

**BEFORE THE
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

In the Matter of:

CLAIMANT

and

SOUTH CENTRAL LOS ANGELES REGIONAL CENTER,

Service Agency.

DDS No. CS0021487

OAH No. 2024100471

PROPOSED DECISION

Irina Tentser, Administrative Law Judge (ALJ), Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH), State of California, heard this matter by videoconference on February 11, 2025.

Armida Ochoa, Independent Facilitator, represented Claimant, who was not present at the fair hearing. Claimant's mother (Mother) was present throughout the fair hearing. Claimant and his family members are identified by titles to protect Claimant's privacy.

Tami Summerville, Fair Hearing Manager, represented South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC).

Testimonial and documentary evidence was received. The record was closed and the matter was submitted for decision at the conclusion of hearing on February 11, 2025.

The exhibits contained Claimant's date of birth; the date of birth was redacted from the exhibits by the ALJ in the preparation of the instant decision to protect Claimant's privacy rights.

ISSUE

Should SCLARC be required to increase Claimant's monthly personal assistance (PA) hours from 205 to 215 hours per month to assist Claimant to read the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Driver's Manual (also known as "California Driver's Handbook") so that Claimant can prepare to take his written driving test for a California driver's license?

EVIDENCE RELIED UPON

Documentary: SCLARC exhibits 1-7; Claimant's exhibits A-R.

Testimonial: Mayra Munguia, SCLARC Program Manager; Claudia Alvarado, SCLARC Enhanced Case Management Specialist; Cynthia Rivera, SCLARC Self-Determination Choice Specialist; and Mother.

Jurisdictional Matters

1. Claimant is a 17-year-old boy who qualifies for regional center services based on a diagnosis of Moderate Autism. Based on Mother's report, Claimant has a

secondary disability of Speech and Language Impairment (SLI). (Exhibit 4.) He also has a health condition that requires medication, Asthma. (*Id.*, p. A45.) Claimant also has issues sleeping through the night and with sleep apnea. (Mother's Testimony; Exhibit 4, p. A46.)

2. Claimant participates in the Self-Determination Program (SDP). His SDP individual budget for July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, is \$135,942.92 (Year 4 SDP budget). The Year 4 SDP Budget was approved and signed by SCLARC on January 30, 2025, and by Mother on January 25, 2025. (Exhibit 5, p. A65.) Claimant's fair hearing representative, Ms. Armida Ochoa, who is also Claimant's SDP Independent Facilitator (IF), approved and signed the budget on January 25, 2025.

3. On June 27, 2024, or July 15, 2024, Mother requested SCLARC increase Claimant's PA care services hours for an additional 10 hours per month; one and a half hours on Wednesdays and one hour on Saturdays. The increased hours are to be used to help Claimant read the DMV Driver's Manual so that Claimant can prepare to take the written driving test and obtain his DMV driving permit.

4. On August 29, 2024, SCLARC sent a Notice of Action (NOA) letter to Mother, notifying her that her July 15, 2024 request for additional PA hours was denied. (Exhibit 1, pp. A7-A9.) The NOA described how the requested additional PA hours were to be used, stating it was to assist Claimant "with preparation for a driving test." (*Id.*, p. A7.) The NOA calculated the total PA hours as 240, and the 10 additional requested hours would increase the PA to 250 hours per month. (*Id.*, p. A8.) The PA hours already provided by SCLARC to Claimant were noted to be "for supervision, recreation, and community integration." (*Id.*, p. A7.)

//

5. The August 29, 2024 NOA explained SCLARC was unable to approve the request because the calendar Claimant provided to SCLARC outlining his day-to-day schedule to support the increased PA hours did not account for “the existing 60 [PA] hours already included in the approved budget.” (Exhibit 1, p. A8.) SCLARC also described the services funded for Claimant, which included: In-Home Respite Care services, PA support, Camp and Camping fees, Therapy Services, Swimming Classes, Art lessons, Kickboxing lessons, and Gym membership. In addition, SCLARC noted Claimant receives 76 hours per month of In-Home Support Services (IHSS) funded by the Department of Public Social Services. (*Id.*, p. A7.) As a result, SCLARC concluded the services currently provided to Claimant by SCLARC sufficiently meet his needs.

6. On August 29, 2024, Mother filed an appeal request, on Claimant’s behalf, to appeal SCLARC’s denial of the request for funding for increased PA hours. (Exhibit 1, pp. A3-A6.) The reason for the appeal was “[Mother] requested 10 hours monthly to help [Claimant] read the DMV Driver[’s] Manual on 6/27/2024 during his IPP meeting. [Mother] never requested th[ese] hours to teach [Claimant] to drive or to do the written driver[’]s test. Th[ese] hours were mentioned to be utilized for reading the Manual only. [Claimant] requires preparation with plenty of time to get him ready for activities or situations. Your consumer is tryin[g] [to] get access to an independent life through services. Parent disagree[s] on the way such statement was used in the letter. Also regarding the Autism level a concern. Regional [Center] can use [Claimant’s Autism level] against consumer of family to deny services. (IPP meeting was recorded.) I request Transparency and respect towards the consumer[’]s family.” (*Id.*, pp. A3-A4.)

7. On November 11, 2024, Mother filed a Welfare & Institutions Code section 4731 complaint against SCLARC with the Department of Developmental Services (DDS). (Exhibit C.) The basis for the complaint was: 1) SCLARC created

confusion in the appeal process by wording the denial to the 10 hour increase differently than requested and sending an untimely denial in violation of the Lanterman Act, 2) spending plan modification submitted by Claimant's IF dated September 17, 2024 to SCLARC and FMS Acumen was not updated in Acumen platform as of November 11, 2024, 3) SCLARC is limiting using funds to Claimant based on his new unmet need, 4) Mother feels discriminated and retaliated when advocating for Claimant's needs, 5) the fourth year SCLARC SDP budget in Claimant's case removed \$6,093.12 in funds allocated in Claimant's first year budget without clarification as to why the funds were removed, and 6) on October 24, 2024, Mother sent, via email, the Adaptive Skills Training (AST) Independent Hands Assessment to Service Coordinator (SC) Claudia Alvarado and had not received a written decision about the recommendations in the assessment. (Exhibit C.)

8. Between November 2024 and the February 11, 2025 fair hearing in this matter, SCLARC and Mother communicated by person and through email to clarify misunderstandings about Claimant's SDP budgets for the past four years, and Claimant's correct amount of PA hours provided under the current Year 4 SDP budget by SCLARC. (The parties are in a separate fair hearing process on Claimant's request for additional AST hours for, among other things, to assist Claimant in obtaining his California Driver's License. (Exhibit I, pp. B27-B28).)

9. At the time Mother filed the fair hearing request in this matter, Mother was under the mistaken understanding Claimant was receiving 193 hours of PA monthly for the Year 4 SDP budget. However, prior to the fair hearing, the parties held several meetings to clarify confusion about Claimant's SDP budgets for the past four years. During the meetings, SCLARC corrected Mother's 193 PA hour understanding and also corrected SCLARC's erroneous NOA 240 PA hour calculation. Accordingly,

prior to beginning the fair hearing, during discussion of the issue that was to be resolved at the hearing, the parties agreed SCLARC was funding a total of 205 hours of PA per month for the Year 4 SDP budget. Mother continued to request an increase of 10 hours per month of PA after clarification that the monthly PA hours were not 193 hours per month as she previously believed but were actually 205 PA hours per month.

10. It is important to note that Claimant's PA hours were not decreased from 240 to 205 PA monthly hours at any point from his SDP budgets for the past four years. (Exhibit 5, p. A84.) Claimant's first year budget provided for 140 PA monthly hours for eight months, 100 PA monthly hours for 12 months, and the COVID-19 exception provided 200 PA monthly hours for four months. The 200 PA monthly hours under the COVID-19 exception were removed from Claimant's second year budget, as they were for all consumers who returned to in-person schooling after the pandemic. The allocated PA hours stayed consistent in all other respects for Claimant's second- and third-year SDP budgets. For Claimant's fourth year, SCLARC increased the PA hours from 2,320 per year (193.3 per month) to 2,460 per year (205 per month). (*Id.*, p. A84-A85.)

11. During this fair hearing, there was discussion by the parties of other concerns and frustrations regarding the SDP budget process. However, the focus of the hearing in this matter and this proposed decision is limited to the issue of Claimant's request to increase his PA hours from 205 PA monthly hours to 215 PA monthly hours, to assist him in reading the DMV Driver's Handbook. (Exhibits 5, p. A85, Q.)

//

//

Claimant's Background

12. Claimant resides at home with his biological Mother and Father, and a younger brother (Brother), who is 11 years old. Claimant's Brother is also a regional center consumer.

13. Mother is Claimant's primary caregiver and IHSS provider. Claimant is currently in 12th grade. He is enrolled in six classes: 60 percent of his classes are Special Day Classes (4 classes), and 40 percent are in a general education setting (2 classes). Claimant meets special education eligibility criteria as a student with Autism. Claimant has a 1:1 aide throughout the school day who helps him with all academic requirements, safety, and assisting Claimant in navigating throughout the campus. Claimant is reported to be excelling academically and is on track to graduate high school in June 2025. Claimant is athletic and participates in cross country, track, and soccer. He also participates in swimming and kickboxing classes. Mother reported he has been accepted to both California State University, Dominguez Hills and Cerritos College and intends to attend Cerritos while living at home.

14. Claimant's Individual Program Plan (IPP) dated June 27, 2024, was approved by Mother and signed by SCLARC. (Exhibit 5, pp. A86.) Claimant has been participating in the SDP since July 1, 2021. Pursuant to the IPP, effective July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, SCLARC agreed to fund as follows: \$1,300 for 52 hours of swim classes for 12 months (4.3 hours per month); \$2,600 for 104 hours of art class for 12 months (8.6 hours per month); \$4,420 for 4.3 for 52 hours kickboxing for 12 months (4.3 hours per month); 2,460 hours of PA for 12 months (205 hours per month); 552 hours of in-home respite services for 12 months (52 hours per month); \$200 for Conference; \$10,900 for 109 hours for "KED Law Group, APC" for advocacy; \$5,666 for

Camp Fees for Summer, Winter & Spring; and, \$16,544.64 for 192 hours of AST for 12 months (16 per month). (*Id.*, p. A82.)

15. According to the IPP, Claimant's last Individualized Education Plan (IEP) was on June 10, 2024. (Exhibit 2, p. A35.) The June 10, 2024 IEP was not submitted into evidence at the fair hearing. As reported by Mother at the IPP, Claimant attends high school in person from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM, Monday to Friday. He receives 30 minutes of speech therapy per week. In addition to Claimant's assigned 1:1 school aide, Claimant has an assigned Resource Specialist (RSP) who supports him in all areas of his schooling. (An RSP is a special education teacher who works with students who have IEPs.) Claimant's 1:1 aide supports Claimant until 2:30 PM and then the PA takes over for afterschool events and activities. (*Id.*, p. A35.)

16. Claimant participates in community outings for personal errands, recreation, entertainment, or church on an almost daily basis. (Exhibit 2.) One of Claimant's goals is to continue working on building his independence, including as reported by Mother, obtaining his driver's license.

Request for Additional PA Funding

17. Mother claims a lack of support and transparency by SCLARC during the SDP budget process. She asserts SCLARC is not supporting Claimant to become an independent member of society. She claims SCLARC is failing to support Claimant's goal of obtaining his driver's license by denying the request for an increase in his allocated PA hours so that he can obtain assistance in reading the driver's manual. Despite the parties' past meetings to discuss Claimant's SDP budgets, Mother expressed frustration at SCLARC's failure to effectively explain Claimant's SDP budgets.

//

18. Mother submitted documents to corroborate her argument that Claimant's PA hours should be increased. One of the documents submitted into evidence was Claimant's monthly schedule. (Exhibit J.) According to the schedule, Claimant required additional PA hours on Wednesdays from 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM, and on Saturdays from 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM, to support Claimant in reading the California Driver's Manual to prepare to take the written driving test. (*Id.*, p. B36, p. B38.)

19. On Mondays, the calendar indicated a total of 5.5 PA hours were being used to get Claimant ready for school from 6:00 AM to 6:30 AM, to take Claimant to soccer practice from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM, and from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM, to accompany Claimant in the community, such as the library, stores, shopping malls, and parks, when Mother volunteers in the community. (Exhibit J.) Parent Responsibility, including IHSS hours, was designated from 10:30 PM to 6:00 AM, when Claimant was sleeping because of his waking up during the night and potential elopement, and from 7:30 AM to 8:30 AM. Respite was designated from 6:30 AM to 7:30 AM and from 8:00 PM to 10:30 PM. The calendar indicated Claimant attends school from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM. (*Ibid.*)

20. On Tuesdays, the calendar indicated a total of 5.5 PA hours were being used to get Claimant ready for school from 6:00 AM to 6:30 AM, to take Claimant to kickboxing from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM, and from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM, to accompany Claimant in the community, such as the library, stores, shopping malls, and parks, when Mother volunteers in the community. (Exhibit J.) Parent Responsibility, including IHSS hours, was designated from 10:30 PM to 6:00 AM, when Claimant was sleeping because of his waking up during the night and potential elopement, and from 7:30 AM to 8:30 AM. Respite was designated from 6:30 AM to 7:30 AM and from 8:00 PM to

10:30 PM. The calendar indicated Claimant attends school from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM. (*Ibid.*)

21. On Wednesdays, the calendar indicated Claimant attends school from 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM, which was inconsistent with prior information provided by Mother about Claimant's school hours ending at 2:30 PM daily. (Exhibit J.) The current PA hours used on Wednesdays is indicated to be a total of 6.5 hours, broken down as follows: getting Claimant ready for school from 6:00 AM to 6:30 AM, for unspecified "PA Support – AST" from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM, taking Claimant to soccer from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM, and from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM, to accompany Claimant in the community, such as the library, stores, shopping malls, and parks, when Mother volunteers in the community. (*Ibid.*) The requested additional PA hours were noted on the calendar to be used from 12:30 PM to 1:00 PM. Parent Responsibility, including IHSS hours, was designated from 10:00 PM to 6:00 AM, when Claimant was sleeping because of his waking up during the night and potential elopement, from 7:30 AM to 8:30 AM, and from 12:00 PM to 12:30 PM. Respite was designated from 6:30 AM to 7:30 AM and from 8:00 PM to 10:00 PM.

22. On Thursdays, the calendar indicated a total of 5 PA hours were being used to take Claimant to swimming from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM, and from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM, to accompany Claimant in the community, such as the library, stores, shopping malls, and parks, when Mother volunteers in the community. (Exhibit J.) Parent Responsibility, including IHSS hours, was designated from 10:00 PM to 6:30 AM, when Claimant was sleeping because of his waking up during the night and potential elopement, and from 7:30 AM to 8:30 AM. Respite was designated from 6:30 AM to 7:30 AM and from 8:00 PM to 10:00 PM. The calendar indicated Claimant attends school from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM. (*Ibid.*)

23. On Fridays, the calendar indicated a total of solely 2.5 PA hours were being used from 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM, to accompany Claimant in the community, such as the library, stores, shopping malls, and parks, when Mother volunteers in the community. (Exhibit J.) An unspecified combination of "PA Support – AST" totaling 2.5 hours was designated from 3:00 PM to 5:30 PM. Parent Responsibility, including IHSS hours, was designated from 10:00 PM to 6:30 AM, when Claimant was sleeping because of his waking up during the night and potential elopement, and from 7:30 AM to 8:30 AM. Respite was designated from 6:30 AM to 7:30 AM and from 8:00 PM to 10:00 PM. The calendar indicated Claimant attends school from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM. (*Ibid.*)

24. On Saturdays, the calendar indicated a total of 8 PA hours were being utilized as follows: 2.5 PA hours, from 8:30 AM to 11:00 AM, to take Claimant to swimming while Mother did food shopping; 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM for a combination of "PA Support and tutoring Class," while Mother did family laundry; 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM for PA support to accompany Claimant in the community, such as the library, stores, shopping malls, and parks, when Mother goes to the gym. (Exhibit J.) Claimant requested one additional PA hour from 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM on Saturdays to "help [Claimant to prepare] to take driving test." (*Ibid.*) Parent responsibility hours were designated from 5:30 PM to 8:30 AM.

25. On Sundays, the calendar indicated a total of 5 PA hours were being utilized as follows: 3 PA hours, from 11:30 AM to 2:30 PM, to take Claimant to soccer; 1.5 PA hours, from 2:30 PM to 4:00 PM while Mother goes to the gym; and 0.5 hours for PA support to accompany Claimant in the community, such as the library, stores, shopping malls, and parks. (Exhibit J.) Parent responsibility hours were designated from 4:30 PM to 11:30 AM.

26. In total, for Mondays through Sundays (5.5 PA hours (Monday) + 5.5 PA hours (Tuesday) + 6.5 PA hours (Wednesday) + 5 PA hours (Thursday) + 5 PA hours (Friday) + 8 PA hours (Saturday) + 5 PA hours (Sunday)), the calendar indicated a total of 40.5 hours per week of the SCLARC funded PA hours were being utilized by Claimant, for a yearly total of 2,106 PA hours (40.5 hours per week multiplied by 52 weeks equals 2,106).

27. SCLARC reviewed Claimant's calendar that was submitted to support Claimant's request for 10 additional PA hours per month. After review of the calendar, it was evident that Claimant's PA request for additional hours should be denied because Claimant's needs were being met by the currently allocated 2,460 PA hours per year in the Year 4 SDP budget. (Testimonies Mayra Munguia, Claudia Alvarado, and Cynthia Rivera.) In fact, Claimant's calendar demonstrated that Claimant was not utilizing an available 354 PA hours per year from the Year 4 SDP budget (2,460 PA hours for Year 4 SDP budget minus 2,106 PA hours used by Claimant per calendar for Year 4 budget equals 354 PA hours).

28. Mother testified and submitted evidence that she had enrolled Claimant in an online driving course, cruisecontroldrivers.com. (Exhibits G and R.) The course curriculum is based on a review of information in the California Driver's Handbook, and providing 30 hours of driving instruction, in accordance with the DMV, to prepare Claimant to take the driver's license exam. (Exhibit Q.) Mother testified she intends to enroll Claimant in an additional 90-hour course to prepare him to take to take the California written driving test. According to Mother, Claimant needs an increase in PA hours to assist him to read the manual and take the course. However, Claimant has failed to establish a basis for the increase in PA hours based on Claimant's current use of the allocated PA hours. Specifically, Claimant has an unused 29.5 hours of PA

already available monthly to meet his goal to have assistance in reading the driving manual (354 unused PA hours in Year 4 SDP budget divided by 12 months equals 29.5). SCLARC therefore demonstrated Claimant's needs are being met, and properly denied Claimant's request for an additional 10 PA monthly hours.

LEGAL CONCLUSIONS

1. The Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act (Lanterman Act) governs this case. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 4500 et seq.) (All further statutory references are to the Welfare and Institutions Code unless otherwise indicated.) A fair hearing to determine the rights and obligations of the parties is held in response to a claimant's appeal of a service agency's decision. Claimant timely requested a fair hearing of SCLARC's denial of his request for an increase in PA hours from 205 to 215 monthly hours to be used to assist him in reading the California Driver's Handbook. Therefore, jurisdiction for this case was established. (Factual Findings 1-6.)

2. Because Claimant seeks government benefits or services, he has the burden of proof. (*Lindsay v. San Diego Retirement Bd.* (1964) 231 Cal.App.2d 156, 161.) The standard of proof in this case is the preponderance of the evidence because no law or statute (including the Lanterman Act) requires otherwise. (Evid. Code, § 115.) This standard is met when the party bearing the burden of proof presents evidence that has more convincing force than that opposed to it. (*People ex rel. Brown v. Tri-Union Seafoods, LLC* (2009) 171 Cal.App.4th 1549, 1567.)

3. In this case, Claimant bears the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that he is entitled to a 10-hour monthly increase in PA hours as part of the Year 4 SDP budget. (See Evid. Code, § 500.)

Applicable Statutes

4. Section 4512, subdivision (b), provides, in relevant part:

The determination of which services and supports are necessary for each consumer shall be made through the individual program plan process. The determination shall be made on the basis of the needs and preferences of the consumer or, when appropriate, the consumer's family, and shall include consideration of a range of service options proposed by individual program plan participants, the effectiveness of each option in meeting the goals stated in the individual program plan, and the cost-effectiveness of each option.

5. Section 4659, subdivision (a), provides:

Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (b) or (e), the regional center shall identify and pursue all possible sources of funding for consumers receiving regional center services. These sources shall include, but not be limited to, both of the following:

(1) Governmental or other entities or programs required to provide or pay the cost of providing services, including Medi-Cal, Medicare, the Civilian Health and Medical program for Uniform Services, school districts, and federal supplemental security income and the state supplementary program.

(2) Private entities, to the maximum extent they are liable for the cost of services, aid, insurance, or medical assistance to the consumer.

6. Services provided must be cost effective, and the Lanterman Act requires regional centers to controls costs so far as possible, and to otherwise conserve resources that must be shared by many consumers. (§§ 4512, subd. (b), 4640.7, subd. (b), 4651, subd. (a), 4659, and 4697.)

Self-Determination Program

7. The SDP is a model of service delivery governed by the statutory guidelines set forth in section 4685.8. "Self-determination" means "a voluntary delivery system consisting of a defined and comprehensive mix of services and supports, selected and directed by a participant through person-centered planning, in order to meet the objectives in their IPP." (§ 4685.8, subd. (c)(6).)

8. A regional center consumer who has been deemed eligible for, and has voluntarily agreed to participate in, the SDP is referred to as a "participant." (§ 4685.8, subd. (c)(5).) "A participant may choose to participate in, and may choose to leave, the Self-Determination Program at any time." (§ 4685.8, subd. (d).)

9. The SDP "shall only fund services and supports . . . that the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services determines are eligible for federal financial participation." (§ 4685.8, subd. (c)(6).)

10. An SDP participant can negotiate unique service arrangements with local community resources. (§ 4685.8, subd. (b)(2)(B).)

//

11. An SDP participant "shall manage [SDP] services and supports within the participant's budget." (§ 4685.8, subd. (d)(3)(D).)

12. An SDP participant "may transfer up to 10 percent of the funds originally distributed to any budget category set forth in paragraph (3) of subdivision (m) to another budget category or categories. Transfer in excess of 10 percent of the original amount allocated to any budget category may be made upon the approval of the regional center or the participant's IPP team." (§ 4685.8, subd. (n).)

Discussion

Based on Factual Findings 1 through 28, and Legal Conclusions 1 through 12, the preponderance of the evidence established that SCLARC properly denied Claimant's request to increase SDP PA funding from the current 205 PA monthly hours to 215 PA monthly hours to assist Claimant to read the DMV Driver's Manual so that Claimant can prepare to take his written driving test for a California driver's license. Insufficient evidence was presented that Claimant's currently available and allocated Year 4 SDP budget PA hours of 205 hours per month (2460 PA hours per year) do not meet his needs.

ORDER

Claimant's appeal is denied.

DATE:

Irina Tentser

Administrative Law Judge

Office of Administrative Hearings

BEFORE THE
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of:

Claimant

OAH Case No. 2024100471

Vs.

DECISION BY THE DIRECTOR

South Central Los Angeles Regional Center,

Respondent.

ORDER OF DECISION

On February 21, 2025, an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) at the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) issued a Proposed Decision in this matter.

The Department of Developmental Services (Department) takes the following action on the attached Proposed Decision of the ALJ:

The Proposed Decision is adopted by the Department as its Decision in this matter. The Order of Decision, together with the Proposed Decision, constitute the Decision in this matter.

This is the final administrative Decision. Each party is bound by this Decision. Either party may request a reconsideration pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code section 4713, subdivision (b), within 15 days of receiving the Decision or appeal the Decision to a court of competent jurisdiction within 180 days of receiving the final Decision.

Attached is a fact sheet with information about what to do and expect after you receive this decision, and where to get help.

IT IS SO ORDERED on this day March 10, 2025.

Original signed by:

PETE CERVINKA
Director