



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

May 4, 2010

The President  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Through this letter, I am pleased to provide the Department of the Treasury's annual report of compliance with Executive Order 13019 – *Supporting Families: Collecting Delinquent Child Support Obligations*. In fiscal year 2009, Treasury continued to collect substantial amounts of delinquent child support debts through its Treasury Offset Program (TOP).

TOP collects delinquent child support debts by intercepting federal payments, a process known as "offset." Treasury has been offsetting federal income tax refunds to collect delinquent child support debts since the early 1980s. A key objective of the Executive Order, issued on September 28, 1996, is to collect delinquent child support obligations through the offset of non-tax federal payments. Treasury and the Department of Health and Human Services work jointly and with states and territories to further this goal.

In fiscal year 2009, Treasury collected approximately \$2.19 billion in delinquent child support debts through offset. Of this amount, \$2.05 billion was collected from tax refund payments, including \$30.1 million from the 2008 economic stimulus payments, and \$115.1 million from offsets of federal non-tax payments, including \$109.4 million from the 2009 economic recovery payments. Since the issuance of Executive Order 13019, more than \$22 billion has been collected through TOP from more than 22.8 million offsets to assist in the collection of past-due support owed to children and families.

Treasury remains strongly committed to collecting delinquent child support obligations through the use of offset of both federal tax refunds and non-tax payments. We will continue to support the important goal of carrying out the provisions of Executive Order 13019.

Sincerely,

  
Timothy F. Geithner

cc: The Honorable Kathleen Sebelius