

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814



May 25, 2000

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-54-00

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

- State Law Change
 Federal Law or Regulation Change
 Court Order or Settlement Agreement
 Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
 Initiated by CDSS

SUBJECT: RELEASE OF NAMES AND RESIDENTIAL ADDRESSES OF ELDERLY OR DISABLED CLIENTS TO DESIGNATED EMERGENCY SERVICES PERSONNEL

REFERENCE: ASSEMBLY BILL (AB) 788 (CHAPTER 121 STATUTES OF 1995), SUBSECTION 10850.9 OF THE WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE

The purpose of this All-County Information Notice (ACIN) is to provide counties that administer In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) and Adult Protective Services (APS) programs with information on the implementation of Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 10850.9.

WIC Section 10850.9 permits authorized employees of county social services departments to release the names and addresses of elder and disabled recipients or clients to specified emergency agencies in a public safety emergency. The public safety emergency must be such that it necessitates evacuation of the area in which the elder or disabled persons live. The statute further limits applicable emergencies to those that jeopardize the immediate physical safety of county residents.

The statute lists specific examples of such emergencies, but the list is not exhaustive. This statute does not mandate county implementation, but rather permits it.

The authority to implement this statute was contingent on securing any necessary federal approvals. It has been determined that federal waivers or approvals are not required to implement this statutory provision. Prior to implementation, the Director signed a declaration to this effect. A copy of the executed declaration is attached.

Counties administering public social services programs are authorized to begin implementing Section 10850.9 immediately.

Those counties may want to:

- begin implementing this provision by designating authorized persons for the purposes of disclosure,
- notify the appropriate emergency agencies in their locality that this service is available,
- begin reviewing the steps necessary to access such addresses by affected area, or develop the means to do so,
- review their emergency or contingency plans for the purposes of working out alternative methods of accessing this data in the event of a failure of the electrical power supply, telephone system, or program automated systems,
- work out which emergency agencies, in addition to those specifically listed in the statute, should be designated to receive this information, and designate them, perhaps by order of the county board of supervisors.

If you have further questions, please contact Alan Stelmack, of my staff, at (916) 229-4583 regarding the above.

***Original Document Signed By
Donna L. Mandelstam on 5/25/00***

DONNA L MANDELSTAM
Deputy Director
Disability and Adult Programs Division

Attachment