Update 2007-6: Common Place Handbook
Revised Criteria for Fraud Referrals

Background

Original fraud referral criteria were developed in 1997 by a joint SSA and DA workgroup. We continue to refine these same criteria. This revision reflects the most recent effort to clarify when an EW may have reasonable grounds for suspicion of fraud, and how to make a fraud referral on those grounds.

Changes

Referrals to the DA for FRED or general fraud investigation are to be initiated when there are reasonable grounds for suspicion as part of the Eligibility Worker's role in the prevention and detection of fraud.

Note:

In Santa Clara County, it has been the practice to rely on the EW to evaluate and determine reasonable grounds for suspicion and referral for fraud.

Guidance on issues to be considered are included, along with the related processes. The goal is to keep fraudulently obtained benefits at a minimum while maintaining the rights of the applicant/recipient. [Refer to “Fraud,” page 42-1.]

Implementation

These changes are effective immediately upon receipt of this Update. EW Supervisors must review this information with their units at their next unit meeting.