



# PAYROLL PROFESSIONALS CELEBRATE NATIONAL PAYROLL WEEK

*by Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott*

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL PAYROLL WEEK, THE Office of the Attorney General (OAG) would like to recognize and extend appreciation to all employers and payroll professionals for the critical role they play in ensuring children receive court ordered financial and medical support.

National Payroll Week, which is September 6-10 and coincides with Labor Day, was founded in 1996 by the American Payroll Association to celebrate the hard work by America's 156 million wage earners and the payroll professionals who pay them. According to the American Payroll Association, the payroll withholding system contributes, collects, reports and deposits approximately \$1.7 trillion or

71.9 percent of the annual revenue of the U.S. Treasury.

The OAG's successful partnership with Texas employers and its payroll community has generated billions of dollars in increased support for children. More than two million Texas children are being raised by a single mom or dad. In most instances, the other parent is obligated by court order to provide financial and medical support to the parent with primary custody. By deducting child support from employee paychecks, Texas employers help improve the economic security of children who rely on child support to cover many of their basic needs.

The Child Support Division of the

Attorney General's Office is authorized by state and federal law to assist families in establishing, enforcing and modifying child and medical support orders; and in collecting and distributing child support payments. For the state fiscal year that ended Aug. 31, 2009, the Child Support Division served more than one million families and collected a record breaking \$2.78 billion in child support.

Achieving that milestone would not have been possible without the help of Texas employers and its payroll professionals. Money that employers withheld from employee paychecks accounted for 81 percent of the \$2.78 billion collected. Employers are to be commended for their efforts to secure

a more promising future for Texas children and families.

Texas employers and payroll professionals may contact the OAG Employer Call Center at (800) 850-6442 with child support employer-related questions. The Employer website at [www.employer.oag.state.tx.us](http://www.employer.oag.state.tx.us) provides employers and payroll professionals with valuable information regarding their child support responsibilities.

The Office of the Attorney General applauds all employers who are our key partners in getting support to children in Texas and across the nation.

Happy National Payroll Week!

*– September 2010*