



December 7, 2016

Getting Your License Back

I have talked with so many people and have received so many phone calls, emails and messages about how people just want to work to earn a living and support their families. But, sometimes there are challenges that make working, or even getting to work, a big challenge. A very common obstacle occurs when a person loses their license, whether it is a driver's license, professional license or other license because of issues with their child support payments. This leads to an incredible situation where the person wants to work to make money to live and to make payments for their child support, but they cannot work their job as a driver if they have a CDL license or in another licensed profession because they have lost their license. And, others have a hard time even getting to their job because they have lost their driver's license. This leads to a very discouraging situation for the person who can't make their child support payments because they cannot work, and it doesn't help the child either because payments are not being made. And, it creates a cost for us as a society when people cannot earn their own living.

Many people are not aware that help is available in these types of situations. In many cases, child support payments can be modified, a person's license can be restored, and people can get on with their lives. I want to thank the leadership and the staff of the Division of Child Support Services of the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services for the assistance they can give to people facing these types of issues. Some of the Division's staff from Chicago and from Springfield were on hand at my office in Chicago last Saturday to talk with people who have lost their licenses because of issues with child support. We had a great turnout, and I have been hearing back from some of the people who attended who have already been helped and are on their way back to a job so they can help to support their families.

It isn't too late to get some help. If you or someone you know would like some help in this area, please google Illinois Child Support Services Program, or call the Child Support Customer Service Call Center at 1-800-447-4278 and ask how they could help you to get your license back by modifying your child support payments, and tell them that Rep. Ford told you about the services.

Sincerely,

La Shawn K. Ford
State Representative-Eighth District