

DEPARTMENT OF BENEFIT PAYMENTS
744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

June 9, 1975

ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 75-115

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: SSA Referrals to Counties for Excess Value Home (EVH) Assistance

REFERENCE:

The Social Security Administration (SSA), in a joint effort with the Department of Benefit Payments, has developed a standard county referral procedure for those individuals who are denied or terminated from SSI/SSP because of the excess value of their home. In order for counties to identify these potential Excess Value Home recipients, the SSA district offices will refer to the appropriate county welfare department all individuals to whom it denies SSI/SSP either formally or informally or who are terminated ("non-grandfathered" cases) because they own a home having a value which makes their resources exceed federal limits.

SSA should not refer anyone who has a home in excess of the federal resource limits and who was converted to SSI/SSP effective January 1, 1974. These individuals are protected by the "grandfathering" provisions of P.L. 92-603.

REFERRAL FORM

Form SFRO-DOO-104 (see attachment) which is currently being used by SSA for service referrals has been revised to include referral for EVH. For EVH purposes, this form will be completed as follows:

Agency, Address and Telephone Number

The name and address of the appropriate county welfare department, along with the name and telephone number of a contact person, unit or location as arranged by the local SSA office and the county welfare department.

OBSOLETE

Superseded by

ACI ^A 77-15

GEN 654 (2/75)

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3-17-77

Client's Name and Address

The individual's name, address, social security number and telephone number.

SSI Eligibility

Date of application for or inquiry about eligibility for SSI/SSP, and appropriate linkage, that is, aged, blind or disabled.

Services Needed

Indication that the value of the person's home exceeds federal resource limits.

SSA Contact

The name of the SSA office, the name and telephone number of the SSA representative making the referral and the date the referral is given or mailed to the applicant.

Procedure

Every effort will be made to immediately refer the denied or discontinued individual by a copy of the completed SFRO-DOO-104 to the county welfare department for EVH application. The SSA office will complete the referral form in duplicate. The original will be given to the applicant or mailed to him the day the action is taken, whichever is faster. The applicant will be advised to contact the county welfare department within 10 working days in order to preserve his beginning date of aid. The duplicate copy will be retained by the SSA district office in a special file for a period of six months. This will constitute evidence that an appropriate referral was made if any question should subsequently arise.

Federal Resource Limits

Under SSI/SSP, the home may not be excluded from consideration as a resource if its current market value exceeds \$25,000. However, for purposes of determining whether the resource limits of SSI/SSP have been exceeded, the fact that the current market value of the home is in excess of \$25,000 does not, of itself, make the applicant ineligible. When the current market value of the home exceeds \$25,000, the amount of the excess over \$25,000 is combined with other countable resources and applied toward the SSI resource limit, (\$1,500 for individuals, \$2,250 for couples) regardless of how much may be owed on the property. For example, if a couple with a \$27,000 home applies, they may not receive payment if their other countable resources exceed \$250, because the \$2,250 couple resource limit would be exceeded.

Individuals should be referred for EVH application only if their total resources exceed the federal limitations and they do not agree to dispose of such excess resources in accordance with federal regulations in order to become eligible to receive conditional SSI payments.

Conditional Payments

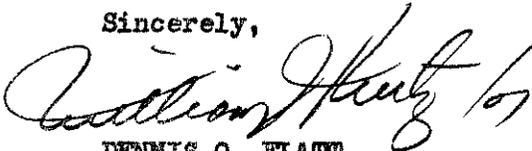
If the value of the individual's home is in excess of \$25,000 but the individual's share of the amount in excess of \$25,000, together with all his other countable resources does not exceed \$3,000 for an individual or \$4,500 for an eligible couple, conditional SSI/SSP payments may be possible. In any case where such applicants can qualify for conditional payments, a full explanation of these payments shall be given by the SSA. If the individual does not elect conditional payments, a referral will be made to the county welfare department in accordance with the above instructions.

Disputes about Valuation

If SSA refers an applicant for EVH and the county determines that the value of the applicant's home (along with other countable resources) is less than the federal resource limits, the county department should assist the applicant in recontacting SSA. If a dispute develops between the county department and the SSA district office as to which agency is responsible for the application, the matter should be referred in writing to the Department of Benefit Payments for resolution with the Regional Office of SSA.

This referral system, as outlined above, is effective immediately and should be of assistance to both counties and applicants in expediting EVH applications. If you have any questions concerning SSA's procedure in referring applicants to your department, please contact the Adult Program Management Branch at (916) 445-0813.

Sincerely,



DENNIS O. FLATT
Deputy Director

cc: CWDA

Attachment

REFERRAL FORM

THIS AGENCY MAY BE ABLE TO HELP YOU:

Agency, Address and Telephone Number

CLIENT'S NAME AND ADDRESS

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____ SSN _____

Telephone Number: _____

Ask for: _____

Additional Information

FOR REFERRALS TO COUNTY WELFARE DEPARTMENT

SSI Eligibility:

Status:

Program:

- Applicant _____
(Date)
- Recipient
- Not eligible for cash benefits

- Aged
- Blind
- Disabled

Services Needed:

- Information and Referral re Social Services
- Health Related Care
- Family or Personal Problems
- Other (specify): _____

- Value of Home exceeds \$25,000*
- In-home Services
- Protective Services
- Eliminate Dangerous Living Conditions
- Medical Care or Services (Medicaid)

*If an otherwise eligible individual or couple owns a home, the value of which exceeds \$25,000, such individual or couple is entitled to receive payments at the same levels as established for an SSI/SSP recipient/couple. The county welfare department shall be responsible for eligibility determination and payment computation--California only.

Referred by: _____

SOCIAL SECURITY REPRESENTATIVE

Date: _____

Social Security Administration Office: _____

Telephone No. _____

Comments: _____