

September 3, 2002

Agency for Health Care Administration
Ms. Heather Johnson,
Medicaid County Billing Supervisor
2727 Mahan Drive - Mail Stop #14
Tallahassee, FL 32308

RE: Certificates of Residency (COR) Correspondence dated August 29,
2002

Dear Ms. Johnson:

As we discussed in our phone conversation late yesterday, it is imperative that the Certificates of Residence (COR) forms are forwarded to each County before approval of payment for a nursing home resident. Recently our members were contacted via our listserv for comments on the COR issue. The consensus of those responding was that while the COR's are not always accurate, they are at the very least a starting point in the verification process, and the Counties will continue to delete any billings where a COR has not been provided.

As you requested, enclosed is a copy of the Medicaid County Billing Handbook that was developed as a cooperative effort with AHCA and FACSSE back in 1996/97 and the agenda from the April 26, 1996 meeting. This is the latest handbook that has been distributed. A great deal of time and effort went into this handbook by the County Billing Task Force. Prior to the 1996/97 task force, there was an earlier committee that worked with your agency developing the first guidelines.

Historically, the Counties have worked in partnership with your agency to assist in the processing of these billings, but have steadfastly held that these COR's must be completed and forwarded to the County for verification. Good fiscal management requires accurate validation of all information prior to approval for payment.

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September 3, 2002

Page two

I would like to again extend an offer from our association to continue to cooperate with your agency to assist in any way possible to streamline the billing process.

Sincerely,

Beth Ryder, President

c: FACSSE Members
Joe Anne Hart, Florida Association of Counties
Carol Bracy, Florida Association of Counties
Douglas M. Anderson, St. Lucie County Administrator
Raymond Wazny, St. Lucie County Assistant Administrator
Daniel McIntyre, St. Lucie County Attorney