COUNTY ALLEGATION OF INTENTIONAL PROGRAM VIOLATION / STATEMENT OF POSITION (Request for an Administrative Disqualification Hearing)

County:			
PROPOSED PENALTY PERIOD			
CalWORKs	Food Stamps (FS)		
🗆 6 Months 🛛 12 Months 🗌 Two Years	□ 12 Months □ 24 Months		
🗆 Four Years 🛛 Permanent	🗆 Ten Years 🛛 Permanent		
□ Active □ Closed	□ Active □ Closed		
PERSON	MAILING ADDRESS		
CASE NO.			
SSN	PHONE LANGUAGE		

JURISDICTION:

- A. Status of Prosecution
 - The case will not be referred to the DA for prosecution because of an agreement with the prosecutor such as monetary limit thresholds for resulting overpayments of overissuances;
 - The case was referred to the DA but was rejected for prosecution;
 - The case was referred to the DA or the court but the factual issues in that case are different in this case; or
 - The case has not yet been referred to the DA for prosecution.
- B. Address Determination

The county at the hearing will affirm that the address used by the State at the time the State sent notice of this hearing was appropriate (e.g., as reflected in current county records, last known address with no reports of changed addresses, etc.)

IPV ALLEGATION:

- A. Describe the <u>action(s)</u> the person took and/or the <u>occurrence(s)</u> he/she failed to report which resulted in an Intentional Program Violation (IPV) as generally defined in regulation MPP Sections 20-300.1 and 20-351i.1.
- B. Describe why you believe the person's actions and/or failure to report the occurrence was <u>intentional</u> (on purpose).
- C. In CalWORKs cases, also explain why the county believes the respondent committed the IPV for the purpose of establishing or maintaining the family's eligibility for CalWORKs or for increasing or preventing a reduction in the amount of the grant.

D. Describe how and when the person was made aware of his/her responsibility to report the information which caused the IPV.

E. Describe the exact <u>period of time</u> in which the action and/or occurrence took place and the amounts and period of any resulting CalWORKs overpayment and Food Stamp overissuance.

APPLICABLE AUTHORITY:

Cite applicable regulations which make this an IPV and those regulations establishing the appropriate penalty period for the case.

All sections cited refer to the Manual of Policies and Procedures (MPP) unless otherwise noted.

Section 22-305.42 defines an Intentional Program Violation (IPV) in the CalWORKs program as an action by an individual for the purpose of establishing or maintaining the family's eligibility for CalWORKs or for increasing or preventing a reduction in the amount of the grant, which is Intentionally:

- .421 A false or misleading statement or misrepresented, concealed, or withheld facts; or
- .422 Any act intended to mislead, misrepresent, conceal, or withhold facts or propound a falsity.

Neither Chapter 20-350 nor 22-300 prescribes a burden of proof for CalWORKs IPV cases decided in the administrative hearing. Absent a specified burden of proof, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) will apply the preponderance of the evidence standard.

Section 20-300.1 defines a Food Stamp IPV as having intentionally:

- .11 Made false or misleading statement, or misrepresented, concealed, or withheld facts, or
- .12 Committed any act which constitutes a violation of the Food Stamp Act, the FS program regulations, or any state statute relating to the use, presentation, transfer, acquisition, receipt or possession of FS coupons or Authorizations to Participate (ATPs).

Section 22-220.3 provides that any determination of an FS IPV which is made in such a decision shall be based upon clear and convincing evidence.

Section 20-353.1 (CalWORKs) provides that individuals found to have committed a CalWORKs IPV shall be ineligible to receive CalWORKs benefits as follows:

- .11 Six months for the first violation
- .12 Twelve months for the second violation
- .13 Permanently for the third violation

Section 20-353.5 (CalWORKs) provides that if the individual is not eligible for the CalWORKS at the time the disqualification period is to begin, the period shall be postponed until the person applies for and is determined eligible for benefits.

Individuals found to have committed and IPV either through an administrative disqualification hearing or by a court of appropriate jurisdiction shall be ineligible to participate in the FS Program as specified in 20-300.3 (63-805.1)

Individuals found to have committed an IPV either through an administrative disqualification hearing or by a court of competent jurisdiction shall be ineligible to participate in the FS Program for 12 months for the first violation, 24 months for the second violation, and permanently for the third violation. For IPVs prior to November 12, 1996, the penalties were six months, twelve months and permanent disqualification. (20-300.311, revised effective November 12, 1996)

Section 22-301.2 and .4 in the CalWORKs IPV program and Section 20-300.22 and .23 in the FS IPV program set out the following regulatory provision:

Those cases in which the prosecuting authority has determined (a) that facts do not warrant prosecution, or (b) those cases previously referred for prosecution and declined, shall be re turned to the County Welfare Department (CWD) and the CWD shall initiate referral actions for an ADH through the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) in accordance with CDSS MPP, Division 22.

The CWD shall not initiate an ADH against an accused individual whose case is currently being referred for prosecution or subsequent to any action taken against the accused individual by the prosecutor or court of appropriate jurisdiction, if the factual issues of the case arise out of the same or related circumstances.

Section 22-340.7 (CalWORKs) and, 20-300.24 and 63-801.43 (FS), provide that if the decision of the ALJ finds that the respondent committed an IPV, the County Welfare Department shall provide a written notice to the respondent prior to disqualification. The CalWORKs regulation in subsection .71 provides that the notice shall inform the respondent of the following:

- .711 The decision and the reason for the decision;
- .712 The period of disqualification (which shall begin no later than the first day of the second month which follows the date of notice); and
- .713 The amount of payment the AU will receive during the disqualification period.

The Food Stamp sections provide that the notice shall advise the remaining household members of the FS allotment they will receive during the disqualification period. The county shall send the individual a written demand letter which informs the individual of the amount owed, the reason for the claim, the period of time the claim covers, any offsetting due to previous underissuances which reduced the claim, how the household may pay the claim, and the individual's right to request a State Hearing if the individual disagrees with the amount of the claim (unless the household has already had a State Hearing on the amount of the claim). The individual shall be advised of the right to request renegotiation of any agreed-to repayment schedule should the household's economic circumstances change. The house hold shall be advised that the household's current FS allotment will be reduced if the household fails to make restitution.

COUNTY EVIDENCE & EXHIBITS

Exhibit	
Number	Description of Evidence

I certify that the above information is true and correct and establishes the basis of an Intentional Program Violation.

Signature of Preparer

Name Of Preparer and Title

Date

Signature of Reviewer

IPV Hearing Contact Person

Name of Reviewer and Title

Date Reviewed

Phone

Mail to: California Department of Social Services State Hearings Division 744 P Street, MS 9-6-36 Sacramento, CA 95814