

Written Resources on Child Custody Issues

Family Abduction: How to Prevent an Abduction and What To Do If Your Child Is Abducted (NCJ 149220)

- ◆ Available electronically at <http://www.missingkids.com/download/NC75.pdf>

Guides parents dealing with child abduction through the civil and criminal justice systems, explains laws that will help them, outlines prevention methods, and provides suggestions for aftercare.

A Family Resource Guide on International Parental Kidnapping (Guide) (February 2002. 148 pp. NCJ 190448. FREE)

- ◆ Available electronically at <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/pubs/jjpubs.html>

Presents practical and detailed advice about preventing international kidnapping and increasing the chance that children who are kidnapped or wrongfully retained will be returned. It provides descriptions and realistic assessments of the civil and criminal remedies available in international parental kidnapping cases, explains applicable laws and identifies both the public and private resources that may be called upon when an international abduction occurs or is threatened, and prepares parents for the legal and emotional difficulties they may experience. The OJJDP guide includes a list of recommended readings; a directory of related resources, including Web sites; a Hague Convention application, with instructions; a checklist for parents involved in non-Hague cases; and an index.

Federal Resources on Missing and Exploited Children: A Directory for Law Enforcement and Other Public and Private Agencies. (1997. 156 pp. NCJ 168962. FREE)

- ◆ Available electronically at <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/pubs/jjpubs.html>

Updates the 1996 directory and provides a compilation of the many services, programs, publications, and training that address child sexual exploitation, child pornography, child abduction, and missing children. Represents an effort to enhance coordination of delivery of Federal services to missing and exploited children and their families.

Obstacles to the Recovery and Return of Parentally Abducted Children (Summary) (1994. 21 pp. NCJ 143458. FREE)

- ◆ Available electronically at <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/pubs/jjpubs.html>

Outlines civil and criminal justice responses to the problem of parental abductions, including recommendations for further action by congressional and State officials, juvenile justice professionals, citizens, and other interested groups.

Uniform Child-Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act Bulletin

- ◆ Available electronically at <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/pubs/courtsum.html#189181>

Describes the Uniform Child-Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA), a uniform State law designed to deter interstate parental kidnapping and promote uniform jurisdiction and enforcement provisions in interstate child-custody and visitation cases. The UCCJEA was approved in 1997 by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws; as of July 2001, 26 States had adopted the law. This Bulletin provides current information about the UCCJEA to legislators in States considering its adoption and to parents and practitioners in States that have already adopted the law. The legal background, underlying rationale, applicability, and jurisdictional provisions of the UCCJEA are discussed.

Legislation on Child Custody Issues

Uniform Child-Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act

- ◆ *For additional information, please contact the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws at (312) 915-0195*

In 1997, the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws approved a uniform State law to deter interstate parental kidnapping and promote uniform jurisdiction and enforcement provisions in interstate child-custody and visitation cases. As of July 2001, 26 States had adopted the law. The legal background, underlying rationale, applicability, and jurisdictional provisions of the UCCJEA are discussed in a 16 page bulletin available through the National Criminal Justice Reference Service available electronically at <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/pubs/courtsun.html#189181>

Parental Kidnapping Prevention Act of 1980

'Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution,' is a Federal crime. The Parental Kidnapping Prevention Act of 1980, under 18 U.S.C. 1073, addresses the crime of 'Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution'. Congress made clear its intent that this provision applies to cases involving parental kidnapping. When state and local law enforcement officials desire Federal assistance in locating parents who have illegally fled their jurisdiction with a child, they should first secure a state or local warrant for the individual's arrest, and then request that the FBI obtain a UFAP warrant and assist in the location and return of the individual. The state or local prosecutor may have to bear the cost of extradition if the state charge is extraditable. If a state or local felony warrant cannot be used, then 18 U.S.C. 1204 is an alternative procedure to follow.