STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of the Inspector General
Governor W. Averell Harriman State Office Building Campus
Albany, New York 12240

July 16, 2003

Mr. William P. Challice
Audit Director
Office of the State Comptroller
Division of Management Audit & State Financial Services
123 William Street, 21st Floor
New York, New York 10038

Dear Mr. Challice:

The Department of Labor has reviewed audit report 2003-F-11 issued by the Office of the State Comptroller on June 20, 2003, which evaluates the actions taken by Department of Labor (Department) officials as a result of your staff's prior audit report 2000-S-63, Meeting the Transportation Needs of TANF Recipients.

Of the nine audit recommendations that were made in the 2000 audit report, your staff found that Department officials have fully implemented seven recommendations and partially implemented two recommendations. Given this fact, this letter will address only the two recommendations reported as partially implemented.

Recommendation 2

Develop a means, such as the use of GIS technologies, to assist in evaluating and approving local district assessments of transportation needs.

Department Response

The Department remains committed to continuing its effort to develop a GIS to enable providers to track transportation, childcare and individuals in relation to training providers and employers. While there have been delays, these delays have related primarily to technical problems.

Recommendation 6

Develop special programs of coordination and assistance, including program promoting the adoption of best practices from other districts, to help rural districts meet the transportation needs of their TANF recipients.

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Department Response

The Department concurs with the idea that a best practices file be maintained and shared with rural districts to enhance their ability to develop local programs that incorporate the successes of similar districts. Typically, such information has been shared during implementation meetings or monitoring visits conducted by WTW program managers, but steps will be taken to formalize this process.

If you have any questions concerning this response, please contact me at 457-9016.

Sincerely,

Karen C. Stackrow

Karen C. Stackrow
Director of Internal Audit

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