

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

714/744 P STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

February 6, 1984

To: All County Welfare Directors

Letter No. 84-3

NEW COUNTERFEIT-RESISTANT SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (SSN) CARD

The purpose of this letter is to inform you about Public Law 98-21, which required the Social Security Administration (SSA) to produce a new counterfeit-resistant SSN card. SSA began issuing the new card on October 31, 1983.

Because of the security requirements for the card, its appearance is very different from the card currently being issued. It will be the same size, but the front of the entire form (card and stub) will have a marbled light blue tint with the words "Social Security" in white. The entire form will contain small multicolored discs. Offset and intaglio printing (raised letters with a design engraved beneath the surface) will be used and the card will be issued on banknote paper. The back of the card will contain a registration number which is assigned to each individual. This registration number has no relationship to the assigned SSA account number. (See Attachment.)

If an individual, or a member of the individual's family, already has an SSN card with his/her correct name, he/she should not apply for a new card. The old SSN cards are still valid.

Individuals who need a replacement card because they have changed their name, or individuals requesting an original or duplicate card, will be issued the new counterfeit-resistant SSN card.

The SSA has also informed the Department of Health Services (DHS) that counties continue to accept altered SSN cards as valid via the sight verification procedure rather than question their validity. Some of the examples given were: cards containing numbers and names that had been changed using correction fluid or typed-over numbers and names. It is imperative that counties view cards carefully for clues that the card is fraudulent. It is much more cost effective to discover fraud at intake rather than via the SSN validation system after eligibility has been established.

All County Welfare Directors

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February 6, 1984

Should you have any questions regarding the new counterfeit-resistant SSN card, please contact Connie Farmer of my staff at (916) 445-1912.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Caroline Cabias, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch

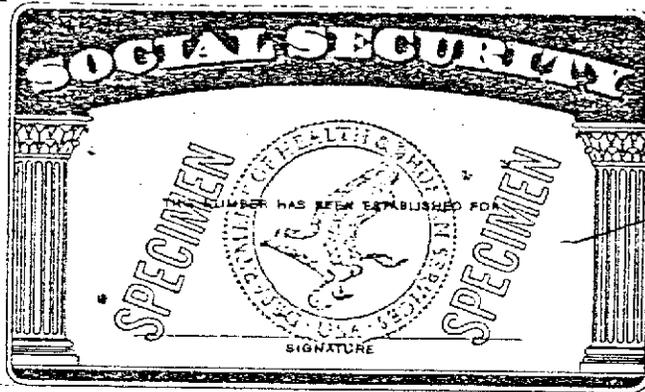
Attachment

cc: Medi-Cal Liaisons
Medi-Cal Program Consultants

FRONT

YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY CARD

Detach the card below and sign it in ink immediately.
Carry it in your purse or wallet.



marbelized light blue

multicolored disks

BACK



This card is invalid if laminated.

This card is invalid if not signed by the number holder unless health or age prevents signature.

Improper use of this card and/or number by the number holder or any other person is punishable by fine, imprisonment or both.

This card is the property of the Social Security Administration and must be returned upon request. If found, return to:

SSA - PO Box 17087
Baltimore, MD 21203

ATTN: FOUND SSN CARD (Return postage guaranteed)

Department of Health and Human Services
Social Security Administration
Form OA-702 (10-83)

Individual registration number

X33333335