

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814



May 13, 1983

ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 83-43

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: WRIGHT v. WOODS Preservation of Records

REFERENCE:

This letter transmits a copy of an order issued on May 3, 1983 by the Superior Court of San Mateo County in the Wright v. Woods case (Attachment A). The Wright case challenged former AFDC regulations which did not permit supplementation up to the maximum aid payment (MAP) when income ceased or decreased. A decision of the First District Court of Appeals requires that all affected persons be given notice of their right to file a claim for retroactive supplemental payments. The California Supreme Court denied the State Department of Social Services' (SDSS) request for a hearing. The Department is currently negotiating with plaintiffs on a stipulated judgment and you will receive further instructions at a later date regarding implementation of the decision.

The May 3 order enjoins the destruction of case files or other records for persons who were affected during the period July 1976 through December 1981. The persons affected are AFDC recipients with any income other than the AFDC grant if that income was reduced or stopped at any time during this period. The order requires that you retain all existing records for this period, but it does not require that new lists or computer tapes be created.

The order also requires that each county department provide a written statement to SDSS within 30 days of the date of this letter, setting forth what steps have been or will be taken to comply with the order. We have attached a brief report form for this purpose (Attachment B).

Pursuant to the attached order, you are hereby instructed to comply with paragraphs one and two of the order and to report compliance


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by completing and returning the attached form to SDSS no later than June 13, 1983.

If you have any questions, contact your AFDC Management Consultant at (916) 445-4458.


KYLE S. MCKINSEY
Deputy Director

Attachments