Illinois Office (Champaign): 301 N. Neil Street, Suite 400 Champaign, IL 61820 O: (217) 531-2179 F: (217) 531-2211

Illinois Office (Shelbyville): 229 E Main Street Shelbyville, IL 62565 O: (217) 774-1373

New York Office: 535 Fifth Avenue, 4th Floor New York, NY 10017 O: (212) 427-2049 F: (212) 202-6077

www.rinckerlaw.com



Cari B. Rincker Principal Illinois, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, District of Columbia and Texas

> Kate A. Murray Associate Illinois, New York, Connecticut

> > Will B. Culp Associate Illinois

Kymberly A. Robinson Associate New York

Stephanie Bradley Fryer Associate Texas

PRESS RELEASE

To: Mary Schenk, News Gazette mschenk@news-gazette.media

From: CARI RINCKER, ESQ.

Date: April 22, 2020

CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

Free Legal Services to Child Support Payors Who Have Been Affected by COVID-19

Champaign County Bar Association's Family Law Committee is sponsoring a *pro bono* program for child support obligors who have been affected by COVID-19, either by being laid off from a job on a temporary basis, or by being quarantined or having contracted the Coronavirus. Free legal representation is available to individuals who need help to file a petition to modify child support.

"Qualified persons include those who are at 125% of the federal poverty guidelines," said Assistant States Attorney Susan McGrath. "Others may be eligible according to special circumstances."

Persons seeking assistance should email the CCBA Family Law Committee at <u>champaignfamilylaw@gmail.com</u>. Those persons should note relevant information such as the names of the parties, case number and court, applicable child support orders, other children in their household.

"The email should also include a brief summary of the circumstances due to COVID-19 requiring modification of child support including proof of unemployment or reduction in hours," noted Stephanie

April 22, 2020 Page 2

Hall, an associate attorney with Meyer Capel. She continued, "Conflict checks will be performed and if appropriate, the applicants will be assigned to a volunteer attorney."

Applicants can also call (217) 531-2179 if they do not have access to email, noting their interest in the free program.

The goal of the program is to help provide temporary relief to child support payors affected by COVID-19. Child support recipients who are also in need of services may call Land of Lincoln Legal Aid at (877) 342-7891.

"I am so proud to be a part of a legal community locally who is here and ready to serve during this pandemic," said Cari Rincker of Rincker Law, PLLC.

END-

For more information contact:

Cari Rincker Rincker Law, PLLC Licensed in Illinois, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Texas & District of Columbia (217) 531-2179