Update 2009-18: Common Place
Good Cause Determinations

Background
The caretaker parent or caretaker relative in the home applying for CalWORKs or Medi-Cal benefits must cooperate to establish paternity and obtain child, medical and/or spousal support.

Policy
Good Cause claims in the Department of Employment and Benefits Services (DEBS) require the approval of the Social Services Program Manager (SSPM) for the designated district office.

Good Cause may also be initiated and approved by a Department of Family and Children’s Services (DFCS) Social Worker (SW) when it is determined that it is not in the child’s best interest to refer a case to our Local Child Support Agency (LCSA) for child/medical support enforcement.

Implementation
The information in this Update is effective immediately.

Documentation
Documentation surrounding the determination of Good Cause for not referring a case to LCSA for child/medical support enforcement must be documented in the Case Comments window of CalWIN.

Forms
The “Child Support - Good Cause Claim for Noncooperation” (CW 51) must be completed and signed either by the district office SSPM or the DFCS SW when there is a related DFCS case.

Other Programs
This Update effects the CalWORKs and Medi-Cal programs.
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