

40000

Illinois Department on Aging



Governor Rod R. Blagojevich
Director Charles D. Johnson

421 East Capitol Avenue, #100, Springfield, Illinois 62701-1789
Phone: 217-785-3356, Fax: 217-785-4477, Web: www.state.il.us/aging

April 30, 2007

William G. Holland
Auditor General
Isles Park Plaza
740 East Ash
Springfield, Illinois 62703-3154

Dear Mr. Holland:

An evaluation of the internal fiscal and administrative controls of the Illinois Department on Aging in effect during the reporting period ending April 30, 2007, was performed in accordance with guidelines established by the Comptroller in consultation with the Director of Central Management Services.

The objectives of the system of the internal fiscal and administrative controls of the Illinois Department on Aging are to provide reasonable assurance to effectively and efficiently utilize and protect State assets and resources. The concept of reasonable assurance recognizes that the cost of inherent control should not exceed the benefits expected to be derived from such measures, and that the benefits consist of reduction in the risks of failing to achieve the stated objectives. Estimates and judgments are required to assess the expected benefits and related costs of control procedures.

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 among all six divisions of the Department. The results of the evaluation indicate that the systems of internal fiscal and administrative controls of the Illinois Department on Aging significantly comply with the requirements of this Act at this time. The Department continues to make progress towards the recommended corrective actions that were amplified in the recently completed biannual audit for the period ending June 30, 2006, and the Statewide Single audit for FY06 with existing resources.

Respect for yesterday. Support for today. A plan for tomorrow.

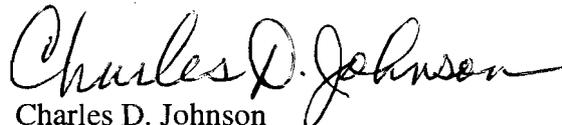
The Illinois Department on Aging does not discriminate in admission to programs or treatment of employment in programs or activities in compliance with appropriate State and Federal statutes. If you feel you have been discriminated against, call the Senior HelpLine at 1-800-252-8966 (Voice and TTY).

As part of the Scope B implementation phase, the Department also forms part of the Shared Services Initiative to streamline and consolidate the fiscal and human resources functions among state agencies under the jurisdiction of the Governor. Validation processes and plans are underway which involve active participation by several DOA employees. When implemented, this initiative would have a significant impact on the agency's oversight and management of its internal accounting and HR processes and control.

To address a notable and important vacancy, the Department has requested to GOMB to backfill the Chief Financial Officer position which was vacated in September 2005. The request to backfill this position which is a SPSA, 4d3 is still pending ePAR Committee approval by GOMB. The daily oversight and administrative duties are shared by other senior staff. Since the vacancy came about, the bureau chiefs or administrators (Bernie Clancy, IT; Rachel Washington, Bureau of Business Services; Sarah Harris, Budget Operations; and Gerry Rishel, Procurement) have been directly reporting to Director Johnson, Deputy Director Gelder or Assistant to the Director Arrindell in the Executive Office. The CFO duties also include being the designated SPO, which was temporarily assigned to Rachel Washington. Clancy is the CIO. The importance of the CFO position cannot be overemphasized and remains a Category 1 priority hire -- Shared Services notwithstanding.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my office at (217) 785-2870.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles D. Johnson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Charles D. Johnson
Director