Transmittal No: 92 LCM-120

Date: August 13, 1992

Division: Income Maintenance
        Medical Assistance

TO: Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: Seneca Nation Settlement Act

ATTACHMENTS: Notices Regarding Payments from Seneca Nation Settlement Act - not available on-line

This is a follow-up to the "Dear Commissioner" letter of June 8, 1992 regarding the exemption of "Seneca Nation Settlement Act" monies for Public Assistance (PA), Food Stamps (FS), Medical Assistance (MA) and Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP).

Under Public Law 101-503 and the memorandum of understanding between the Seneca Nation and the State, Settlement Act monies are exempt from consideration in determining eligibility or benefits for any State or federally funded social services program. These monies must not be counted as income or resources now or at any later point in time.

On June 12, 1992, each adult member of the Seneca Nation was sent a check for $2,000. Attached is a notice dated June 9, 1992 that accompanied each check. A second notice (also attached), dated June 10, 1992, was also sent to Seneca Nation members that might be receiving some type of social services. Either notice is to be accepted as verification of the exempt monies when presented to a social services district. It is not necessary for districts to obtain documentation of the exempt monies immediately. Verification must be obtained however at the time of the next client contact or recertification, whichever is sooner. A copy of either notice must be filed in the case record to insure future exemption of Settlement Act monies.
Members of the Seneca Nation under age 18 will receive the $2,000 check at the time they turn age 18. These funds must also be exempted from consideration when determining eligibility or benefits for any State or federally funded program.

Any questions concerning this LCM should be directed to:

Income Maintenance: Greg Nolan, 1-800-342-3715, extension 4-9313 (AV1830)
Medical Assistance: County Representative at 1-800-342-3715, extension 3-7581
New York City: (212) 417-5853 (0ME060)

Please share this LCM with your staff.

Oscar R. Best, Jr.
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Income Maintenance

Jo-Ann Costantino
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Medical Assistance