

## **FAMILY INDEPENDENCE ADMINISTRATION**

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## **POLICY DIRECTIVE #09-17-ELI**

(This Policy Directive Replaces PD #08-42-ELI)

## REVISIONS TO THE FOOD STAMP TELEPHONE RECERTIFICATION INITIATIVE

<b>Date:</b> April 3, 2009	Subtopic(s): Food Stamp Recertification				
AUDIENCE	The instructions in this policy directive are to inform staff at Non Cash Assistance Food Stamp (NCA FS) Centers of the Food Stamp telephone recertification initiative. This procedure serves as information for all others.				
REVISIONS TO THE PRIOR DIRECTIVE	This policy directive has been revised as follows:  • Corrected erroneous form number references to the Food Stamp				
DIRECTIVE	<ul> <li>Corrected erroneous form number references to the Food Stamp Telephone Recertification Brochure (BRC-901D).</li> <li>Revised instructions on the Incomplete Food Stamp Recertification Form (W-901F) to emphasize that the participant is required to sign page 5 of the recertification application.</li> <li>Removed instructions to generate the Request for Contact on a Food Stamp Application (W-119) form when the participant is required to provide missing documentation, as this form is not used for recertifications.</li> <li>Revised instructions for when the participant has not provided the</li> </ul>				
	required signature on page 5 of the Food Stamp Benefits Application/Recertification (LDSS-4826) form during the recertification interview.  Provided information on the three different methods of conducting				
	<ul> <li>the Food Stamp recertification interview.</li> <li>Removed instructions for handling recertification packets returned as undeliverable by the U.S. Postal Service, as these packets will be processed by the Mail Processing Unit.</li> <li>Included new automated process of moving deferred cases to the MPU Deferred Recert queue upon printing of the Documentation Requirements and/or Assessment Follow-Up (W-113K) form.</li> </ul>				

HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS PROCEDURE?
Call 718-557-1313 then press 3 at the prompt followed by 1 or send an e-mail to FIA Call Center

## **POLICY**

Revised

All NCA FS households must be interviewed to recertify their eligibility for continued Food Stamp (FS) benefits. The recertification interview may be conducted through one of the following methods:

- in-person
- automated telephone response system (Interactive Voice Response System [IVRS])
- telephone (person-to-person)

Only NCA FS unengageable (i.e., unemployable) participants who have no earned income and no changes to report are eligible to recertify via IVRS. All other NCA FS participants are strongly encouraged to recertify by telephone (person-to-person). Exceptions to the telephone interview include households that have an individual requiring finger imaging and households that specifically request an in-person interview.

This procedure covers the telephone (person-to-person) recertification process.

## **BACKGROUND**

The FS telephone recertification initiative was implemented in 2007 at the East End (**F02**) and Fordham (**F44**) NCA FS Centers and recently implemented at all other NCA FS Centers. All households except those that have individuals requiring finger imaging have been included in this initiative.

For the purposes of this initiative, the following forms were developed:

- Food Stamp Telephone Recertification Brochure (BRC-901D)
- Food Stamp Telephone Recertification Brochure Insert (W-901AA)
- Incomplete Food Stamp Recertification Form (W-901F)

Correction made to brochure number

The **BRC-901D** brochure informs the household of the opportunity to have the recertification interview by telephone and provides answers to frequently asked questions.

Form **W-901AA** indicates either the household's telephone number currently on record or that the Agency does not have one on file. The participant is instructed to call his/her designated NCA FS Center (the telephone number is provided on the notice) if his/her listed telephone number is incorrect or to provide a missing telephone number if he/she wishes to recertify by telephone.

**BRC-901D** and **W-901AA** are sent to the participant approximately two months before the participant's recertification month (the recertification month is defined as the second to last month of certification).

Form **W-901F** serves as the cover letter when the Food Stamp Benefits Application/Recertification (<u>LDSS-4826</u>) form is returned to the participant because he/she did not provide the required signature on page 5 of the recertification application.

The following forms are also used in this initiative:

- Food Stamp Benefits Application/Recertification form (LDSS-4826)
- Notice of Decision on Your Food Stamps

Form **LDSS-4826** is the application the participant must sign and complete in order to recertify for FS benefits.

The Notice of Decision on Your Food Stamps provides a scheduled date and time for the telephone interview and the telephone number at which the participant will be contacted. The notice also provides the telephone number to his/her designated NCA FS Center for the participant to call if:

See the Telephone Calls to the NCA FS Center section for instructions on handling these

requests.

The Notice of Decision

on Your Food Stamps is system-generated by code **Z95** in the Client

Notices System (CNS).

- the scheduled date/time for the telephone recertification interview is not convenient for the participant;
- the telephone number listed for the household is not correct or if the participant prefers to be contacted at another number;
- the participant prefers to be interviewed in-person.

Forms LDSS-4826 and the Notice of Decision on Your Food Stamps are part of the recertification packet which is sent approximately one month after the BRC-901D and W-901AA are sent to the participant. The participant is instructed to sign and return form LDSS-4826 along with copies of any required documentation either by mail using the enclosed postage-paid envelope or in-person at his/her designated NCA FS Center.

## FS Telephone Recertification Processing

#### Revised

MPU date stamps all completed FS recertification packets received at the NCA FS Center and forwards them to the Control Section for processing. Recertification packets returned as undeliverable by the U.S. Postal Service will be processed by MPU.

FS telephone recertifications are processed by the Control Section and the Telephone Recertification Group.

The Control Section is responsible for handling:

- FS recertification packets forwarded from the Mail Processing Unit (MPU); and
- telephone calls from households regarding the FS telephone recertification.

The Telephone Recertification Group is responsible for contacting the household and conducting the telephone interview.

## REQUIRED ACTION

## **Control Section**

## FS Recertification Packets Forwarded from MPU

Control Worker

Upon receipt of the recertification packet from MPU, the designated Control Worker will review form **LDSS-4826** to confirm that the participant provided the required signature. Although form **LDSS-4826** requests two signatures, only the signature on page 5 is required to complete the telephone recertification process. If the signature on page 5 or both of the signatures are missing, the Control Worker proceeds as follows:

- If no signature at all is provided on the application, send the
  participant the application, accompanying documents, and form
  W-901F advising him/her to sign and return the application and
  accompanying documents in the enclosed postage-paid
  envelope. Annotate the Food Stamp Program Pending
  Applications Control (W-706B) form.
- If a signature is provided on page 1 but not on page 5, mail a
  copy of the application and form W-901F to the participant
  advising him/her to sign and return the copy of the application in
  the enclosed postage-paid envelope. Follow the instructions for a
  signed and completed application below.

If the signature is on page 1 but not on page 5, the application filing date is preserved but the telephone recertification process cannot be completed.

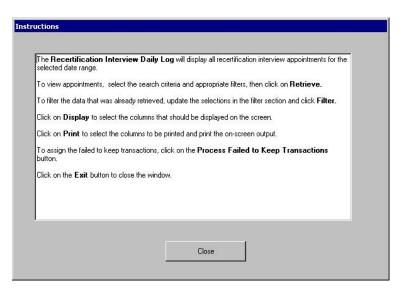
Signed and completed application

If form <u>LDSS-4826</u> is returned signed and completed, the Control Worker must scan and index it along with all the accompanying documents (including form **W-901F** if sent to the participant) into the electronic case record and execute the following actions in the Food Stamp Paperless Office System (FS POS):

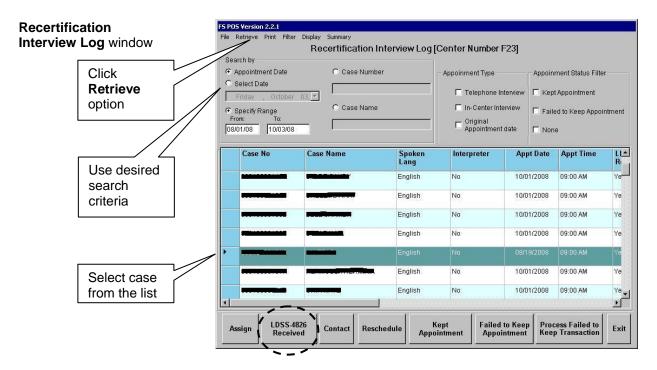
## FS POS actions for the Control Worker

- Access the MONIQ/FS Reception window.
- Select the Recertification Interview Log option in the FS Reception drop-down menu.
- The Instructions window for the Recertification Interview Log appears. After reading the instructions, click the Close button to proceed.

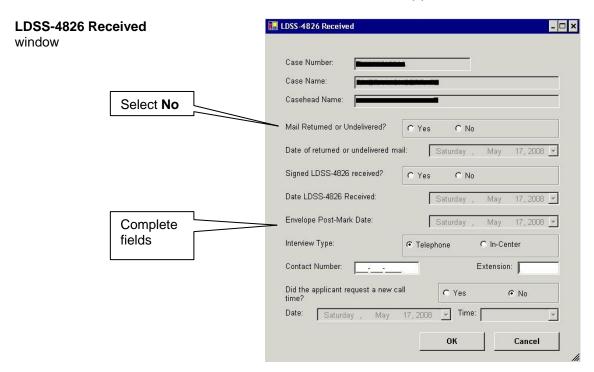
## **Instructions** window



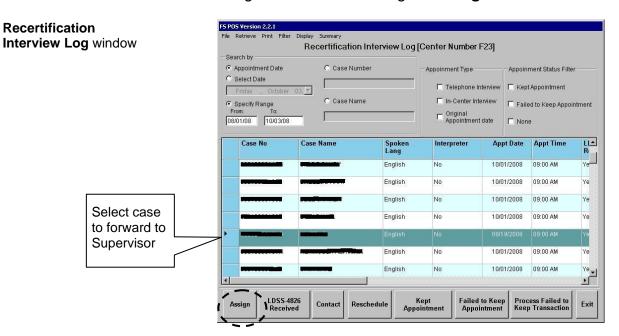
- The Recertification Interview Log window appears.
   Execute the following actions:
- The Recertification Interview Log window allows NCA FS Center staff to view past, current, and future recertification interview appointments.
- Use the desired case search criteria in the Search by box, such as:
  - Appointment Date (select date or specify date range)
  - Case Number
  - Case Name
- Click the Retrieve option from the tool bar.
- A listing of all cases that meet the search criteria appears.
   Select the case from the list (selected case will appear highlighted).
- Click the LDSS-4826 Received button.



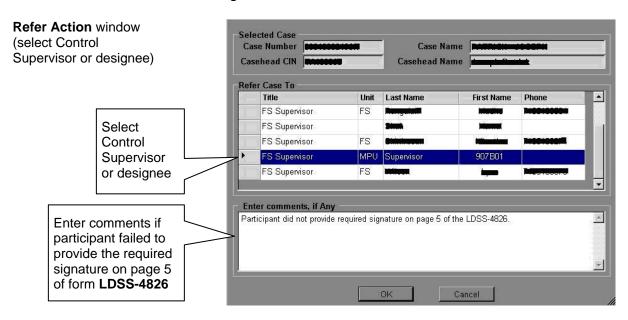
- The LDSS-4826 Received window appears. The Control Worker completes the following fields and clicks the OK button:
  - Mail Returned or Undelivered? (selecting the No option enables the fields below)
  - Signed LDSS-4826 received?
  - Date LDSS-4826 Received
  - Envelope Post-Mark Date
  - Interview Type (defaults to Telephone)
  - Contact Number and, if applicable, Extension



 The Control Worker is returned to the Recertification Interview Log window. Forward the case to the Control Supervisor by selecting the case and clicking the Assign button.



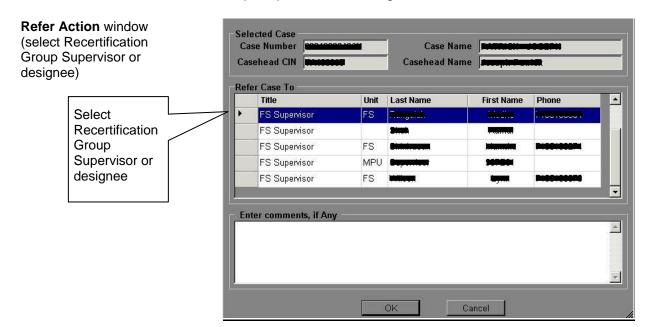
 The Refer Action window appears. Select the Control Supervisor or designated person (designee) to refer the case to and click the OK button. If a copy of form LDSS-4826 was returned to the participant due to a missing signature on page 5, indicate this in the Enter comments, if Any section. Also, forward the recertification packet to the selected Control Supervisor or designee.



Control Supervisor or designee

Upon receipt of the recertification packet, the Control Supervisor or designee must:

- review the recertification packet. Ensure that a copy of form W-901F is included in the packet if the participant did not provide the required signature on page 5 of form LDSS-4826;
- access the Recertification Interview Log window in FS POS and review the case to ensure the information was properly recorded;
- select the case on the Recertification Interview Log window and click the Assign button. The Refer Action window appears;
- select the Recertification Group Supervisor or designee to forward the case to and click the **OK** button;
- forward the recertification packet to the selected Recertification Group Supervisor or designee.



## **Telephone Recertification Group**

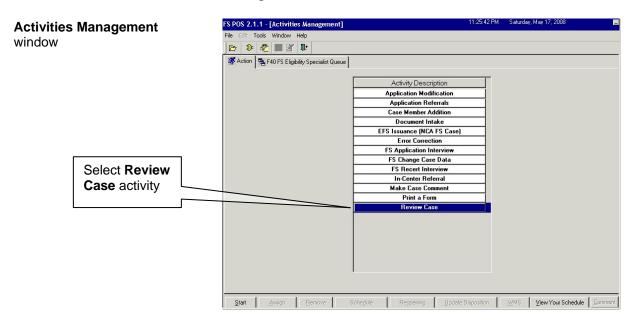
The Telephone Recertification Group Supervisor or designee must maintain a tickler file of scheduled telephone recertifications organized by appointment date. At least one day prior to the case's scheduled appointment, the Supervisor must execute the following actions for each case:

Telephone Recertification Group Supervisor or designee

- Access the Recertification Interview Log window.
- Select the case from the list using the applicable search filter(s) and click the **Assign** button. The **Refer Action** window appears.
- Select the Telephone Recertification Worker to assign the case to and click the **OK** button.
- Forward the recertification packet to the assigned Telephone Recertification Worker.

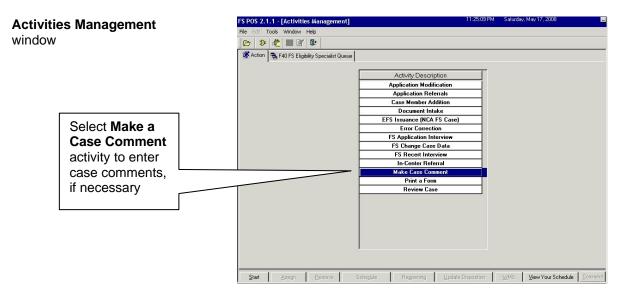
Recertification Worker

Upon receipt of the assignment, the Telephone Recertification Worker must access the **Action** tab from the **Activities Management** window, select the **Review Case** activity and execute the following actions:



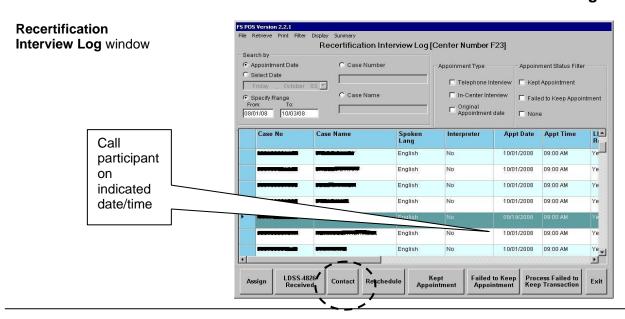
- Review the application and accompanying documents. Determine
  if form LDSS-4826 has the required signature on page 5. Enter a
  case comment using the Make Case Comment activity if this
  signature is missing.
- Verify information with Resource File Integration (RFI) and TALX/The Work Number Service (see PD #09-03-EMP), where applicable.

 Compare information submitted with case information in the Welfare Management System (WMS), FS POS and the Human Resources Administration (HRA) OneViewer. Enter case comments using the Make Case Comment activity if any discrepancies arise.



 On the date and time indicated on the Recertification Interview Log window (Appt Date and Appt Time columns), make the first attempt to call the participant to conduct the recertification interview.

This attempt (and every subsequent attempt) must be recorded on the **Contact Attempted** window, which is accessed via the **Contact** button from the **Recertification Interview Log** window.

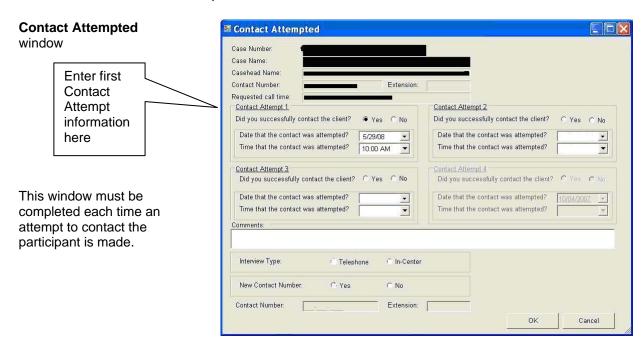


## Successful Contact

Follow the steps in the Unsuccessful Contact section if contact cannot be made.

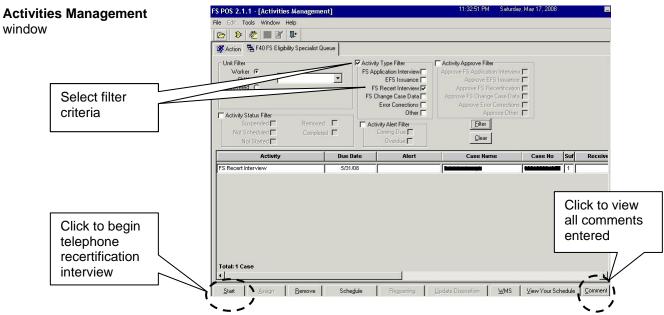
If the Telephone Recertification Worker successfully contacts the participant for the telephone recertification interview, he/she must:

select Yes to the Did you successfully contact the client?
 question and enter the date and time of the contact;



- click the OK button to return to the Recertification Interview Log window;
- click the Exit button on the Recertification Interview Log window;
- click the Open POS button from the MONIQ/FS Reception window;

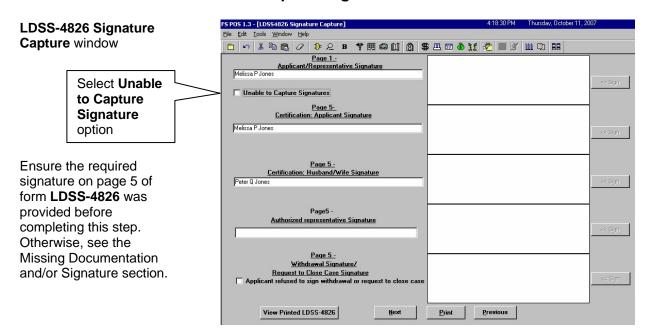
- check the Activity Type Filter box and the FS Recert Interview box;
- select the case and click the **Comment** button to review all comments entered during the recertification interview preparation step:
- click the **Start** button to begin the telephone recertification interview.



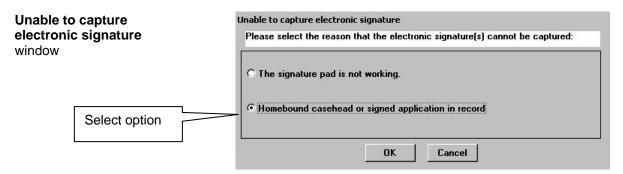
Once the interview has started, FS POS will update the appointment status to **Kept** on the **Recertification Interview Log** window. Enter all required information for each window in the **FS Recertification Interview** activity, per standard procedure for recertifications in FS POS.

**Note**: Information obtained during the telephone recertification interview supersedes information provided on the paper application.

When the LDSS-4826 Signature Capture window appears during the FS Recertification Interview activity, the Worker must check the Unable to Capture Signature box.



When the **Unable to Capture Electronic Signature** window appears, select the **Homebound casehead or signed application in record** option and click the **OK** button.



Within the **FS Recertification Interview** activity, the appropriate budget and Turn-Around Document (TAD) actions for the case must be processed by completing the following windows:

- Eligibility Determination
- Budget
- TAD
- **Grants Data Entry** (if needed)
- Print Forms

A case comment must be entered whenever there is a change made to the case. Once all required information on a window is entered, proceed to the next window by clicking the **Next** button until the **FS Recertification Interview** activity is complete. If there are any changes to the case, the Worker must indicate the change made in a <u>case comment</u>. When all interview windows have been completed, the **Disapproved Elements** window appears. Send the case to the Supervisor for review and sign-off by executing the following actions:

- Click on the Next button on the Disapproved Elements window.
- The Close window appears. Click the Complete Activity button.
- The Approval Assignment window appears. Select the appropriate Supervisor to send the case to. The Worker's designated Supervisor is highlighted by default, but he/she may select a different Supervisor if necessary.
- Enter a case comment (if necessary) and click the OK button.
   FS POS moves the case with the Approve FS Recert activity from the Worker's queue to the Supervisor's queue.
- Forward the recertification packet to the selected Supervisor.

## Telephone Recertification Approvals

For completed recertifications, the Supervisor must review the **Approve FS Recertification** activity and place a check mark in the box for each window to indicate approval/disapproval. The Supervisor must also review the recertification packet to ensure information was accurately recorded in FS POS and that form **LDSS-4826** has the required signature on page 5.

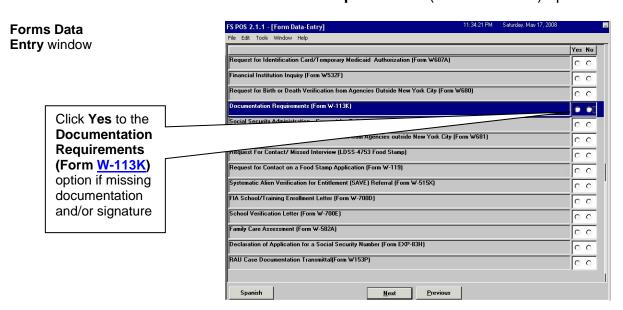
The Supervisor approves the recertification using the **Approve FS Recertification** activity and transmits the approval to WMS to complete the processing of the telephone recertification interview.

#### Revised

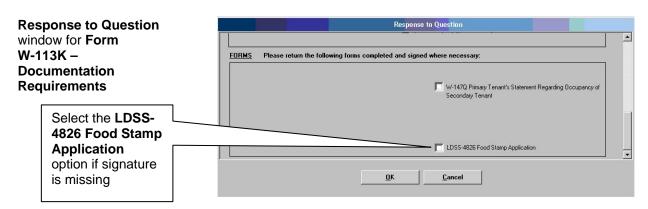
## Missing Documentation and/or Signature

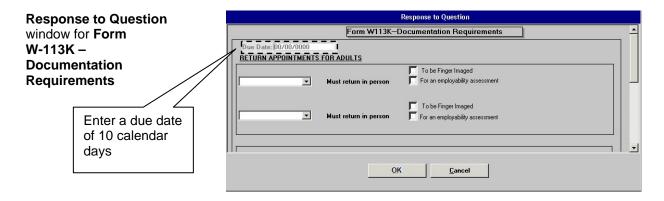
If the participant is required to provide additional documentation and/or has not provided the required signature on page 5 of form **LDSS-4826**, the Worker must execute the following actions:

 When the Form Data Entry window appears during the FS Recertification Interview activity, select Yes to the Documentation Requirements (Form W-113K) option.



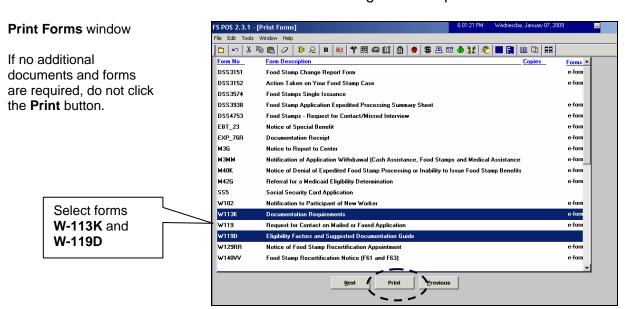
- Upon selecting Yes to the Documentation Requirements (Form W-113K) option, the Response to Question window appears.
- Indicate the missing documentation, if applicable. If the required signature on page 5 of form LDSS-4826 is missing, click the LDSS-4826 Food Stamp Application option. Enter a due date of 10 calendar days and click the OK button.





Revised

- Inform the participant that he/she will receive this notice in the mail along with a postage-paid return envelope and that the missing documentation and/or signature must be submitted within 10 calendar days in order to complete the recertification process.
- When the Print Forms window appears during the activity, select the W-113K and W-119D options and click the Print button to generate the notices. Generate another copy or make a photocopy of form W-113K to give to the Supervisor for review. Mail the notices including a postage-paid return envelope to the participant and ensure that he/she is aware of the missing documentation and/or signature requirements.



 Suspend the recertification activity pending the receipt of the missing documentation and/or signature.

Revised

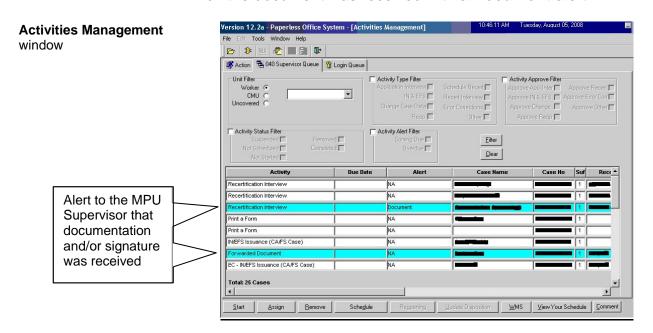
Upon receipt of form **W-113K** from the Worker, the Supervisor must review the case via the **Review a Case** activity to determine if the deferral is valid and complete.

- If the deferral is not valid, return form W-113K to the Worker and instruct him/her to continue processing the telephone recertification.
- If the deferral is incomplete and additional documentation and/or required signature (not indicated by the Worker) is needed, return form W-113K to the Worker and instruct him/her to prepare and mail another W-113K form including a postage-paid return envelope to the participant.

The deferred case will be automatically moved to the **MPU Deferred Recert** queue within 3 days following the printing of form **W-113K** if the recertification is still pending.

## **Documentation Returned**

When the missing documentation and/or signature is received and scanned and indexed into the case record by MPU via the **Document Intake** activity, FS POS will add a new **Forwarded Document** activity to the MPU Supervisor's **MPU Recertification** queue as well as highlight the **Recertification Interview** activity for which the document was received with a **Document** alert.



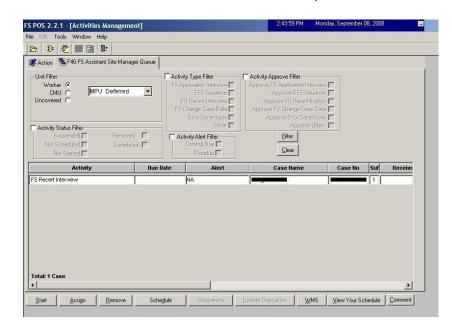
The MPU Supervisor must monitor the **MPU Recertification** queue and assign the **Recertification Interview** activity with a **Forwarded Document** alert to a MPU Worker. The MPU Worker must confirm that the requested documentation and/or signature was/were received and complete the recertification.

## <u>Processing Cases that Fail to Submit Missing Documentation and/or Signature</u>

Starting the first business day following the 15th calendar day of the month, the Control Supervisor must identify cases with recertification appointments scheduled for the previous month that did not submit the requested documentation and/or signature. These cases will be found in the **MPU Deferred Recertifications** queue.

## Activities Management window

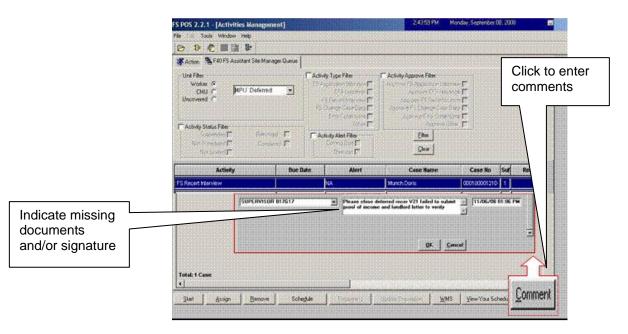
The MPU Deferred Recertifications queue lists all cases in which telephone recertifications were deferred due to lack of documentation and/or signature.



The Control Supervisor must review the case activity to confirm that the documentation and/or signature requested was not received by executing the following actions:

- From the Review a Case activity, review form W-113K in the case record to determine the document(s) and/or signature requested.
- Check the HRA OneViewer to confirm the requested document(s) is/are not present in the case record and/or the required signature is missing on page 5 of form LDSS-4826.

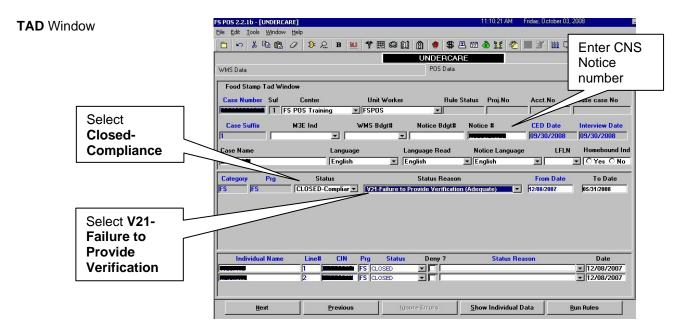
Upon confirming that documents and/or signature were (was) not submitted, the Control Supervisor must indicate the missing document(s) and/or signature in the **Case Comments** section by selecting the pended **FS Recert Interview** activity from the **MPU Deferred Recertifications** queue and click the **Comment** button. He/she must then assign the activity to a Control Worker for a case closing by clicking the **Assign** button.



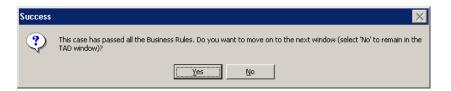
To perform the case closing, the Control Worker must:

- in FS POS, review the case comments to determine the missing documentation and/or signature requirement, as indicated by his/her Supervisor;
- in CNS, indicate the missing documentation and/or signature requirement on the Verification Selection Entry Screen and generate a CNS notice using FS Closing Code V21 (Failure to Provide Verification). Retain the CNS Supervisory Review printout containing the CNS notice number. The CNS notice number will be entered into FS POS (see next steps). The CNS Supervisory Review printout must be given to the Supervisor when routing the case closing activity for approval;

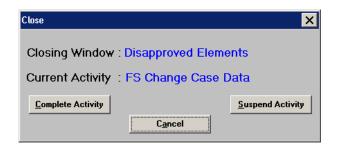
- in FS POS, select the **Picklist** and choose the **TAD** option. The **TAD** window appears. Execute the following actions:
  - enter the CNS notice number in the Notice # field.
  - select the Closed-Compliance option in the Status field.
  - select the V21-Failure to Provide Verification option in the Status Reason field.
  - click the **Next** button to run the business rules. A confirmation window appears.



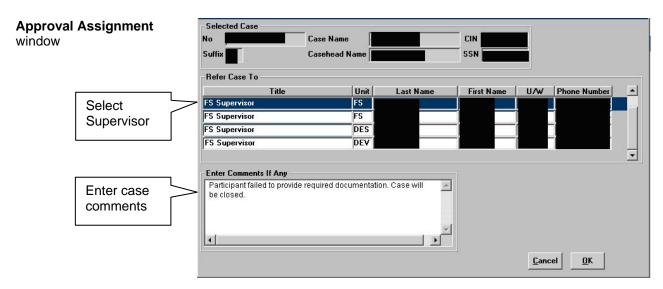
click the Yes button to confirm and continue;



- click the Next button on the Form Data Entry, Notice Data Entry, Print Forms and Approval Status windows;
- click the Complete Activity button on the Close window;



 select the Control Supervisor on the Approval Assignment window, enter a case comment and click the OK button.
 The activity will be routed to the selected Supervisor for approval of the case closing;



 submit the CNS Supervisory Review printout to the Control Supervisor.

Upon receipt of the approval activity, the Supervisor must execute the following actions:

- Access the Recertification Interview activity to approve the case closing.
- Review the Household Screen window and click the Next button.
- Review and approve the closing on the TAD window, verifying the CNS notice number from the CNS Supervisory Review print out. Click the Next button.
- Click the Next button on the Print Forms window.
- Click the Xmit button on the Approval Status window to transmit the closing to WMS.

## **Unsuccessful Contact**

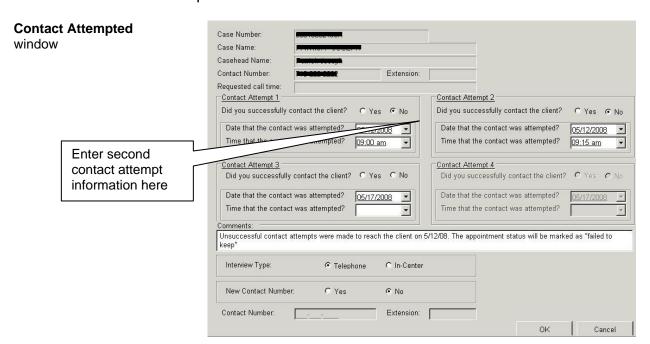
If the Worker is unable to contact the participant for the telephone recertification interview on the first attempt, select **No** to the **Did you successfully contact the client?** question and enter the date and time of the unsuccessful contact in the **Contact Attempt 1** section.

Second Failed Attempt

Follow the steps in the Successful Contact section if contact is made.

After waiting a short period of time (approximately 15 to 20 minutes), the Worker will attempt to call the participant a second time. If the Worker is again unsuccessful, he/she will access the **Contact**Attempted window and select **No** to the **Did you successfully**contact the client? question and enter the date and time of the unsuccessful contact in the **Contact Attempt 2** section. The Worker must also enter comments regarding the unsuccessful attempts in the **Comments** box. The status of the interview will automatically be updated to **Fail** in the **Recertification Interview Log** window upon the second unsuccessful contact attempt.

Note: The Contact Attempt 3 and Contact Attempt 4 sections may be used under special circumstances based on the Worker's and/or Supervisor's discretion.



## Failure to Keep Appointment Processing

## Control Clerk

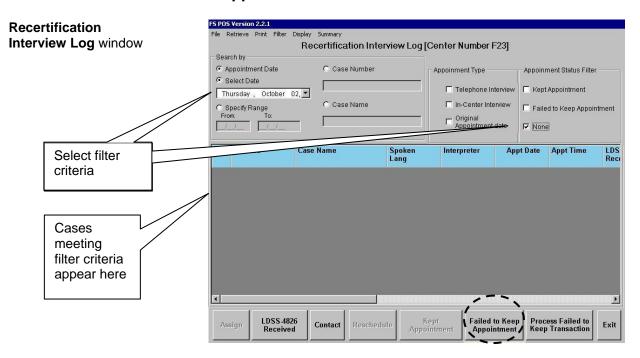
On a daily basis, the Control Clerk must process all cases that failed to keep the telephone recertification interview scheduled for the previous business day. This includes cases that:

- could not be successfully contacted by telephone
- never returned a signed and completed LDSS-4826 form

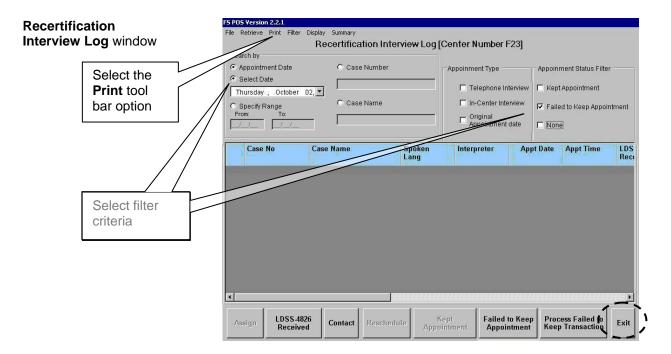
For each case, the Clerk must first confirm that an interview was not started or rescheduled for a future date. The Clerk must also confirm that an interview was not conducted on paper (outside of FS POS) by reconciling the log. For these confirmed cases, execute the following actions:

## Failed to Keep Appointment

- For those cases that never returned a signed and completed LDSS-4826 form, mark the case as Failed to Keep Appointment in FS POS (cases not successfully contacted by telephone are automatically marked Failed to Keep Appointment by FS POS), as follows:
  - Access the Recertification Interview Log window.
  - Select the Appointment Date option in the Search by box.
  - Select the Select Date option and indicate the date in the drop-down field (or select the Specify Range option and enter the specific dates, if necessary).
  - Select the None option in the Appointment Status Filter section.
  - Click the Retrieve option in the tool bar.
  - Select each case on the list and click the Failed to Keep Appointment button.

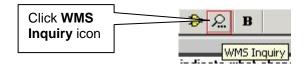


- Print the list of cases marked Failed to Keep Appointment, as follows:
  - Select the Appointment Date option in the Search by box.
  - Select the Select Date option and indicate the date in the drop-down field (or select the Specify Range option and enter the specific dates, if necessary).
  - Select the Failed to Keep Appointment option in the Appointment Status Filter box.
  - Click the Retrieve option from the tool bar.
  - Click the Print option from the tool bar (select desired columns in the Columns to Print window and click the OK button).
  - Click the Exit button.



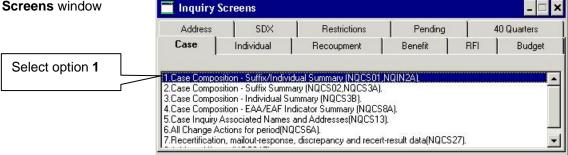
- For each case on the list, access WMS to obtain the date of the next recertification as follows:
  - From the MONIQ/FS Reception window, click the Open POS tool bar option.
  - The **Activities Management** window appears. Click the Action tab.
  - Select the **FS Change Case Data** option.
  - The **Household Screen** appears. Click the **WMS Inquiry** icon on the tool bar.

## WMS Inquiry icon



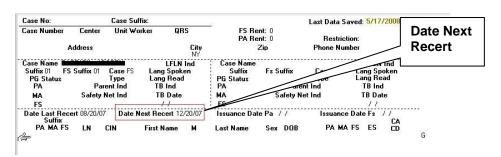
The **Inquiry Screens** window appears. Select the **1. Case** Composition - Suffix/Individual Summary option on the Case tab.

## **Inquiry Screens** window



The WMS Case Composition - Suffix/Individual Summary screen appears behind the **Inquiry Screens** window (minimize the **Inquiry Screens** window to view all the data, if necessary). Annotate the **Date Next Recert** on the list for use on the Food Stamps - Request for Contact/Missed Interview (LDSS-4753) form.

## Case Composition -Suffix/Individual Summary screen

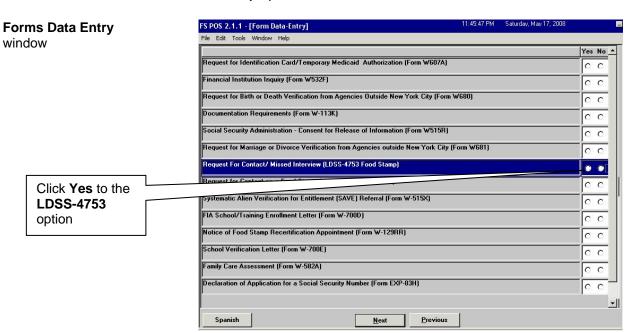


 Click the X button to close the Inquiry Screens window and WMS Case Composition - Suffix/Individual Summary screen. Click the Next button.

## **LDSS-4753**

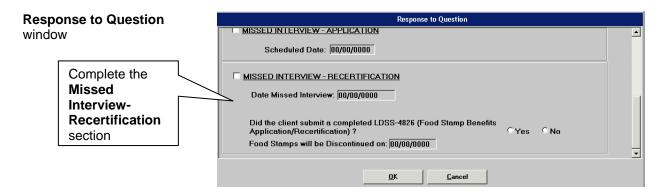
Form **LDSS-4753** is also sent to participants who fail to keep their inperson recertification interview. See PD #09-16-ELI for detailed instructions.

- Generate the Food Stamps Request For Contact/Missed Interview (LDSS-4753) form in FS POS, as follows:
  - From the Changes to FS Case window, select Phone in the Source of Change(s) field, select the Prepare Forms option and click the Next button.
  - The Form Data Entry window appears. Click Yes to the Food Stamps - Request For Contact/Missed Interview (LDSS-4753) option.

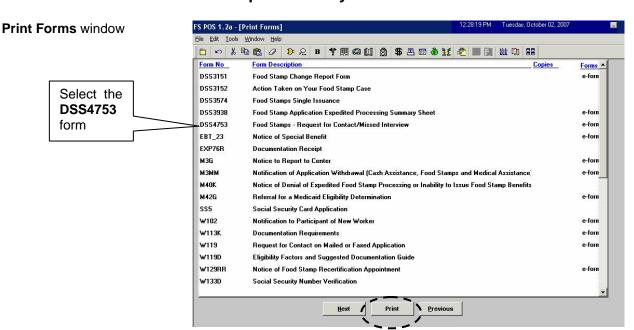


## FIA Policy, Procedures, and Training

- The Response to Question window appears. Execute the following actions:
  - Select the Missed Interview Recertification check box.
  - Enter the date the recertification interview was missed.
  - Select Yes or No to the Did the client submit a completed LDSS-4826 (Food Stamp Benefits Application/Recertification)? question.
  - Enter the date the FS benefits will be discontinued. This is the last calendar day of the month following the month of the Date Next Recert (indicated on the WMS Case Composition Suffix/Individual Summary screen e.g., if Date Next Recert is 2/26/09, then the date FS benefits will be discontinued is 3/31/09).
  - Click the **OK** button.



- Click Next on the Form Data Entry window. The Print Forms window appears.
- Select the Food Stamps Request for Contact/Missed Interview (LDSS-4753) option and click the Print button.
- Click the Next button. The Close window appears. Click the Complete Activity button.



 Give the completed LDSS-4753 form to the Supervisor to mail to the participant.

Households who failed to keep their appointment will also receive a notice from the New York State (NYS) Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) the first week of the month following the month of the missed appointment, as follows:

The Missed Appointment Notice is systemgenerated with code **Z99** and the Reminder Notice with code **Z96** in CNS.

- Households that submitted a signed and completed LDSS-4826 will receive the Missed Appointment Notice.
- Households that did not submit a signed and completed LDSS-4826 will receive the Reminder Notice.

HRA's Management Information Systems (MIS) will send OTDA two files at the beginning of each month identifying the households that meet the respective criteria above.

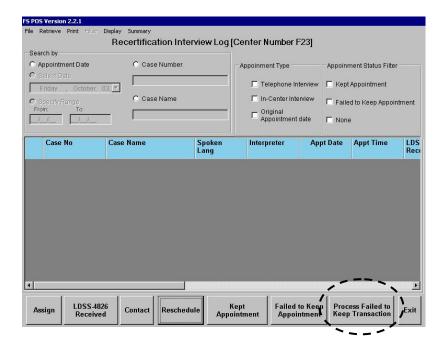
## <u>Processing Case Closings Due to Failure to Keep</u> Recertification Interview

Failure to Keep Appointment

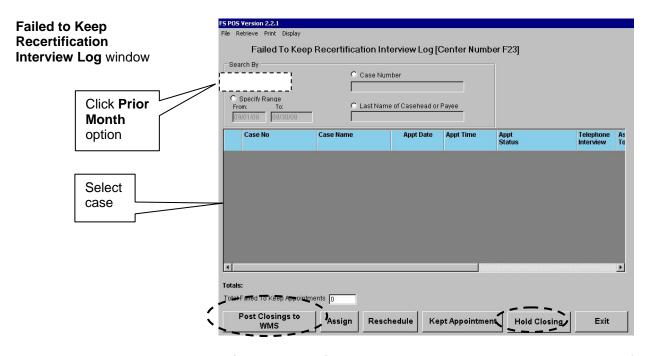
Beginning the first business day following the 15th calendar day of the month, the Control Supervisor will close cases that failed to keep their recertification interview originally scheduled during the prior month by performing the following:

 Access the Recertification Interview Log window and click the Process Failed to Keep Transaction button.

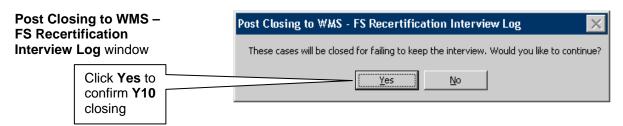
Recertification Interview Log window



 The Failed to Keep Recertification Interview Log window appears. Select the Prior Month option in the Search by section and the Retrieve tool bar option to display all cases which failed to keep their recertification interview originally scheduled during the prior month.



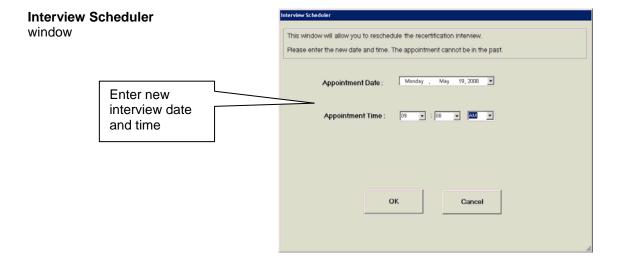
- If the status of the interview is unknown and must be verified, select the case from the list and click the Hold Closing button.
- If the failure to keep the interview has been confirmed, select the case from the list and click the Post Closing to WMS button.
  - If the Post Closings to WMS button is clicked, the Post Closing to WMS – FS Recertification Interview Log window appears. If the Yes button is clicked, a transaction with closing code Y10 (Failure to Recertify [No Notice Required]) is posted to WMS for the case.



## Missing or Illegible Telephone Number on Form LDSS-4826

If the telephone number is missing or illegible on page 1 of form **LDSS-4826**, the Control Worker must execute the following actions:

- Access the LDSS-4826 Received window (from the Recertification Interview Log window via the LDSS-4826 Received button), select In-Center as the Interview Type (leave the Contact Number field blank), and click the OK button.
- The Recertification Interview Log window appears. Click the Reschedule button.
- The Interview Scheduler window appears. Select the new date and time for the In-Center interview and click the OK button. This automatically generates the Notice of Food Stamp Recertification Appointment (W-129RR) form that must be mailed to the participant.
- Place the recertification packet in the appropriate tickler file based on the interview date.



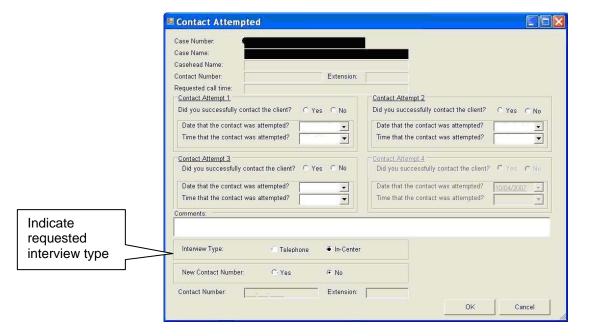
## Telephone Calls to the NCA FS Center

If the participant calls the NCA FS Center:

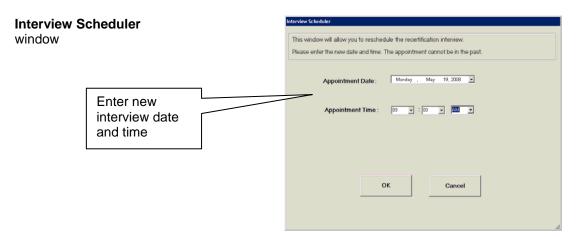
 To request an in-person interview instead of a telephone interview:

The Control Worker must update the interview preference type in FS POS as follows:

- Access the Recertification Interview Log window.
- Select the case from the list using the applicable date filter(s) and click the **Contact** button.
- The Contact Attempted window appears. Select the In-Center option in the Interview Type field and click the OK button.

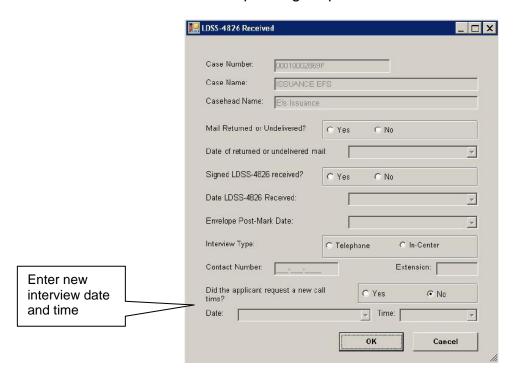


 The Worker is returned to the Recertification Interview Log window. He/she must click on the Reschedule button to record the new date and time for the interview. The Interview Scheduler window appears. The Worker must select a new date and time for the interview and click the OK button. This automatically generates form <u>W-129RR</u> that must be mailed to the participant.



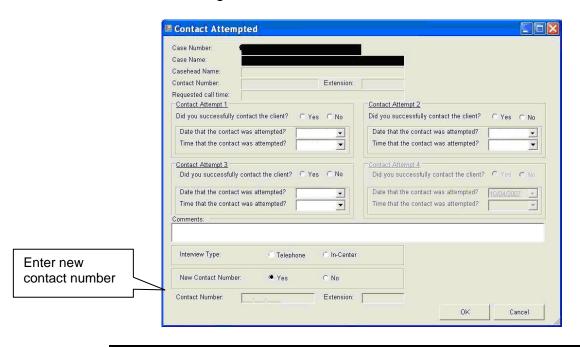
• To request a different date/time for the telephone interview instead of the date/time indicated on the recertification packet:

The Control Worker must record the requested date/time on the LDSS-4826 Received window (accessed from the Recertification Interview Log window via the LDSS-4826 Received button) by selecting Yes to the "Did the applicant request a new call time?" question and selecting the date and time in the corresponding drop-down fields.



• To report a different telephone number to call for the interview:

The Control Worker must record the new contact number on the Contact Attempted window (accessed from the Recertification Interview Log window via the Contact button) by selecting Yes to the New Contact Number field, enter the telephone number in the Contact Number field and Extension field (if applicable), and clicking the OK button.



## PROGRAM IMPLICATIONS

Medical Assistance (MA) Implications

There are no MA implications.

LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING ABILITY (LESA) AND HEARING IMPAIRED IMPLICATIONS For Limited English-Speaking Ability (LESA) and hearing-impaired applicants/participants, make sure to obtain appropriate interpreter services in accordance with <u>PD #09-14-OPE</u> and <u>PD #08-20-OPE</u>.

## FAIR HEARING IMPLICATIONS

Avoidance/ Resolution To avoid inappropriate adverse actions, process all changes of address and address corrections immediately. Ensure that the address is complete, including any "in care of" designation and the apartment number. Prior to initiating a case closing for inability to locate, review the case record documentation and WMS to ensure that all information corresponds.

Conferences

If an applicant/participant comes to the NCA FS Center and requests a conference, the Receptionist must alert the Center Manager's designee that the applicant/participant is to be seen. If the applicant/participant contacts the Eligibility Specialist directly, advise the applicant/participant to call the Center Manager's designee. In Model Offices, the Receptionist at Main Reception will issue a FS Conf/Appt/Problem ticket to the applicant/participant to route him/her to the NCA FS Reception area and does not need to verbally alert the Center Manager. The NCA FS Receptionist will alert the Center Manager once the applicant/participant is called to the NCA FS Reception desk.

The Center Manager's designee will listen to and evaluate the applicant's/participant's complaint regarding the case closing. The applicant/participant must provide current verification of address to resolve the issue. After reviewing the documentation, case record, and discussing the issue with the Group Supervisor/Eligibility Specialist, the Center Manager's designee will make a decision. The Center Manager's designee will decide to resolve or defend the case based on all factors and on whether the case was closed correctly.

The Center Manager's designee is responsible for ensuring that further appeal by the applicant/participant through a Fair Hearing request is properly controlled and that appropriate follow-up action is taken in all phases of the Fair Hearing process.

**Evidence Packets** 

All Evidence Packets must contain a detailed history (e.g., copies of FS POS "Case Comments" and/or NYCWAY "Case Notes" screens, History Sheet [W-25]), copies of relevant WMS screen printouts, notices sent, and other documentation relevant to the action taken.

**REFERENCES** 

01 ADM 9 at 4 18 NYCRR 387.7(i) 18 NYCRR 387.17(f)(3)

## RELATED ITEMS

PD #09-03-EMP PD #09-16-ELI

## **ATTACHMENTS**

 □ Please use Print on Demand to obtain copies of forms. **BRC-901D** Food Stamp Telephone Recertification Brochure

(Rev. 11/14/08)

BRC-901D (S) Food Stamp Telephone Recertification Brochure

(Spanish) (Rev. 11/14/08)

W-706B Food Stamp Program Pending Applications Control

(Rev. 11/14/08)

**W-901F** Incomplete Food Stamp Recertification Form (Rev.

4/3/09)

**W-901F (S)** Incomplete Food Stamp Recertification Form

(Spanish) (Rev. 4/3/09)

W-901AA Food Stamp Telephone Recertification Insert

(Rev. 4/3/09)

W-901AA (S) Food Stamp Telephone Recertification Insert

(Spanish) (Rev. 4/3/09)

## MORE CONVENIENT:

You can recertify for FOOD STAMPS from your own home.

## **EASIER:**

No more having to travel by bus or train to the FOOD STAMP CENTER for recertification.

## SAVE TIME:

Without all that running around, you will have more time for work, family and friends.

For more information contact the HRA Infoline: 1-877-472-8411

Or

The City of New York Infoline: 311

Or

visit our Website: http://www.nyc.gov/hra



Michael R. Bloomberg Mayor

Human Resources Administration Department of Social Services

Robert Doar Commissioner

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# QUESTIONS & NSWERS





BRC-901D LLF Rev. 11/14/2008

# FOOD STAMP TELEPHONE RECERTIFICATION

## WHY?

To make the **RECERTIFICATION** process for **FOOD STAMPS** easier and more convenient for you.

## WHEN?

Telephone interviews can be scheduled instead of your having to go to **THE FOOD STAMP CENTER** for the interview.

## WHERE?

We will call the telephone number that you provided to us.

## **Rights and Responsibilities**

By calling **877-472-8411** or **311** you may receive client informational booklets regarding:

- What You Should Know About Your Rights and Responsibilities, when applying for or receiving benefits.
- 2) What You Should Know about Social Services Programs.
- 3) What You Should Know if You Have an Emergency.

Or visit our Website: http://www.nyc.gov/hra

## Frequently Asked Questions

## Question:

What is Telephone Recertification?

#### **Answer:**

Your interview for Food Stamp recertification is done over the telephone instead of you having to ravel to the Food Stamp Center.

## Question:

How will I know if I can participate in Telephone Recert figation?

## \nswei:

You will receive instructions and information in your next recertification packet.

## Question:

When will be called?

#### Answer:

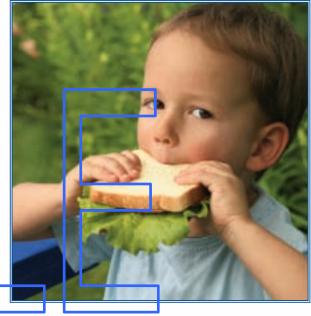
We will call you on the date and time recorded on your recertification appointment letter; but only if we've received your completed, signed application.

#### Question:

What if I need a different time or want to use a different telephone number?

#### **Answer:**

When you receive your recertification packet a telephone number will be provided to call and change the appointment date, time or contact telephone number.



## Question:

What if I miss the call?

#### Answer:

You will be able to reschedule your appointment.

## Question:

What if I need to send in new documents like pay stubs or a birth certificate?

#### Answer:

You will be asked to mail any necessary documents to your Food Stamp Center (copies, not originals).

## MÁS CONVENIENTE: puede recertificar para **CUPONES PARA ALIMENTOS** desde su propio hogar.

## MÁS FÁCIL: ya no tiene que tomar autobuses o trenes para ir al CENTRO DE **CUPONES PARA ALIMENTOS** para

su recertificación.

## AHORRA TIEMPO: con menos diligendias por hacer tendrá más tiempo para su trabajo, su familia y sus amistades.

Para más información comuniquese con la Línea Informativa (Infoline) de HRA: 877-472-8411

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con la Línea Informativa de la Ciudad de Nueva York (The City of New York Infoline): 311

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visite nuestra Página de Internet: http://www.nyc.gov/hra



Alcalde

#### Administración de Recursos Humanos

Departmento de Servicios Sociales

**Robert Doar** Comisionado

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RECERTIFICACIÓN POR TELÉFONO PARA CUPONES PARA ALIMENTOS



Administración de Recursos Humanos

Departamento de Servicios Sociales

BRC-901D (s) LLF Rev. 11/14/2008

## RECERTIFICACIÓN POR TELÉFONO DE CUPONES PARA ALIMENTOS

# ¿POR QUÉ?

Para que el proceso de **RECERTIFICACIÓN** de **CUPONES PARA ALIMENTOS** sea más fácil y conveniente para usted.

# ¿CUÁNDO?

Las entrevistas telefónicas pueden ser programadas en vez de usted ir en persona al CENTRO DE CUPONES PARA ALIMENTOS.

# ¿DÓNDE?

Llamaremos al número de teléfono que usted nos proporcione en el <u>Formulaçio de Petición de Hora de Llamado</u> (Call Tirne: Request Form).

## Derechos y Responsabilidades

Si llama al 877-472-8411 o 311 puede recibir folletos de información al cliente sobre:

- Lo Que Usted Debe Saber Sobre Sus Derechos y Responsabilidades, al solicitar o recibir beneficios.
- 2) Lo Que Usted Debe Saber Sobre Programas de Servicios Sociales.
- 3) Lo Que Usted Debe Saber en caso de Emergencia.
- O visite nuestra Página de Internet:

Or visit our Website: http://www.nyc.gov/hra

## **Preguntas Frecuentes**

#### Pregunta:

¿En qué consiste la Recertificación por Teléfono?

## Respuesta:

Su entrevista para recertificación de Cupones para Alimentos se realiza por teléfono en vez de usted tener que presentarse al Centro Oficina de Cupones para Alimentos.

#### Pregunta:

¿Cómo sé si puedo participar en Recertificación por Teléfor o?

## Respuesta:

Su Centro de Cupones para Alimentos ha sido selecciono do para este provecto piloto. Usied recibirá instrucciones e información en su próximo paquete de receptificación.

## Pregunta:

¿Cuándo recibiré la llamada telefónica?

## Resp les ta

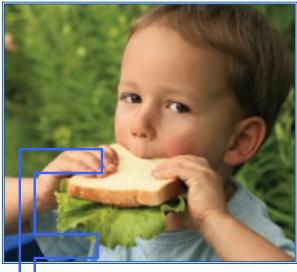
Le lla mare mos cuando recibamos su solicitud lle nada y firmada. Ilamaremos además según la información proporcionada en el Formulario de Petición de Hora de Llamada. Este formulario se encuentra en la última página del Aviso de Recertificación que usted recibirá en breve por correo.

#### Pregunta:

¿Qué tal si necesito una hora diferente o si deseo utilizar otro número de teléfono?

#### Respuesta:

El paquete de recertificación que usted recibirá contendrá un formulario para solicitar una hora más conveniente y proporcionar un número de teléfono por el cual se le pueda conseguir



## Pre gunta

¿Qué tal si no estoy para contestar la llarnada?

## Res puesta:

En caso de que no podamos comunicarnos con usted de antemano, le llamaremos en al día/hora programados según indique su Aviso de Recertificación. Dicha llamada sólo se realizará si usted envió la solicitud firmada.

## Pregunta:

¿Qué tal si tengo que enviar nuevos documentos tales como talones de paga o actas de nacimiento?

## Respuesta:

Le pediremos que envíe por correo a la Centro de Cupones para Alimentos cualquier documento necesario (no envíe documentos originales, sólo fotocopias). Form W-706B Rev. 11/14/08

Group/Section:



# Food Stamp Program Pending Applications Control

"A" Group Number:
Card Number:

Date FS	2301	Cons Nome	Case	Worker's	Interview	30th		Food Stamp Action Control						Mail/Fax		
Appl. Filed	Day	Case Name	Number	Name		Day	Expe- dited	Single Issue	Deferred	Accept	Reject	Appl. Returned No Signature	RFI Only	Date Rec'd	Due Date	Decision Comments
										L						
					$/\!\! / \!\! \backslash$		//									

Form W-901F LLF Rev. 4/3/09



Date:	
Case Number:	
Case Name:	
NCA Food Stamp Center:	

## **Incomplete Food Stamp Recertification Form**

On, you returned your recertification application and documents to conduct a
telephone recertification interview. In order to accept and process your Food Stamp Recertification, your
signature is required on page 5 of the application.
There was no signature on page 5 of your recertification application. We are returning a copy of your
application to you. Rease sign page 5 of the copy of your application and immediately return it in the
enclosed postage-paid envelope. We are retaining your original application on file so we may prepare for
and conduct your telephone recertification eligibility interview. However, the recertification process will not
be considered complete until we receive your required signature.
☐ There were no signatures on any pages of your application. We are returning your application and the
accompanying documents. Please sign page 5 of your application and immediately return it with the
accompanying documents in the enclosed postage-paid envelope, so that we may conduct the telephone recertification interview.



Fecha: _	
Número del Caso:	
Nombre del Caso: _	
Centro de Cupones para Alimentos de No Asistencia en Efectivo:	

## Formulario Incompleto para Recertificación de Cupones para Alimentos

El, usted devolvió su solicitud y documentos de recertificación para realizar una
entrevista de recertificación por telérono. Para poder aceptar y tramitar su formulario de Recertificación de
Cupones para Alimentos se requiere su firma en la <b>página 5</b> de la soliditud.
No había firma en la <b>página 5</b> de su solicitud. Le estamos devolviendo una copia de su solicitud. Favor de firmar la <b>página 5</b> de la copia de su solicitud y devolveria en el sobre adjunto prepagado de inmediato. Nosotros vamos a guardar su solicitud original en nuestros archivos para poder preparar y realizar su entrevista telefónica de recertificación para elegibilidad. Sin embargo, el trámite de recertificación no se considerará completo hasta que recibalnos su firma como debido.
<ul> <li>No había firmas en ninguna de las páginas de su solicitud. Le estamos devolviendo su solicituo y documentación pertinente. Favor de firmar la página 5 de su solicitud y devolverla de inmediato con lo documentos pertinentes en el sobre adjunto prepagado, para que podamos realizar el trámite de la entrevista telefónica de recertificación.</li> </ul>

Form W-901AA Rev. 4/3/09



Enclosed is a brochure to tell you about the Human Resources Administration's new telephone recertification process. The telephone recertification process will allow you to conduct your recertification interview over the telephone instead of in the Food Stamp Center. In order to do this, we must have a telephone number on file for you.

According to our records,
We have the following telephone number on file for you,
We do not have a telephone number on file for you.
f you would like to be considered for a telephone receptification interview and the number we have on file is
ncorrect or we don't have a number on file, please call us at to update our records.

If the telephone number we have on file is correct, when it is time for your recertification we will send you a recertification packet. The packet must be completed and returned in order to conduct the telephone recertification interview.

Form W-901AA (S) Rev. 4/3/09



Adjunto se encuentra un folleto que le informará sobre el nuevo proceso de recertificación por teléfono de la Administración de Recursos Humanos (Human Resources Administration). El proceso de recertificación le permitirá llevar a cabo su entrevista de recertificación por teléfono en vez de en el Centro de Cupones para Alimentos. Para poder hacer esto, necesitamos un número de teléfono suyo en nuestros archivos.

Según nuestros archivos,
Tenemos el siguiente número de teléfono suyo
No tenemos un número-de telefono suyo.
Si usted desea que se le considere para la entrevista de recentificación por teléfono y o tenemos un número en
nuestros archivos, o el que tenernos es incorrecto, tavor de llamarnos al para
poner nuestros archivos al día.

Si el número de teléfono en nuestros archivos es correcto, le enviaremos un paquete a la hora de su recertificación. El paquete tiene que llenarse y devolverse para poder llevar a cabo la entrevista de recertificación por teléfono.