

**County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency (HHSa)  
Medi-Cal Program Guide Letter**

**Medi-Cal Changes Due to a Property Rule Change in the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Program**

**Number**

826

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**Issue Date:**

11/12/2015

**Effective Date:**

Upon Receipt

**Purpose:**

To add instructions from Special Notice (SN) 06-05 to the MPG. This SN is now obsolete.

**Background:**

This SN provided instructions regarding the treatment of property for the following cases:

- Pickle
- Disabled Adult Child
- Disabled Widow(er)
- 250 Percent Working Disabled Program

**Policy Change:**

The following changes were introduced in this SN and are now added to the MPG:

- Revised the definition of Household Goods and Personal Effects
- Eliminated the \$500 resource limit for items of unusual value
- Excluded all household goods and personal effects from resources, regardless of their dollar value

**Summary of Changes:**

- MPG 5.10.1 – Added property changes to this section
- MPG 9.6.10 – Added information for the programs above on treatment of Household Goods
- MPG 9.6.17 – Added information for the programs above on treatment of personal effects

**Impacts:**

**Automation:**

No impact

**Forms and Document Capture:**

No impact

**Other Programs Affected:**

None

**Quality Control:**

Effective with December 2015 review month, Quality Control will cite the appropriate error on any case that does not comply with the requirements outlined in this letter.

**References:**

ACWDL [05-28](#)

**Sunset Date:**

This policy will be reviewed for continuance on or by 11/30/2018.

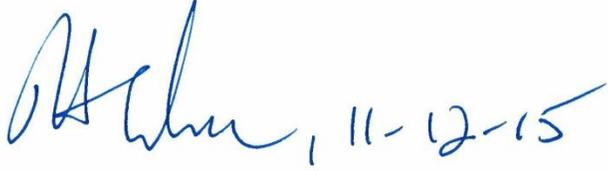
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**Approval for Release:**



*Rick Wanne, 11-12-15*

Rick Wanne, Director  
Eligibility Operations

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**Pickle Handbook**

**Number**

**05.10.01**

**Page**

1 of 2

**Issue Date:**

November 12, 2015

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**MPG 05.10.01.A**

**Background:**

The purpose of Section 10 is to provide procedures for eligibility determinations and case maintenance for the Pickle Program.

Under the Pickle Amendment to the Social Security Act, certain ABD-MN eligible individuals who receive Title II (RSDI) benefits and who are former Title XVI (SSI/SSP) recipients are entitled to zero SOC Medi-Cal benefits.

**Policy:**

The Craig v. Bonta court order mandates individuals discontinued from SSI/SSP continue to receive full scope, zero SOC Medi-Cal until an eligibility determination is completed. The only exceptions to the court order are those individuals discontinued by SSA due to death or are incarcerated in a correctional facility.

Individuals discontinued from SSI/SSP due to the annual COLA are placed in Craig v. Bonta aid codes 1E (aged), 2E (blind), or 6E (disabled). These individuals will remain as Exception Eligibles until an eligibility determination has been completed. When an eligibility determination has not been completed by the second month, MEDS Alert 9548, Over 2 Months Extended Elig – Medi-Cal Determ Overdue will be generated. Review MEDS alerts daily and process them within the timelines specified in [20.01.04](#).

**Procedure:**

**MPG 05.10.01.B, Pickle Handbook**

The DHCS issued Pickle Handbook sections are referenced in Section 10, to include information and instructions necessary to determine Pickle eligibility and comply with the Craig v. Bonta and Lynch v. Rank court orders.

Basic Medi-Cal eligibility requirements are addressed in this Section and cover only those eligibility requirements that are different for Pickle eligible individuals and must be followed when evaluating these eligibility factors.

**MPG 05.10.1.C, Pickle Property**

Form [DHCS 7037](#) may be used to evaluate the Pickle individual's property. The following items must be evaluated as shown.

**MPG 05.10.1.D, Definitions**

The table below shows the revised definitions of certain items of property. These items are excluded from the property reserve, regardless of their value.

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**Pickle Handbook**

**Number**

**05.10.01**

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<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Examples</b>
Household Goods	Items of personal property, found in or near the home that are used on a regular basis; and items needed by the householder for maintenance, use and occupancy of the premises as a home.	Furniture, appliances, electronic equipment, personal computers, television sets, carpets, cooking and eating utensils, and dishes.
Personal Effects	Items of personal property ordinarily worn or carried by the individual and articles otherwise having an intimate relation to the individual.	Clothing, personal jewelry, wedding and engagement rings, books, musical instruments, items of cultural or religious significance, prosthetic devices, and wheelchairs.

Items acquired or held because of their value or as an investment are not considered household goods or personal effects for purposes of this exclusion.

**MPG 05.10.1.E, Items of Unusual Value**

There is no resource limit for items of unusual value.

**Other Program Impacts:**

None.

**References:**

California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 22, Section [50247](#)

ACWDL [05-28](#)

MPG Letters [699](#) and [826](#)

**Sunset Date:**

This policy will be reviewed for continuance on or by 11/30/2018.

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**Household Items**

**Number**

**09.06.10**

**Page**

**1 of 1**

**Issue Date:**

November 12, 2015

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**MPG 09.06.10.A**

**Background:**

This section provides the instructions for treatment of Household items.

**Policy:**

All items used to furnish and equip a home are exempt.

See below for the treatment of these items for the following cases:

- Pickle
- Disabled Adult Child
- Disabled Widow(er)
- 250 Percent Working Disabled Program

**Procedure:**

**MPG 09.06.10.B, Definitions**

The table below shows the revised definitions of certain items of property. These items are excluded from the property reserve, regardless of their value.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Examples</b>
Household Goods	Items of personal property, found in or near the home that are used on a regular basis; and items needed by the householder for maintenance, use and occupancy of the premises as a home.	Furniture, appliances, electronic equipment, personal computers, television sets, carpets, cooking and eating utensils, and dishes.

Items acquired or held because of their value or as an investment are not considered household goods or personal effects for purposes of this exclusion.

**Other Program Impacts:**

None.

**References:**

California Code of Regulations, Section [50465](#)

ACWDL [05-28](#)

MPG Letters [826](#)

**Sunset Date:**

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**Issue Date:**

November 12, 2015

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**MPG 09.06.17.A**

**Background:**

This section provides the instructions for treatment of personal effects.

**Policy:**

The following items of personal effects are exempt:

- All items of clothing
- The following jewelry items:
  - Wedding and engagement rings
  - Heirlooms
  - Any other item of jewelry with a net market value of \$100 or less

Note: For institutionalized individuals and their community spouses only, all jewelry is exempt.

See C, below, for the treatment of these items for non-exempt jewelry and the following cases:

- Pickle
- Disabled Adult Child
- Disabled Widow(er)
- 250 Percent Working Disabled

**Procedure:**

**MPG 09.06.17.B, Non-Exempt Jewelry**

The net market value of jewelry not exempted above will be included in the property reserve.

The net market value of jewelry is determined as follows:

<b>Step</b>	<b>Action</b>
1	Require the applicant/beneficiary to submit at least one written appraisal of current market value by a jeweler, insurance adjustor, or personal property appraiser, or proof of the purchase price in the form of a sales slip which establishes the market value.
2	Subtract any encumbrances of record from the market value to obtain the net market value.

**MPG 09.06.17.C, Definitions**

The table below shows the revised definitions of certain items of property. These items are excluded from the property reserve, regardless of their value.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Examples</b>
Personal Effects	Items of personal property ordinarily worn or carried by the individual and	Clothing, personal jewelry, wedding and engagement rings, books, musical

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	articles otherwise having an intimate relation to the individual.	instruments, items of cultural or religious significance, prosthetic devices, and wheelchairs.
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Items acquired or held because of their value or as an investment are not considered household goods or personal effects for purposes of this exclusion.

**Other Program Impacts:**

None.

**References:**

California Code of Regulations, Section [50467](#)

ACWDL [05-28](#)

MPG Letters [699](#) and [826](#)

**Sunset Date:**

This policy will be reviewed for continuance on or by 11/30/2018.