

Date: January 27, 1981

Joseph E. Steigman

Regional Representative OCSE PIQ-8102

Deputy Director

Office of Child Support Enforcement

Subject: Fee for Service in Sheriff's Agreements

This is in response to your memorandum dated December 19, 1980 concerning a fee-for-service agreement between the New Jersey State IV-D agency and the Essex county sheriff's office. The specific issue you raise is whether a fee-for service arrangement is subject to the same prior approval by the Regional Office as a part-time arrangement for service of process.

You are correct in assuming that the fee-for-service arrangement, like a full-time arrangement for service of process, does not require Regional approval. The rationale for prior approval of part-time arrangements, as you note, is to provide a safeguard against inappropriate use of Federal funds under the agreement. Because of the relatively small potential for misuse of funds under a fee-for-service arrangement, I agree that Regional approval of the arrangement is unnecessary.

Louis B. Hays