

SUBMISSION NO. 13

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Friday, August 09, 2002  
Subject: US Treaty

Dear Glenn

As discussed today, we are still waiting for a formal response from the US. Sheila Bird spoke to Stephen Grant (US contact) this week and sent a summary of what the response will contain. I have copied the summary below.

Regards

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re registering spouse only orders - they cannot tell us which states will do

this. It could differ between counties within a state. All states have passed the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA) and that legislation requires each state to enforce orders for spousal support. So the legislation is there in each state - the issue is how will they be enforced. For domestic cases the IV-D (Child Support) Agencies do NOT enforce spousal only orders (this is something to do with funding issues, spousal support is a state issue and they are not allowed to do 'state' issues using Federal funding). The Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) is reasonably confident that the orders will be able to be enforced,

however, how that will be done will be determined when a particular case arises. For example, they may use a legal practitioner to file the case in court and have it enforced that way. They may be able to do it with a child

support office. But very much case by case.

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