

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

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July 29, 1982

To: All County Welfare Directors

Letter No. 82-39

RELEASE OF CONFIDENTIAL BENEFICIARY INFORMATION TO THE BOARD OF CONTROL'S
VICTIMS OF VIOLENT CRIMES PROGRAM

This letter is in response to an increasing number of requests to counties from the State Board of Control Victims of Violent Crimes staff for information and verification of Medi-Cal eligibility of persons seeking reimbursement through the Victims program.

Government Code Section 13959 et seq. establishes the Victims program and through the program provides a mechanism by which victims of violent crimes can be reimbursed or compensated for a monetary loss suffered as a direct result of the crime. These persons are required to complete an extensive application which authorizes the Board of Control to verify the contents of their application.

Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 14100.2 precludes DHS and counties from releasing confidential Medi-Cal beneficiary information to any outside source without the written consent of the beneficiary. However, if a Medi-Cal beneficiary seeks recovery through the Victims program, then the application that he/she signs with the Board of Control satisfies the authorization requirement in state and federal law and allows DHS and counties to release the necessary confidential information.

Counties should request Victims Program staff to submit requests in writing and included should be a signed copy of the beneficiary's authorization to release or verify the information. This information provided should be limited to: Medi-Cal ID number, verification of eligibility, dates of eligibility, SOC and other facts specifically required to determine the amount Medi-Cal has paid on the victim's behalf. It should not include personal data from the case file.

If you have any questions, please contact your Medi-Cal Program Consultant.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Madalyn M. Martinez, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch

cc: Medi-Cal Liaisons

Medi-Cal Program Consultants