

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

In re:)	AWG Docket No. 10-0270
)	
Verna Johnson)	
)	
Petitioner)	Dismissal of Garnishment
		Proceedings

A hearing by telephone was held on August 24, 2010. Petitioner did not dispute that she had incurred a debt arising out of a mortgage loan given to her and her now deceased husband. She has not been employed since March when hospitalized for the surgical repair of a torn ligament and carpal tunnel syndrome. She then learned that she also has a brain tumor. She cannot work, has memory loss, and becomes confused. Under these circumstances, Respondent, USDA Rural Development, has agreed that the pursuit of the debt through administrative wage garnishment would cause undue financial hardship to Mrs. Johnson. Respondent USDA Rural Development therefore recommends that in these circumstances, the petition for the dismissal of the pending administrative wage garnishment proceedings against Petitioner, Verna Johnson, be granted and that administrative wage garnishment to collect the debt shall be barred forever.

It is so ordered.

Copies of this Order dismissing the pending Garnishment Proceedings against Verna Johnson shall be served upon the parties by the Hearing Clerk's Office.

Dated: August 24, 2010

Victor W. Palmer
Administrative Law Judge