



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Transitional Assistance
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Field Operations Memo 99-10 D
June 16, 1999

To: Transitional Assistance Office Staff

From:  Joyce Sampson
Assistant Commissioner for Field Operations

Re: *Smith v. McIntire* Lawsuit

Background

Field Operations Memo 99-10 C listed three groups impacted by the *Smith v. McIntire* lawsuit:

- case closed/extension request denied due to excess income;
- earned income at time of closing, no extension request; and
- no earned income at time of closing, no extension request.

Field Operations Memo 99-10 C also detailed the mailing each group would receive and how to process the extension request returned to the Transitional Assistance Office.

The group "Earned Income at Time of Closing, No Extension Request" should have received a notice informing them of the lawsuit, an abbreviated *TAFDC Update* form (*TP-TAFDC-TER*) and a *24-Month Extension Request (24 EXR)* form. The *24-Month Extension Request (24 EXR)* form was omitted from the mailing package. A new mailing will be sent to these former recipients.

Second Mailing

On 06/16/1999, a new mailing will be sent to these former recipients with the original notice informing them of the lawsuit, the abbreviated *TAFDC Update* form (*TP-TAFDC-TER*) and the *24-Month Extension Request (24 EXR)* form. An additional notice (Attachment A) will be included informing them that the previous mailing was incomplete and that the date to return the forms has been extended to July 16, 1999.

**Transitional
Assistance
Worker
Responsibilities**

Transitional Assistance Offices received a report titled "Earned Income Cases Closed No Extension Request" listing former recipients who received this mailing. Any former recipient listed on this report will have until July 16, 1999 to respond to the mailing by returning the forms from the new mailing.

A former recipient who received the original mailing, returned the *TAFDC Update*, contacted the office for a *24-Month Extension Request (24 EXR)* form and then filled out and returned it *does not* need to complete the forms enclosed in the new mailing.

Transitional Assistance Workers should contact former recipients who have returned the *TAFDC Update* only and inform them that a *24-Month Extension Request (24 EXR)* form will be mailed from the Transitional Assistance Office, that there is no need to fill out the forms enclosed in the new mailing and that the deadline for returning the *24-Month Extension Request (24 EXR)* form is July 16, 1999.

Transitional Assistance Workers should continue to process these extension requests according to the instructions given for this group detailed in Field Operations Memo 99-10 C.

Questions

If you have any policy-related questions, have your Hotline Designee call the Policy Hotline at (617) 348-8478.

Dear Former Recipient,

On May 27 we sent you a notice about a court case and told you to fill out enclosed forms if you wanted to apply for extension benefits. One of the forms was not included in that mailing. We are remailing you the full package with the original notice and both forms.

If you want to apply for extension benefits, please fill out both forms and send or bring them and verification of your income and assets to your Transitional Assistance Office by **July 16, 1999**.

The Department will send you a notice to tell you if your TAFDC will reopen. The Department will also send you a notice to tell you if you get extension benefits. You may appeal any Department action and have a fair hearing.

If you have any questions, please call your worker.