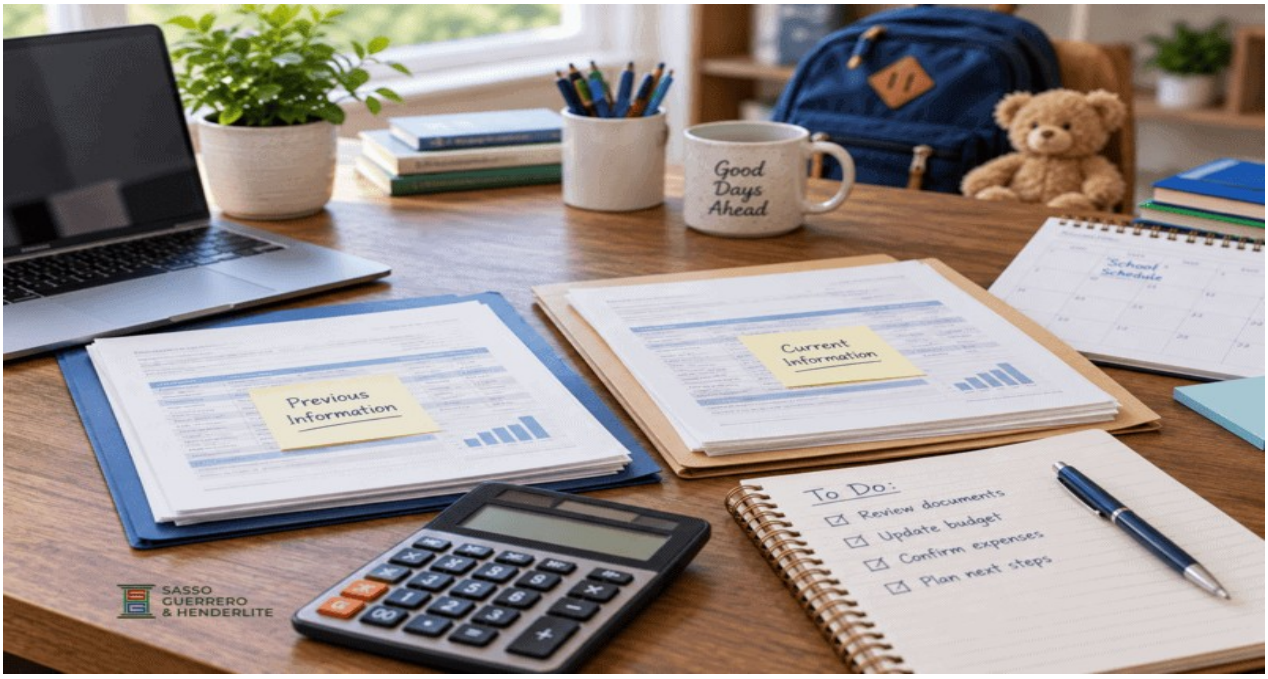

Sasso Guerrero & Henderlite Reviews Florida Child Support Modification Considerations for Parents

September 15, 2026

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Sasso Guerrero & Henderlite, a Jacksonville-based family and criminal law firm, has outlined the circumstances that may lead a parent to consider requesting a modification of an existing child support order in Florida. The review addresses common life changes that prompt such requests and clarifies the legal steps required to adjust an order.

According to the firm, several developments frequently cause parents to reevaluate an existing arrangement. These include significant shifts in income or employment, changes in parenting time or custody arrangements, evolving childcare or healthcare expenses, and changes in a child's needs as circumstances develop over time. Each of these factors may bear on whether an existing order still reflects the current situation of the family.

The firm emphasizes an important distinction that is often misunderstood. A change in circumstances does not, on its own, alter an existing obligation. A support amount established by a court remains in effect until a

court formally modifies it. Parents who assume that payments automatically adjust when income, parenting time, or expenses change may find themselves out of compliance with an order that remains legally binding.

"Many parents believe that a raise, a job loss, or a shift in the parenting schedule automatically resets what they owe or receive, and that is not how the process works in Florida," said Jay Henderlite, Managing Partner at Sasso Guerrero & Henderlite. "An order stays in place until a court changes it. Understanding that difference is the foundation of sound child support guidance and helps parents avoid arrears or disputes that could have been prevented."

In evaluating a requested modification, the firm reviews the terms of the existing order, current financial information for both parties, the parenting arrangement as it stands, and the nature and significance of the changes that have occurred. This assessment helps determine whether a change qualifies as substantial, material, and permanent under Florida standards, which is the threshold generally applied when a court considers whether an adjustment is warranted.

"Every situation is examined on its own facts," Henderlite said. "The goal is to look closely at what has actually changed and whether that change is significant enough to support a request. From there, parents can make informed decisions through the appropriate legal process rather than relying on assumptions."

The firm notes that pursuing a modification through proper channels protects both parents and, most importantly, the financial interests of the child. Parents considering a request are encouraged to understand the standards that apply before an obligation is changed.

Sasso Guerrero & Henderlite is a law firm based in Jacksonville, Florida, concentrating in family and criminal law. The firm is the only practice in Northeast Florida with three Board Certified Marital and Family Law experts serving as its managing partners. Its family law services include adoption, alimony, child custody, child support, divorce, collaborative divorce, military divorce, mediations, parenting plans, paternity, prenuptial and postnuptial agreements, modifications, and LGBTQ+ family matters. The firm also handles criminal law matters, including domestic violence, driving under the influence, drug crimes, and felony and misdemeanor charges.

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Sasso Guerrero & Henderlite

Sasso Guerrero & Henderlite is a Jacksonville law firm representing clients in divorce, family law, and domestic violence cases. With three Board-Certified partners, the firm handles custody, support, alimony, and property division with dedication.

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