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Rod R. Blagojevich  
Governor

Erwin McEwen  
Acting Director

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**Illinois Department of Children & Family Services**

April 26, 2007

Honorable William G. Holland  
Auditor General  
Iles Park Plaza, 740 East Ash  
Springfield, IL 62703

Dear Mr. Holland:

An evaluation of the internal fiscal and administrative controls of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) was completed for the report due by May 1, 2007, as required by the Fiscal Control and Internal Auditing Act ("the Act", "FCIAA") and performed in accordance with guidelines established by the Comptroller in consultation with the Director of Central Management Services.

The objectives of the system of internal fiscal and administrative controls of DCFS are to provide reasonable assurance that:

1. Resources are utilized efficiently, effectively, and in compliance with applicable law,
2. Obligations and costs are in compliance with applicable law,
3. Funds, property, and other assets and resources are safeguarded against waste, loss, unauthorized use, and misappropriation,
4. Revenues, expenditures, and transfers of assets, resources, or funds applicable to operations, are properly recorded and accounted for to permit the preparation of accounts and reliable financial and statistical reports and to maintain accountability over the State's resources, and
5. Funds held outside the State Treasury are managed, used, and obtained in strict accordance with the terms of their enabling authorities and that no unauthorized funds exist.

100 West Randolph, 6-200 • Chicago, Illinois 60601-3249  
312-814-4650 • 312-814-8783 / TTY



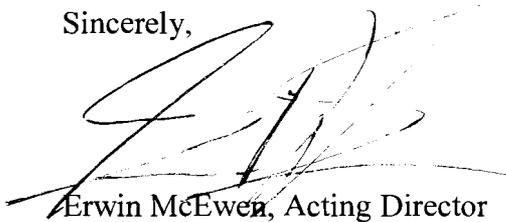
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The concept of reasonable assurance recognizes that the cost of internal controls should not exceed the benefits expected, and that the benefits consist of reductions in the risks of failing to achieve stated objectives. Estimates and judgments are required to assess the expected benefits and related costs of control procedures. Furthermore, errors or irregularities may occur and not be detected because of inherent limitations in any system of accounting and administrative internal control, including those limitations resulting from resource constraints, legislative restrictions and other factors.

Finally, projection of any evaluation of the system to future periods is subject to risk that procedures may be inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the degree of compliance with the procedures may deteriorate. Nonetheless, I have taken the necessary measures to assure that the evaluation, identified in the first paragraph, has been conducted in a thorough and conscientious manner.

After review and evaluation, we have determined that the systems of internal fiscal and administrative controls of the Department in some cases do not fully comply with the requirements of the Act. Description of the material weakness and a corrective action plan is attached.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Erwin McEwen', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Erwin McEwen, Acting Director

cc: Barbara Piwowarski, Deputy Director, Budget & Finance