Policy Clarifications - Food Stamps PFS12830576

Submitted: 1/27/06

Agency: CAOs Citations:

Subject: Combination Cash/FS Renewals/May Not Change Renewal Date

When Policy Clarification-Food Stamp PFS-12725-576 was posted, our CAO cash IMCW's were surprised. It was a major change from the way we have been processing combination PA/FS recertifications. It also made no sense to have a customer complete a face to face cash recertification and then two months later complete a food stamp recertification. Upon review of the Food Stamp Handbook and 7CFR I believe your answer is incorrect. Food Stamp handbook 576.2 under the exception states for a combination Public Assistance(PA)/ food stamp household, the recertification is completed at the same time the PA reapplication is completed. A PA 10-SP IS NOT REQUIRED if the joint PA and food stamp reapplication is completed within the certification period. This has always been the case. This is also substantiated in 7 CFR 273.14(b) Recertification process-last sentence states "Jointly processed PA and GA households need not receive a separate food stamp notice if they are recertified for food stamps at the same time as their PA or GA redetermination." Please re-consider your answer to the above policy clarification. It is causing duplication of work statewide. More importantly causing our customers to complete 2 600r's and send in duplicate verification in a very short time period (2 months).

Response By: Denise Hoffman

Date: 3/9/06

The response provided in PFS-12725-576 is correct. The CAO may not change therenewal date on the Food Stamps once it is set. The intent of FSH <u>576.2</u> is when both the cash renewal and food stamp renewal are due in the same month.

A PA 10SP should be used at any renewal. The FSH will be updated in thefuture to reflect this change.