



Attorney General

1275 WEST WASHINGTON

Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Robert R. Corbin

April 24, 1987

Ms. Linda Q. Kerr, M.S., Director
Family Center of the Conciliation Court
Transamerica Building
177 N. Church, Suite 400
Tucson, Arizona 85701-1126

Re: I87-055 (R87-068)

Dear Ms. Kerr:

You have asked whether the Conciliation Court may charge fees for custody/visitation evaluations conducted by your office. The answer is no.

A.R.S. § 25-381.13, entitled "Fees," states unequivocally:

No fees shall be charged for filing the petition, nor shall any fee be charged by any officer for the performance of any duty pursuant to this article.

(Emphasis added.)

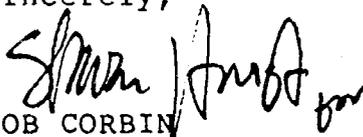
The jurisdiction of the Conciliation Court over domestic relations controversies involving minor children is set out in A.R.S. § 25-381.08. The director's powers and duties include investigation of facts upon which to base orders or directions of the court and to make such reports as the judge of the conciliation court may direct. A.R.S. § 25-381.07. A.R.S. § 25-381.06(A)(2) authorizes the Superior Court to appoint family counselors, social workers, and investigators to carry out the work of the Conciliation Court.

Preparation of custody/visitation evaluations conducted by your office clearly constitute the performance of a duty imposed pursuant to the Conciliation Court statutes.

Ms. Linda Q. Kerr, M.S.
April 24, 1987
I87-055
Page 2

Because A.R.S. § 25-381.13 prohibits the charging of any fees for performance of any duties by the Conciliation Court, no fees may be charged.

Sincerely,


BOB CORBIN
Attorney General

BC:JDR:cag