STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

GRAY DAVIS, Governor

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES**
714/744 P Street
P.O. Box 942732
Sacramento, CA 94234-7320
(916) 657-0258

December 20, 2000

TO: All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers
All County Medi-Cal Program Specialists/Liaisons
All County Public Health Directors
All County Mental Health Directors

Letter No.: 00-69

**RECALL OF ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS LETTER 00-67**

The Department of Health Services has just become aware of the fact that confidential beneficiary information was inadvertently included in an attachment to All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL) 00-67, dated December 26, 2000. Our records show that you were sent a copy of this letter, with its attachment which included a sample MEDS printout. You are hereby directed to destroy ACWDL 00-67, including its attachment. A replacement letter will be issued shortly.

In order to illustrate various MEDS transactions, the Department uses fictitious names and numbers. Unfortunately, in regard to the attachment to ACWDL 00-67, actual beneficiary identifying information was inadvertently used in the sample MEDS printout. The provisions of both state and federal law are clear in terms of safeguarding confidential information of Medi-Cal applicants and recipients, and the Department utilizes procedures designed to meet these requirements. While the release of such information in this case was an isolated, inadvertent occurrence, the Department is taking all steps necessary to correct and/or mitigate it. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

Please be aware that any person who knowingly releases or possesses confidential information concerning Medi-Cal beneficiaries in violation of Welfare and Institutions Code section 14100.2 is guilty of a misdemeanor.

We regret any inconvenience this matter may cause you. If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Sharyl Shanen-Raya at (916) 657-2942.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Glenda Arellano
Acting Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch