



Family Court of the Second Circuit - THE JUDICIARY - STATE OF HAWAII
HOAPILI HALE - 2145 MAIN STREET, SUITE 137, WAILUKU MAUI, HAWAII 96793-1679

TO: All attorneys practicing in 2nd Judicial Circuit District, Family and Circuit Courts; and all persons/parents who have minor children in common and who have a matrimonial, divorce, paternity, or custody proceeding.

FROM: **RB** RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR. Chief Judge, Senior Family Court Judge

DATE: October 29, 2020

RE: **KIDS FIRST PROGRAM AVAILABLE ONLINE FOR 2ND CIRCUIT (MAUI, MOLOKAI, and LANAI)**

Please be notified that the KIDS FIRST mandatory parent education¹ program is now available online, at: <https://kidsfirsthawaii.com>². Families on Maui, Molokai and Lana'i may go online at:

https://kidsfirsthawaii.com/contact/neighbor-islands/maui_county

The Kids First Program is a mandatory educational program for parents and their children which began over 34 years ago with the help of Honorable Douglas S. McNish (retired), and has expanded statewide and nationwide. KIDS FIRST targets families going through divorce, separation or custody disputes. It is designed to help parents understand the effects of separation or divorce on their children and to help parents and children cope with the changes that their families will go through. It also provides available resources to children and families, and to remind parents of positive-co parenting guidelines.

If you are scheduled to attend the Kids First online program, please follow the steps on the above referenced Kids First link, and view each of the steps within 10 days of your scheduled class date. Once you have finished all of your steps, please fill in and submit the Feedback form and Feelings Quiz to the appropriate circuit. It is important to submit the forms in order to verify attendance and receive credit for completing the program. You may also email your Feedback form and Feelings Quiz to: KidsFirst.2CC@courts.hawaii.gov, or mail/drop off your forms at Juvenile Client & Family Services, 2145 Main Street, Suite 226, Wailuku, HI 96793.

Please contact JCFSB or Family Court if you have any questions at (808)-244-2770.

¹ H.R.S. §607-5.6 entitled **Surcharge for parent education for separating parties in matrimonial actions, where either party has a minor child, and for parties in parentage actions; special fund; See also** Senior Family Court Administrative Judge Shackley F. Raffetto's (retired) Administrative Memo re: Mandatory Attendance of Judiciary Sponsored Program dated April 15, 2005.

² **See also** emergency Order No. 6 Regarding Family Court of The Second Circuit, State of Hawaii at page 6, paragraph 12, "In person appearances for the Kids First Program shall continue to be suspended...and parties may be required to participate in on-line-education/program as directed by the Kids First Program" or until further order of the court."; **also**, citing to the Orders of the Chief Justice Mark E. Recktenwald in SCMF No. 20-0000152 regarding Judiciary Operations and the coronavirus (COVID-19) and ordering increased use of remote proceedings.