

ADOPTION SECTION

HUMAN SERVICES

OFFICE OF FINANCE

Notice of Readoption

Role of the County Adjuster

Readoption: N.J.A.C. 10:7

Authority: N.J.S.A. 30:1-12.

Authorized By: Jennifer Velez, Commissioner, Department of Human Services.

Effective Date: February 19, 2015.

New Expiration Date: February 19, 2022.

Take notice that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1, the rules at N.J.A.C. 10:7 will expire on March 28, 2015. This chapter contains the rules of the Department of Human Services, Office of Finance governing the role of the county adjuster. N.J.A.C. 10:7 establishes the rules that shall assure that the role of each county adjuster is standardized and carried out in an effective and efficient manner.

The county adjuster is the county official charged with the responsibility for determining the psychiatric client's financial ability to pay the Department psychiatric agency and/or the county psychiatric facility for the cost of care and maintenance. The county adjuster is also responsible for filing a petition with the court to determine the client's legal settlement and provision for payment of the client's expense for care and treatment. The rules concern county adjuster responsibilities regarding commitments, admissions, reviews, and discharges; court orders of settlement and support; and liens.

The rules also set forth procedures for county adjuster accounting and office administration, and for sanctions and the appeal of sanctions.

The Department of Human Services (Department) has reviewed N.J.A.C. 10:7 and has determined the rules to be necessary, reasonable, and proper for the purposes they were originally promulgated to serve.

The Department recognizes that further rulemaking is necessary to update these rules to be consistent with best practices. To that end, the Department is preparing amendments to these rules and anticipates proposing these amendments in the near future.

The Department has reviewed the rules and has determined them to be necessary, reasonable, and proper for the purposes for which they were originally promulgated, as required by N.J.S.A. 30:1-12 et seq. and in accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1.c(1), these rules should be readopted and continue in effect for a seven-year period.