Administrative Policy No. 4.09

Subject: Delegation of Authority to Investigate Programs Administered by the Department

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MS 45817 360-664-5767

Authorizing Source: RCW 10.93.020(2), 43.20A.110, 43.20A.605, 74.04.012, 74.04.050, 74.04.060, 74.09.200, 74.09.210, & 74.09.290

Effective Date: April 27, 1990

Revised: January 26, 2016

Approved By: original signed by Dana Phelps
Senior Director, Policy & External Relations

Purpose

This policy delegates the Secretary’s authority to:

- Investigate public assistance applicant and recipient fraud in programs administered by the Department or investigated pursuant to a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with another agency.
- Investigate providers, other than providers of medical services funded by Title XIX funds.
- Refer appropriate cases to the prosecuting authority of jurisdiction.

Scope

This policy applies to the Office of Fraud and Accountability.

Policy Requirements

A. The Office of Fraud and Accountability must:

1. Investigate applicant, recipient, and provider fraud—other than medical providers funded by Title XIX funds—in programs administered by the department.

2. Secure evidence, using methods of investigation that:
a. Do not infringe on the legal rights of persons involved, and
b. Are consistent with recognized principles of due process.

3. Refer all appropriate cases, where substantial evidence of criminal acts has been found, to the county prosecuting attorney and/or United States Attorney of jurisdiction.

B. All DSHS employees must cooperate with investigations conducted by the Office of Fraud and Accountability. Failure to do so may result in corrective action.