

# NEW CASH AID AND FOOD STAMP RULES FINGERPRINT IMAGING AND PHOTO IMAGING

("Imaging" is a fingerprint and/or photograph done by a computer.)

As of \_\_\_\_\_, the county must get fingerprint images and photo images of the following persons living in the home:

## For Cash Aid:

- Each parent (natural and adoptive parents and aided step-parents) and/or caretaker relative of an applicant or aided child(ren).
- Each parent and/or caretaker relative who can apply for or get aid because they have certain excluded child(ren) living in the home. This includes a child who gets SSI/SSP (Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment).
- Each applicant or aided adult.
- A pregnant woman applying for or getting aid for herself only.

## For Food Stamps:

- All eligible adult household members.
- Anyone under age 18 who applies for or receives food stamps as a separate household.
- The ineligible parent or authorized representative.

## The Rules Say That:

- **Applicants** must be fingerprint/photo imaged before cash aid can be approved and/or before food stamps can be issued.
- **Recipients** must also be fingerprint/photo imaged. The county will send an appointment letter telling when and where to go to be fingerprint/photo imaged.

**Refusal or Failure to Cooperate:** When anyone who is required to cooperate with these rules refuses or fails to be fingerprint/photo imaged:

- Cash aid benefits will be denied or stopped for the entire assistance unit; and/or
- No benefits will be issued to the entire food stamp household.

**Confidentiality:** The fingerprint/photo images are confidential. They can only be used to prevent or prosecute welfare fraud. The county uses the fingerprint/photo images to:

- See if anyone is trying to get aid using someone else's name and social security number; and
- Be sure the applicant/recipient is not getting aid in more than one case or in more than one county at a time.

**Exception to the Rules:** Persons who have certain medically verified physical conditions may be temporarily or permanently excused from the imaging rules.

**The process for getting your fingerprint/photo images with the statewide imaging system is quick and easy. If you have any questions about these new rules, ask your worker.**