

# **Policy Clarifications - Food Stamp PFS13383511**

**Submitted: 10/6/06**

**Agency: CAOs**

**Citations:**

**Subject: Duplicate Benefits/New Household Not in Certified Shelter**

In reference to policy [FSH 511.91](#), for those persons who do not need to go to a certified shelter to escape an abusive household and are able to set up their own household immediately, can we issue duplicate benefits if in the month they leave the household they are still included in the abuser's benefits?

We have an application pending for current month benefits, but due to the timing cannot remove the victim from the abuser's household until the last day of the current month. Because she did not go to a shelter, we cannot authorize duplicate benefits and it is causing a hardship for the victim and her child.

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**Response By: Barbara Hummel**

**Date: 11/15/06**

No, duplicate benefits may not be issued. The provisions of FSH 511.9 apply only to residents of shelters certified by the Department. [7 CFR 273.11(g)(1)]

In the interim, refer the individual to local organizations such as food banks and churches.