

**DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES**

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February 27, 2023

Zackery P. Morazzini  
Director and Chief Administrative Law Judge  
Office of Administrative Hearings  
Department of General Services  
2349 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Dear Mr. Morazzini,

The Department of Developmental Services (Department) appreciates the long-standing support provided by your office for developmental services programs, through the resolution of hundreds of mediations and hearings each year. Last summer, the State's budget trailer bill for developmental services, SB 188, was enacted as Chapter 49, Statutes of 2022. Included in the enacted provisions were amendments to Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 4712.5, which established a new process for delegation of hearing decisions before they become final decisions.

For purposes of WIC Section 4712.5, subdivision (e)(1), all hearing decisions drafted by the Office of Administrative Hearings for appeals filed on or after March 1, 2023, shall be considered final decisions, with the following exceptions that shall be proposed decisions to be provided to the Department pursuant to that Section:

1. All decisions containing issues regarding Coordinated Family Support Services
2. All decisions containing issues regarding the Self-Determination Program
3. All decisions containing issues regarding services provided, or proposed to be provided, from outside the borders of California

The Department will identify matters for which a proposed decision should be issued, when an appeal is referred for hearing. Pete Cervinka, Chief, Data Analytics and Strategy, will coordinate the Department's engagement with you in this work. He can be reached at the phone number above or [pete.cervinka@dds.ca.gov](mailto:pete.cervinka@dds.ca.gov). Thank you for the ongoing partnership in this important work on behalf of the Californians we serve.

Sincerely,

*Original signed by:*

NANCY BARGMANN  
Director

cc: On following page

**“Building Partnerships, Supporting Choices”**

Director of the Office of Administrative Hearings

February 27, 2023

Page two

cc: Bob Varma, Office of Administrative Hearings  
Susan Formaker, Office of Administrative Hearings  
Carla Castaneda, Department of Developmental Services  
Pete Cervinka, Department of Developmental Services  
Hiren Patel, Department of Developmental Services  
Brian Winfield, Department of Developmental Services