



CSSD Policy			
Subject:	Long Arm Policy	Number:	2009-6
Approval Date:		Pages:	1 of 3
Approved by:	Benidia A. Rice, Director	Revision	FINAL

- I. **PURPOSE:** To establish support orders and modify support orders with Non-Custodial Parents living outside of the District of Columbia.

- II. **REFERENCES:** D.C. Official Code § 13-337, Personal service outside District in lieu of publication; D.C. Official Code § 13-336, Service by publication on nonresidents, absent defendants, and unknown heirs or devisees; D.C. Official Code § 13-423, Personal jurisdiction based upon conduct; D.C. Official Code § 13-424, Service outside the District of Columbia; D.C. Official Code § 13-431, Manner and proof of service; D.C. Official Code § 13-432, Individuals eligible to make service; D.C. Official Code § 13-433, Individuals to be served; special cases.

- III. **POLICY:**
 - A. Although cases within the CSSD service area in MD and VA are technically established through the exercise of long arm jurisdiction, in most instances the Division considers these cases local cases and where able will be applying procedures and tools to work these cases as local cases. Certified mail will not be used for cases within the service area and civil contempt actions will continue to be filed for cases within the service area.

 - B. CSSD will not be using long-arm jurisdiction in paternity cases which are outside of the service area. Out-of-state cases requiring paternity establishment will be processed via the Interstate Unit.

 - C. Where To File Case:
 - i. When the non-custodial parent lives in the District or in the locate “service area”, file the case in the District as a local case and the NCP will be personally served.
 - ii. When the non-custodial parent lives outside of the District, and the District has long-arm jurisdiction over the non-custodial parent, file a case for new support petitions and for support modifications in the District as a local, long-arm case, **unless:** it is a paternity establishment case or a contempt case.
 - iii. When the non-custodial parent lives outside of the District in a case requiring paternity establishment or to enforce the order

through contempt, forward the case to the Interstate Unit to initiate the case to the jurisdiction in which the NCP resides.

B. When Long-Arm Jurisdiction Can Be Exercised:

- i. A District of Columbia court may exercise personal jurisdiction over a person, who
 - (1) has an interest in, uses, or possesses real property in the District of Columbia;
 - (2) the child was conceived in the District of Columbia and such person is the parent or alleged parent of the child;
 - (3) the child resides in the District of Columbia as a result of the acts, directives, or approval of such person;
 - (4) such person has resided with the child in the District of Columbia; or
 - (5) if there is any basis consistent with the United States Constitution for the exercise of personal jurisdiction.

- ii. When the law of the District of Columbia authorizes service outside the District of Columbia, the service, when reasonably calculated to give actual notice, may be made --
 - (1) by personal delivery or substitute service in the manner prescribed for service within the District of Columbia;
 - (2) in the manner prescribed by the law of the place in which the service is made for service in that place in an action in any of its courts of general jurisdiction;
 - (3) by certified mail; or
 - (4) as directed by the foreign authority in response to a letter rogatory.