

MEMORANDUM

Texas Department of Human Services * Long Term Care/Policy

TO: LTC-R Regional Directors
Section/Unit Managers

FROM: Marc Gold
Section Manager
Long Term Care-Policy
State Office MC: W-519

SUBJECT: Regional Survey & Certification Letter #99-22

DATE: June 3, 1999

The attached RS&C Letter is being provided to you for information purposes and should be shared with all professional staff.

- RS&C Letter No. 99-22 -- Identifying the Printing Date and Printing Location for ASPEN HCFA 2567 Statement of Deficiencies and Plan of Correction or ASPEN Survey Drafts; Call Beverly Tucker, Section Manager, Professional Services, at (512) 438-2631.

If you have any questions, please direct inquiries to the individuals or sections listed above.

~Original Signature on File~

Marc Gold

Attachment

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Health Care Financing Administration

Region VI
1301 Young Street, Room 833
Dallas, Texas 75202

May 26, 1999

REGIONAL SURVEY AND CERTIFICATION LETTER NO: 99-22

To: All State Survey Agencies (Action)
All Title XIX Single State Agencies (Information)

Subject: Identifying the Printing Date and Printing Location for ASPEN HCFA 2567 Statement of Deficiencies and Plan of Correction or ASPEN Survey Drafts

The HCFA 2567 Statement of Deficiencies and Plan of Correction is a legal document; however, it identifies a survey only by provider and survey date. In the past few months the Dallas Regional Office has encountered different versions of surveys of the same provider with the same survey date. For example, we recently met with a provider's staff to discuss its State survey. They brought a 55 page HCFA 2567. Our HCFA 2567, which had the facility's Plan of Correction, was 56 pages. There are several reasons that different versions of a HCFA 2567 may be in circulation: The surveyor's initial HCFA 2567's may be printed, then altered in an enforcement review or in an Informal Dispute Resolution. While deficiency citations are being written and enforcement actions being considered, surveys may be electronically mailed within States and to the HCFA Regional Office. These surveys can be printed in any of these locations. Also, we have seen facility-produced HCFA 2567's with Plans of Correction. ASPEN may be available to providers or a HCFA 2567 can be scanned into a computer. As a result, deficiency citations can be intentionally or unintentionally altered and at present, we have no evidence that a given HCFA 2567 is the final HCFA 2567 Statement of Deficiencies and Plan of Correction.

Beginning immediately, please have all staff who print a draft or final HCFA 2567 survey from ASPEN, **initial and record the date the document was printed and the office where it was printed on the first page on the document.**

If you have any questions please call Dan McElroy at 214-767-6322.

Sincerely,

~Signature on File~

Calvin Cline, Chief
Survey and Certification Operations Branch