at job training and placement.

2.3. Specific Order

Pursuant to Section 4505, the Court orders DESIGNATE PARTY to provide a written list of at least five different places the parent has applied for employment every two weeks. This disclosure shall include a written list of the places where the parent made an application for employment shall be made in the form of a declaration filed with the court and signed under penalty of perjury. The disclosure may include an attachment which is incorporated by reference into the declaration. The declaration or its attachment shall set forth a description of the job, the name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, or other contact information of the prospective employer, the skill set listed as required for the job, the compensation rate, the travel requirements of the employment and the name of the contact person together with any other relevant information the party learned about the job. The party obligated under this order is expected to broadly construe the obligation of disclosure under this order and shall provide the most specific, accurate and current information available. A

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copy of the declaration shall be served upon the other party by mail or any other procedure authorized by the *Code of Civil Procedure*.

3. Method for Calculating Child Support

3.1. In General

The order for Guideline Child Support is made consistent with the provisions of Section 4050; and this order adheres to the uniform guidelines (Section 4052).

3.2. Software Used to Determine Support

In calculating child support, the Court used the most current version of **DissoMaster** TM which is approved software for the purposes of calculating Guideline Child Support under *Section 3830*.

3.3. Adherence With Legislative Mandate

The parents' first obligation is to support their minor children consistent with their station in life (Section 4053(a)). The duty to support is a mutual duty of both parents (Section 4053(b)) taking into account their actual income and level of responsibility for the minor children (Section 4053(c)) based on their ability to pay (Section 4053(d)) and consistent with the parents' standard of living (Section 4053(f)). In fixing child support, the order takes into account any disparity in standard of living based on incomes (Section 4053(g)). The court considered the responsibility of each party to provide care for the minor children (Section 4053(i)). The Court makes its order recognizing that the Guideline Child Support amount determined by calculation under the uniform formula is presumptively correct (Section 4053(k)). The Court acknowledges that this presumption is a rebuttable presumption affecting the burden of proof by admissible evidence showing the application of the formula would be unjust or inappropriate (Section 4057(b)). To the extent that this order deviates from the uniform formula amount of child support, this Tentative Decision

articulates the basis for and extent of the deviation from the uniform formula amount of child support.

4. Gross Income of the Parties

4.1. In General

Section 4058 provides that the Court shall make findings regarding the gross income of the parties. The **DissoMaster** TM Printout attached to this Memorandum of Decision sets forth the findings of the Court on gross income of the parties.

4.2. Nonrecognition of Home Equity

In setting child support under this order, the Court did not consider the unrealized increased equity of either party in the residence occupied by 'either party. See *Marriage of Henry* (2005) 126 Cal. App. 4th 111. The Court did not add to gross income the fair rental value of either party's residence if there was no mortgage on the property. See *Marriage of Schlafly* (2007) 149 Cal. App. 4th 747 and *Marriage of Williams* (2007) 150 Cal. App. 4th 1221.

4.3. Recurring or Nonrecurring Bonus or Overtime Income

As identified below, the Court considered the issue of whether the Court should add to annual gross income any past bonus or overtime as nonrecurring or likely to be recurring in the future. See: *County of Placer v. Andrade* (1997) 55 Cal. App. 4th 1393. To the extent that a party chooses to work overtime beyond a regular work regimen, the Court did consider this overtime as available income for the purpose of paying child support. See: *Marriage of Scheppers* (2001) 86 Cal. App. 4th 646.

4.4. Imputing Income

The Court exercised its discretion on the issue of imputing income to either party based on the authority of the Court to impute income where a party has left a salaried position to start a new business. See *Marriage of Padilla*

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(1995) 38 Cal. App. 4th 1212. To the extent the Court elected to impute
income to either party the Court articulates the substantial evidence
supporting that decision. See Marriage of Cohn (1998) 65 Cal. App. 4th
923. The Court considered the needs of any minor children in imputing
earning capacity. See Marriage of Hinman (1997) 55 Cal. App. 4th 988;
and whether the custodial parent being employed was in the best interest of
the children. See Marriage of Cheriton (2001) 92 Cal. App. 4th 269. The
Court also considered the ability or opportunity of any unemployed party to
work. See Marriage of Eggers (2005) 131 Cal. App. 4th 695. Where
appropriate and supported by admissible evidence, the Court considered the
availability of employment consistent with a parent's skill and training.
See Marriage of LaBass & Munsee (1997) 56 Cal. App. 4th 269. The
Court allocated the issue of the burden of proof on the question of earning
capacity to the party claiming the existence of an earning capacity exists for
the other. See Marriage of Bardzik (2008)Cal. App. 4th 2008
WL 2854823.

4.5. Add Back of Depreciation

To the extent that either party's income is reduced or adjusted by a deduction for depreciation as an itemized deduction, the Court added the depreciation back into gross income. See Marriage of Asfaw v. Wolderhan (2007) 147 Cal. App. 4th 1407.

- Spousal Support Considered as Income 4.6. Spousal support received by the noncustodial parent from the custodial parent was not added to income for the calculation of child support. See: Marriage of Corman (1997) 59 Cal. App. 4th 1492.
- Life Insurance Proceeds & Inheritances 4.7. The Court did not consider the proceeds from life insurance. The Court did consider any investment income received therefrom. See Marriage of

Scheppers, Id. The Court did not consider the corpus of any inheritance as income. See County of Kern v. Castle (1999) 75 Cal. App. 4th 514.

4.8. Imputing a Rate of Return

In the absence of competent admissible evidence of an actual rate of return derived from the ownership of capital assets including but not limited to interest, dividends or capital gains income, the court appropriately imputed a reasonable rate of return to either party's non-income-producing assets. See *Marriage of Destein* (2001) 91 Cal. App. 4th 1385. To the extent either party has substantial capital assets (other than the equity in the residence occupied by that party), the Court has considered the imputation of a fair return on that capital as permitted by *Marriage of de Guigne* (2002) 97 Cal. App. 4th 1353. The Court is not bound by the actual rate of return realized by an under performing investment portfolio, but has discretion to impute a reasonable rate of return *Marriage of Schlafly* (2007) 149 Cal. App. 4th 747.

4.9. Lump Sum Personal Injury Award, Payments or Income From Personal Injury Proceeds Annuity

If either party holds an undifferentiated lump sum personal injury award, the Court exercised its discretion in considering all or some portion of those funds as available for the purposes of paying child support. See *Marriage* of Heiner (2006) 136 Cal. App. 4th 1514. Further, payments from an annuity purchased as part of an undifferentiated and unallocated personal injury settlement is not income for the purposes of calculating child support. Marriage of Rothrock (2008)159 Cal. App. 4th 223.

4.10. Capital Assets

If a party has a demonstrated history of invading capital assets and using the proceeds to maintain their standard of living (*Marriage of de Guigne*, *Id.* and *Marriage of Destein*, *Id.*), the Court has considered this pattern of

invading capital assets for living expenses in fixing child support. Where a party holds assets from the sale of a business or other assets, such as unsold stock, the Court has not considered those assets (beyond imputation of a reasonable rate of return) in fixing support. See *Marriage of Pearlstein* (2006) 137 Cal. App. 4th 1361.

4.11. Tax Returns

Where appropriate, the Court considered the tax returns of each party including their individual return or the partnership or corporate return of any entity from which they derive income or benefits; and the Court applied the presumption that the returns are correct under *Marriage of Loh* (2001) 93 Cal. App. 4th 325.

4.12. Loan Applications & Financial Statements

To the extent the Court received evidence from a party's loan application or financial statements, the Court weighed this evidence in fixing support. See *Marriage of Chakko* (2004) 115 Cal. App. 4th 104. Case law supports consideration of any statement made by a party, especially if made under penalty of perjury, as competent and admissible on issues related to the calculation of child support. See *Marriage of Calcaterra and Badakhsh* (2005) 132 Cal. App. 4th 28.

4.13. Perquisite Income

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Taking into consideration that the Court shall consider income from all sources, the Court considered as income any perquisite received by the party. See *Stewart v. Gomez* (1996) 47 Cal. App. 4th 1748. As for the issue of tax impacting any perquisite income, the Court duly exercised its discretion by weighing the evidence and applying the holdings of *Marriage of Schulze* (1997) 60 Cal. App. 4th 519 and holdings in *Marriage of Loh*, *Id., Marriage of Chakko, Id.* and *Marriage of Calcaterra and Badakhsh*, *Id.* Where appropriate the Court followed the better reasoned case as

applied to the facts and circumstances surrounding this order. See *Auto*Equity Sales, Inc. v. Superior Court of Santa Clara (1962) 57 Cal. 2d 450.⁵

5. Adjustments of Award for Support Based on Seasonal or Fluctuating Income

5.1. In General

Under Section 4064, the Court may adjust child support orders as appropriate to accommodate seasonal or fluctuating income. Under Marriage of Riddle (2005) 125 Cal. App. 4th 1075, the period selected for determining the seasonal or fluctuating nature of the income must be a fair and representative sample. The Court did not award support based on a future percentage of either parties' income since such a calculation would require an analysis of both parties' income, not just a floating percentage of one party's future income. See Marriage of Hall (2000) 81 Cal. App. 4th 313.

5.2. Determination on Issue of Seasonal or Fluctuating Nature of Income

Having considered the income and expense declarations of the parties and
the relevant admissible evidence on the issue of what constitutes a fair and

⁵ The Court concludes it has discretion to consider as non-taxable any benefit derived by a parent from the payment of expenses by a business enterprise substantially under the control of that parent, such as where a party's earned income is paid as salary from an entity predominately controlled by that party, such as a Sub-S Corporation or C-Corporation where the party signs the Form 1120 Return and his or her own 1040, or a sole proprietorship entity where a party controls the payment of expenses and deduction as business expenses on a Schedule C attached to his or her 1040, or a partnership return (including an LLC or LLP) where custom and habit demonstrate that the party enjoys perquisites that are deducted as business expenses (legitimate or not) and the party has no tax load on the benefit received. In these settings and based on the evidence presented, the Court has exercised its discretion as set forth below by characterizing this perquisite income as non-taxable. And if appropriate, the Court has characterized it as taxable.

representative sample (*Riddle, Id.*) for the purpose of calculating gross income in fixing Guideline Child Support, the Court makes the following findings:

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6. Rulings on Contested Issues Regarding Gross Income

On the contested issues of the gross income of either party and consistent with the principles enunciated above, the Court makes the following findings:

X

7. Calculating Net Disposable Income

7.1. In General

The DissoMaster ™ Printouts attached to this Memorandum of Decision establish the Court's findings and conclusions in arriving at the annual net disposable income of the parties taking into account the income and expense declarations of the parties and the admissible evidence at the time of hearing.

7.2. Specific Findings

As part of its Statement of Decision under Section 3654, and as required by Section 4005, the Court makes appropriate findings with respect to the following specific elements of the Court's decision:

7.2.1. X

8. Earning Capacity of the Parties

Section 4058(b) vests the Court with discretion to consider the parties' earning capacity consistent with the best interest of the minor children. On the contested issue of earning capacity the Court makes the following findings:

8.1. X

9. New Mate or Nonmarital Partner Income

9.1. In General

Section 4057.5 precludes consideration of a party's new mate or nonmarital partner income in setting support. Case law requires that the Court consider the tax impact of the new mate income upon the net disposable income of the party whose income is affected. (Marriage of Carlsen (1996) 50 Cal. App. 4th 212; and the DissoMasterTM Printout filed herein reflects the findings on new mate income and the application of it in fixing child support.

9.2. Exceptional Cases

Under Section 4057.5 (b), where the Court finds the facts justify a finding of an extraordinary case, the Court may consider whether a parent has voluntarily or intentionally quit work or reduced income because of reliance on a subsequent spouse's income. The Court must allow a hardship deduction for the needs of one or more stepchildren (Section 4057(d)). On the contested issue of whether this case constitutes an extraordinary case warranting the consideration of new mate or partner income, the Court makes the following findings:

9.2.1. X

10. Finding of Financial Hardship

10.1. In General

Section 4070 permits the Court to adjust child support through the DissoMaster ™ software by accepting certain hardship deductions according to relevant admissible evidence establishing the hardship under Section 4071. The DissoMaster ™ Printout attached to this order reflects the Court's findings on the issue of financial hardship which are described here.

- 10.2. Extraordinary Health Expenses Under Section 4071(a)(1)- The Court finds:10.2.1. X
- 10.3. Uninsured Catastrophic Losses Under Section 4071(a)(1)- The Court finds:

10.3.1. X

10.4. Minimum Basic Living Expenses of Natural or Adopted Child Section 4071(a)(2)- The Court finds:

10.4.1. X

- 10.5. The Court finds the amount of allowed hardship does not exceed the amount of support ordered under this order on a per child basis as required under Section 4071(b).
- 10.6. The Court considered the amount of hardship deduction determined under the DissoMaster ™ Program, taking into account the Judicial Council Tables for calculating hardship deductions under Section 4071(c) and the Court made the following further adjustments:

10.6.1. X

11. Statement of Reasons & Duration of Hardship Deduction

11.1. In General

Section 4072 requires the Court to state the reasons supporting the hardship deduction. The Court shall document the amount of the deduction and the underlying facts and circumstances. If possible, the Court shall specify the duration for the hardship deduction; and the Court recognizes that express evidentiary findings are required under In Re Marriage of Carlsen (Id.). Under Section 4073, the Court is guided by the goals of the Family Code in allowing or disallowing a hardship deduction. Further, the Court's order regarding hardship deductions also applies to any order for family support under Section 4074.

11.2. Specific Statement of Findings

In compliance with Section 4072 and Carlsen, Id., the Court makes the following findings:

11.2.1. X

12. Rebuttals to Guideline Child Support

12.1.	Consideration of An Award of Support
	In compliance with the provisions of Section 4056, the Court has stated the
	amount of Guideline Findings for support.

12.2. Reasons for Award of Other Than Guideline Amount

Where the Court deviates from the Guideline Child Support amount, the

Court is obligated to state the reasons for deviating from guideline. And
the statement of reasons must be given regardless of whether either party
requests it. See Marriage of Gigliotti (1995) 33 Cal. App. 4th 518 and
Rojas v. Mitchell (1996) 50 Cal. App. 4th 1445. Consistent with the
requirements of Section 4056(a) (2), the Court articulates the reasons for
deviating from the Child Support Guideline amount:

12.2.1. X

12.3. Other Than A Guideline Amount of Support Meets Child's Best Interests As required by Section 4056(a) (3), the Court articulates the reason the amount of support ordered is consistent with the best interests of the children:

12.3.1. X

- 12.4. Considerations in Rebutting Guideline Amount of Child Support
 - 12.4.1. In General

 Upon proof by a preponderance of evidence the Court can deviate from Guideline Child Support.
 - 12.4.2. An order for deferred sale of the family residence under Section 3800, et seq. is made (Section 4057(b)(2)).
 - 12.4.3. Extraordinary high income and the formula amount exceeds the needs of the children (Section 4057(b)(3)).
 - 12.4.4. Application of the Guideline would be unjust different time share arrangements for different children (Section 4057(b)(5)(A)) because of equal time share and disproportionate incomes (Section 4057(b)(5)(B)) or special

medical or other needs that justify a higher than guideline amount of support (Section 4057(b)(5)(C)).

13. Order for Guideline Child Support

13.1. Payment Amounts & Effective Dates

Child support under this order is payable until terminated or modified by operation of law as set forth. Child support shall be payable semi monthly, one half payable on the 1st day of each month and one half payable on the 15th day of each month on the commencement date set forth herein. Upon proper application, a Wage Assignment shall issue.

13.2. DissoMaster™ Printouts

The DissoMaster TM Printouts attached to this Memorandum of Decision are intended to comply with the provisions of Section 4056(b) regarding the matters set forth on the Printouts.⁶

13.3. Amount of Order & Effective Dates:

- 13.3.1. Pursuant to **DissoMaster ™** Printout 1 attached hereto, child support is ordered as follows:
- 13.3.2. Other **DissoMaster** ™ PrintoutsThe Court attaches the following additional **DissoMaster** ™

13.3.2.1. DissoMaster ™ Printout 2- x

Printouts and explains the rationale supporting each:

13.4. Payment of Arrearage Amounts

Based on the effective date for payments, there is now due and owing an arrearage amount of support of \$ FILL IN AMOUNT.

⁶ In the calculation of time share between the parents, the Court applied the concept of custodial care, supervision and responsibility for the child. See *Marriage of Katzberg* (2001) 88 Cal. App. 4th 974 and *DaSilva v. DaSilva* (2004) 199 Cal. App.4th 1030.

13.4.1.	The total arrearage amount shall be paid in four equal
	installments commencing on FILL IN DATE. If any
	arrearage installment is more than 10 days late, the entire
	arrearage amount shall accelerate and become all due and
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13.4.2. Other Court Determined Method For Payment of Arrearage-

14. Additional Forms of Child Support in General

Section 4061 establishes the method for apportionment of additional forms of child support. Section 4062 creates two forms of additional child support (hereinafter add on child support) the categories are divided between those which must be considered and those which may be considered by the Court. The Court has no authority to create additional add on child support categories. See Marriage of de Guigne, supra.

15. Mandatory Additional Support

- 15.1. Child Care under Section 4062(a)(1)- the Court has considered and allocated the child care expenses under Section 4061; and the DissoMaster

 TM Printouts identify the amounts considered and the allocations made.
- 15.2. Uninsured Medical Expenses under Section 4062(a)(1)- the Court has allocated these expenses in the Section below entitled Health Insurance.

16. Discretionary Additional Child Support

The Court possesses no discretion to create new forms of mandatory or discretionary add on child support under Section 4062. Section 4062(b) articulates only two categories of discretionary add on child support.

16.1. Costs Related to the Educational or Other Special Needs of Children- Section 4062(b)(1)

On the contested issue of consideration of educational or special needs expenses, the Court makes the following findings and order:

16.2.	Travel Expenses for Visitation- Section 4062(b)(2)
	On the contested issue of consideration of travel expenses for visitation, the
	Court makes the following findings and order:

16.3. Other Forms of Discretionary Add-on Child Support

Courts have no discretion to create new forms of special need child support add ons (*DeGuine*, *supra*.) but Court's may fairly construe various types of special need child support add ons such as sports, dance, and other activities under *Marriage of Schlafly*, *supra*.

- 16.4. X
- 16.5. X

17. Order to Maintain Health Insurance

17.1. In General

Consistent with Section 3750, health insurance includes all coverage for health, vision or dental care provided for the benefit of dependent children. As required by Section 4006, the Court considered the availability of health insurance coverage for the minor child.

17.2. Order to Maintain Existing Coverage

As provided by Section 3751(a), to the extent that health insurance is now available to either party at no cost or reasonable cost, that parent shall maintain the coverage (hereinafter generally referred to as "coverage" or "the plan").

17.3. Order to Obtain Future Coverage

As permitted by Section 3751(b), if health insurance coverage becomes available to either party at no or reasonable cost, the Court orders that the party eligible for no cost or reasonable cost insurance to obtain the insurance and notify the other party; if support is assigned for collection to the Child Support Services Department (Department) (Section 3752), then the Department shall be given notice of the existence of the coverage.

Under Section 3752.5, the Court orders each party to notify the other of any
changes in the health insurance policy information. If coverage is available
or ordered, then the party who has the insurance shall provide the other

parent with all relevant information, including but not limited to insurance cards, policy information, coverage limitations, approved provider lists or

any other information available to the party under the plan.

17.4. Continuing Obligation to Provide Information

17.5. Designation of Party Responsible to Maintain Health Insurance
Under this order, the Court orders **DESIGNATE PARTY** to maintain
health insurance for the minor child. Under *Section 3766*, the minor child
shall be enrolled under the plan within 30 days.

17.6. Health Insurance Assignment Order

Upon proper presentation and consistent with Section 3761, the Court will issue a health insurance assignment order.

18. Uninsured Medical Expenses

18.1. In General

Under Section 4062(a)(2), the Court is obligated to establish an allocation for the uninsured medical expenses of the minor child that is consistent with Section 4063. There is a rebuttable presumption that the costs actually paid for health care needs of the minor child are reasonable under Section 4063(e).

18.2. Uninsured Medical Expenses- *Default is for Equal Share*The parties shall each pay one half (1/2) of any uninsured medical, dental, vision, psychiatric or psychological expenses, prescriptions, co-payments, deductible, or any other medical expense of the minor child.

18.3. Resort to Approved Providers

Under Section 4063(e)(1), the health insurance coverage provided under this order shall be the coverage utilized at all times consistent with the

coverage.

- 18.4. Under Section 4063(e)(2), if either parent obtains health care insurance coverage in addition to that provided pursuant to this order, that parent shall bear sole financial responsibility for the costs of that additional coverage and the costs of any care or treatment obtained pursuant thereto in excess of the costs that would have been incurred under the health care insurance coverage provided for in this order.
- 18.5. Duty to Pay Uninsured Medical Expenses

 Each party shall pay one half of the reasonable uninsured medical expenses
 of the minor child, including any payment reimbursing the other party,
 within 30 days of presentation of a demand for payment or reimbursement.
- 18.6. Obligation of Party Seeking Reimbursement

 Consistent with Section 4063(b) a party seeking reimbursement shall

 provide the other parent with an itemized statement of the costs for which
 reimbursement are sought within 30 days (Section 4063(b)(1)). If a parent
 is seeking reimbursement directly, then he or she must so inform the other
 parent. If a parent is seeking an order for direct payment to the health care
 provider, then he or she must provide the reimbursing parent with the
 necessary information about how to make direct payment (Section 4063(b)

 (1)).
- 18.7. Obligation of Party Owing Reimbursement
 Reimbursement shall be made to parent entitled to reimbursement or
 payment of the remaining costs directly to the provider shall be made
 within 30 days of notification of the amount due or according to the
 payment schedule established by the health care provider unless the parents
 agree in writing to another payment schedule or the Court has established
 another payment schedule (Section 4063(b)(3)).
- 18.8. Resolution of Disputed or Unpaid Amounts

19.4. Findings on Issue of Attorney's Fees and Costs

The Court makes the following findings on the contested issue of attorney's fees and costs:

19.5. Order for Payment

X

19.4.1.

DESIGNATE PARTY, shall pay the sum of \$ DESIGNATE AMOUNT to DESIGNATE RECIPIENT payable as follows: \$ DESIGNATE AMOUNT payable on DESIGNATE START DATE and on the 10th day of each month thereafter until paid in full. If any one installment is more than ten (10) days late, the entire unpaid balance shall accelerate, become all due and payable and shall bear interest at the legal rate from the date of default.

20. General Provisions

By stipulation of the parties, this document was served upon the parties by facsimile or e-mail as indicated on the transmittal form attached. Based on the Stipulation for method of service, the Court Clerk is relieved of her obligation to serve this document by mail. The Clerk shall file the Memorandum of Decision and Statement of Decision; and it shall be entered on the register of actions. Pending entry of a formal order or judgment, this order is effective when signed by the Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Date: x

X JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT