MATRIX – ENFORCEMENT AND OTHER TOOLS
September 10, 2009

Tool	Trigger Points/Thresholds Notes	Current status	Applicability (i.e., usage)	Effectiveness	Comments, including how effectiveness could be improved
Administrative offset	Arrears are at least $25 and 30 days delinquent.	Maturing	Limited applicability	Effective	
Amnesty		Open for discussion.	Will have limited applicability?	Unknown	
Arrears registry	Arrears are greater than $2,000 or two times current or most recent monthly support obligation, whichever is less.	Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	Not a tool, per se. Provides a common starting point for other tools, such as administrative license suspension and child support liens. Plays a role in overall arrears management strategy since it allows for early intervention.
Automatic withdrawal from accounts (Autopay) (Quasi-Autopay)	Upon approval and agreement with the obligor (autopay) or upon request to the court if income withholding is inapplicable, ineffective, or insufficient (quasi-autopay).	Mature	Limited applicability	Effective	Autopay – Used in "good payer" cases. Would like to increase outreach efforts to raise awareness among obligors.
Bonds and securities	Upon request to the court if delinquency exists.	Mature	Limited applicability	Effective	
Bonds (Seizure in criminal cases)	Upon request to the court if delinquency exists.	Mature	Limited applicability	Effective	
Cell phone matches - locate	Preliminary arrangements made for match with Verizon.	Under development.	Will have wide applicability.	Unknown	

Change of payee - administrative	Upon request of new guardian or legal custodian.	Mature	Limited applicability	Effective	Process for implementing on FACSES is cumbersome. Additional FACSES support would help but would likely be a complicated and expensive programming project.
Child support guidelines	Used whenever a child support obligation is being established or modified.	Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	
Child-only medical insurance policies	Universal child-only plan. List of child-only plans.	Infancy	Will have wide applicability.	Unknown	
Credit bureau reporting	Upon delinquency.	Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	
Credit card payment acceptance		Open for discussion.	Not applicable at this time.	Unknown	
Contempt of court	Upon delinquency.	Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	Possibly could be improved by expanding on the traditional sanctions – e.g., look at community service and at ankle bracelets instead of jail time.
Criminal prosecution - federal	Willful failure to pay for longer than one year or an amount greater than $5,000; or travels in interstate commerce with intent to evade support obligation for longer than one year or amount greater than $5,000; or willful failure to pay for longer than two years or an amount greater than $10,000.	Mature	Limited applicability	Marginally effective	Preparing the referral is very time consuming and often futile as very few referrals are accepted for investigation and prosecution. Can take a few years from time of initial referral to sentencing.

Criminal prosecution - state	Willful failure to pay. Amount of unpaid support determines severity of the offense, which ranges from class B misdemeanor to class C felony.	Mature	Limited applicability	Marginally effective	Only a small number of state's attorneys have been willing to move forward with a prosecution (e.g., Burleigh, Morton, and Cass Counties). Process could be improved by additional follow-up by DoCR to see if obligors are meeting the conditions for probation.
Debt compromise/ write-off		Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	
Deduction order	Upon delinquency.	Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	
Demand for surrender of property	Must have first issued a child support lien against an account or other personal property (other than a vehicle or vessel).	Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	
Diversion of outgoing payments		Infancy	Limited applicability	Effective	
Doc-u-net		Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	Has significantly eliminated the need to contact Vital Records in writing to determine if a VPA is on file for a particular child.
Dollar-specific medical support obligations		Infancy	Will have wide applicability.	Unknown	
Domestic Relations Orders (QDROs)	Immediate.	Mature	Limited applicability	Effective	Has been identified by regional IV-D attorneys as an area where they feel they lack experience and expertise, which may partly account for why it is rarely used.

Electronic disbursement of collections	Includes direct deposit into obligee's bank account or onto debit card.	Mature	Wide applicability	Very effective	Reduces undistributed collections that would otherwise have to be held pending address for the obligee; reduces postage and other costs.
Electronic Income Withholding Orders (EIWOs)	Immediate or upon delinquency. Refers to using the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement portal to transfer the income withholding order document electronically. Payments may or may not be received electronically.	Mature	Wide applicability	Very effective	
Employer Electronic Funds Transfer (Employer EFT)	Immediate or upon delinquency. Refers to receiving income withholding collections electronically. Includes web-based EFT for small employers.	Mature	Wide applicability	Very effective	
Federal Case Registry (FCR)		Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	
Federal Parent Locator Service (FPLS)	Address, employer, or assets of obligor are unknown.	Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	
Federal tax intercept	Assigned arrears are at least $150 or unassigned arrears are at least $500.	Mature	Wide applicability	Very effective	
Federal tax returns from IRS		Open for discussion.	Not applicable at this time.	Unknown	Presumably this would require federal legislation.
Financial Institution Data Match (FIDM)		Mature	Wide applicability	Very effective	

Gaming intercepts	Winnings in an amount for which the gaming operator is required to file IRS W-2G form.	Under development.	Will have limited applicability.	Unknown	Because of anticipated implementation issues, legislation has delayed effective date of 7/1/2010.
Garnishment	Upon delinquency.	Mature	Limited applicability	Effective	
Income withholding	Immediate or upon delinquency. See also EIWOs and Employer EFT.	Mature	Wide applicability	Very effective	
Interest on unpaid child support		Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	
Insurance match – Child Support Lien Network (CSLN)	Arrears are at least $500.	Mature	Limited applicability	Effective	
Insurance match – medical	Includes HMS and DMDC.	Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	
Insurance match – North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund (NDIRF)		Infancy	Limited applicability	Effective	
Insurance match – Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE)	Arrears are at least $25.	Mature	Limited applicability	Effective	6 matches in 3 months.
Insurance match – state risk management		Mature	Limited applicability	Effective	1 payment of about $4,000.

Interest suspension/ waiver – good payer	Good payment history for at least nine consecutive months.	Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	Need automated system support to eliminate all the manual monitoring to make sure “good payer” status continues.
Interest suspension/ waiver – uncollectible		Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	
Interfaces with other state agencies	Includes Department of Transportation, Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Game and Fish, Vital Records, and agencies within the Department of Human Services administering the economic assistance programs.	Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	
Job Service North Dakota (JSND) matches	Information consists of quarterly wage data and unemployment compensation data.	Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	
License suspension - administrative	Arrears are greater than $2,000 or two times current or most recent monthly support obligation, whichever is less. Licenses include recreational, drivers, occupational/professional, and motor vehicle registrations.	Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	
License suspension - judicial	Upon order of the court if the obligor owes arrears exceeding three times the monthly child support obligation and is not current in a court-established repayment plan. Licenses include recreational, drivers, and	Mature	Wide applicability	Marginally effective	Tied to contempt of court process so any problems inherent in that process are applicable to judicial license suspension also. Usage is limited and localized (to South Central and Southwest Judicial Districts)

	occupational/professional.				
Liens on personal property	Arrears are greater than $2,000 or two times current or most recent monthly support obligation, whichever is less. Available for vehicles, vessels, accounts, and other personal property.	Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	Need system support to better track placing, enforcing, and removing of liens, as well as to track collections.
Liens on real property	Upon docketing arrears.	Mature	Limited applicability	Effective	
Local locate sources	Includes employers, postal service, telephone and city directories, and internet. Some overlap with SPLS (see below) as regional IV-D workers also have access to those sources.	Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	
Lottery offset	Upon delinquency, if the prize is at least $600.	Mature	Limited applicability	Effective	
Lump sum reporting	Applies when employer has been served with an income withholding order that includes an amount for arrears and is about to make a lump sum payment of at least $1,000 to an employee/obligor.	Mature	Limited applicability	Effective	Despite outreach, some employers are not aware of the lump sum reporting requirement.
National Medical Support Notice (NMSN)	Immediate when appropriate and the obligor is required to carry dependent health insurance that is available through obligor's employer.	Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	

National Directory of New Hires (NDNH)	Information consists of new hires, quarterly wage, and unemployment compensation.	Mature	Wide applicability	Very effective	
Offset of arrears - administrative		Maturing	Limited applicability	Effective	
Other payout intercepts	Through authority to place lien on "other personal property," provided arrears are greater than $2,000 or two times current or most recent monthly support obligation, whichever is less.	Mature	Limited applicability	Effective	
Passport denial	Arrears are at least $2,500.	Mature	Limited applicability	Effective	$104,493 in 2008. Submittal occurs automatically so is virtually hands free for the worker. However, when deleting an obligor from passport denial, follow-up is time consuming.
Payment plans - interest suppression/ waiver		Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	
Payment plans - negotiable		Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	
Parental Responsibility Initiative for the Development of Employment (PRIDE)	Obligor volunteers or is court-ordered to participate.	Mature	Limited applicability	Effective	Will be improved when expanded to remaining three regions (Jamestown, Williston, and Devils Lake).
Probate claims		Mature	Limited applicability	Effective	Matching process is imprecise since it is based on name only. System support, though not essential, is nonexistent. This means, for

					example, that tracking activities and collections is cumbersome.
Public disclosure	Convicted of willful nonpayment, held in contempt of court, or arrears are greater than $10,000.	Mature	Limited applicability	Effective	Could be improved by using the web site to greater advantage.
QUICK (Query Interstate Cases for Kids)	Interstate case handling.	Mature	Limited applicability	Effective	
Review and adjustment/ 36-month intervals		Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	
Review and adjustment/ exceptions to 36-month intervals		Mature	Limited applicability	Effective	
State Directory of New Hires (SDNH)		Mature	Wide applicability	Very effective	
State Parent Locator Service (SPLS)	Address, employer, or assets of obligor are unknown. Includes interfaces with other state agencies, such as Games and Fish, Department of Transportation, JSND, Department of Corrections, and Vital Records.	Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	
State tax intercept	Arrears exceed $25.	Mature	Wide applicability	Very effective	
State tax returns from other states		Open for discussion.	Not applicable at this time.	Unknown	Presumably would require federal legislation.

Tip line		Under development.	Not applicable at this time.	Unknown	
Title searches		Infancy	Not applicable at this time.	Unknown	Among other uses, might lead to discovering whether obligors have mineral interests.
Unclaimed property	Through authority to place lien on “other personal property,” provided arrears are greater than $2,000 or two times current or most recent monthly support obligation, whichever is less.	Mature	Limited applicability	Effective	
Utility company matches - locate	Matches have occurred with Capital Electric, Souris River Telephone, Verendrye Electric. Matching on industry-wide basis is pending.	Maturing	Wide applicability	Effective	
Voluntary paternity acknowledgment (VPA)		Mature	Wide applicability	Very effective	For state fiscal year that ended 6/30/09, the ratio of VPAs to out of wedlock births in ND was 82.8%.
VPAs from other states		Open for discussion.	Not applicable at this time.	Unknown	Presumably would require federal legislation.
Web site functionalities for customer service	Includes web-based application for IV-D services, access to case information, interactive voice response system, on-line reporting of new hires and terminations, and proactive email notification of payments.	Mature	Wide applicability	Effective	
Work activities	Upon order of the court pursuant to a plan to pay past-due child support.	Infancy	Not applicable at this time.	Unknown	

Writs of execution - administrative	Arrears are greater than $2,000 or two times current or most recent monthly support obligation, whichever is less.	Mature	Limited applicability	Effective	
Writs of execution - judicial	Upon docketing of arrears.	Mature	Limited applicability	Effective	

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