

If you believe that you have a  
body attachment, please visit  
the Family Court located at:

1 Dorrance Plaza,  
Providence RI,02903



Family Court Building

More Questions?  
Contact us!

RI Department of Human Services

Office of Child Support Services

77 Dorrance Street

Providence, RI 02903

Phone: (401) 458-4400

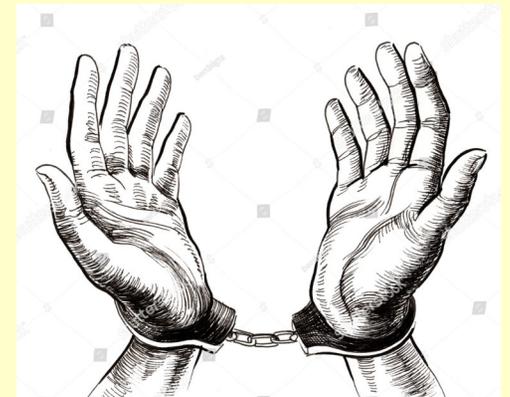
Or Visit our website at;

[www.cse.ri.gov](http://www.cse.ri.gov)



# Body Attachments

What you need to know



State of Rhode Island  
Department of Human Services  
Office of Child Support Services

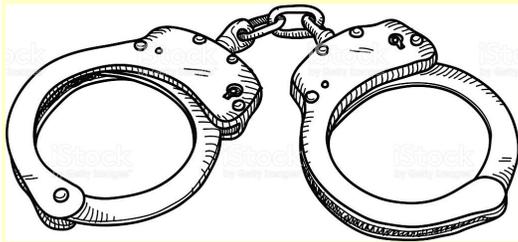


***WHY WAS A BODY ATTACHMENT ISSUED?***

A body attachment is issued when you are served with a witness subpoena to appear at RI Family Court and do not appear. **The body attachment is issued for your failure to appear,** and not because you may or may not owe back child support.

***WHAT MAY HAPPEN TO ME?***

A body attachment is entered on the Rhode Island warrant system and if you are stopped by an officer of the law for any reason, you WILL be detained and either be brought before the Rhode Island Family Court, or brought in and held at the ACI until the next family court calendar.



***WHAT SHOULD I DO?***

We encourage you to present yourself to the Rhode Island Family Court where the body attachment was issued before you are detained by an officer of the law.

***WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF I AM DETAINED BY THE SHERIFF OR AN OFFICER OF THE LAW?***

The sheriff will either escort you to the Rhode Island Family Court to have a hearing or if the Family Court is not in session, you will be brought to the ACI until the next session of court. You may be ordered to pay the state for the cost of the sheriff's service.

***WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF I SHOW UP TO COURT ON MY OWN?***

The family court may :

- \* Withdraw the body attachment and issue an order that you would carry and present it in order to avoid further apprehensions or;
- \* Withdraw the body attachment and pick a new date for the hearing . You would then appear on that new date or;
- \* Withdraw the body attachment and go forward with the hearing on the motion that is before the court or;
- \* Hold you at the ACI until the other parent can be at the hearing. You will be held to make sure you are present at the next hearing.

