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STATE OF NEW YORK

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

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Catherine Leahy Scott
ACTING INSPECTOR GENERAL

65 COURT STREET, 5TH FLOOR BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14202 (716) 847-7118

April 19, 2012

New York State Office of Children and Family Services 52 Washington Street

Rensselaer, New York 12144-2735

Attn.: Gladys Carrion Commissioner

61 BROADWAY, SUITE 2100

(212) 635-3150

NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10006

Re: NYS IG 1050-008-2010

Dear Commissioner Carrion:

On October 26, 2010, the Office of Children and Family Services' (OCFS)

Special Investigations Unit reported to the New York State Inspector General that during an internal audit of then Assistant Commissioner official travel, it had discovered inconsistencies indicating that intentionally submitted false travel vouchers and received travel expense reimoursements to which he was not entitled. I am writing to advise you of the results of the Inspector General's investigation of this matter.

As an Assistant Commissioner responsible for administering the New York State Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped, OCFS responsibilities involved occasional train travel between Albany and New York City, Buffalo, Syracuse, and Utica. The Inspector General reviewed OCFS's audit of travel, which contained travel vouchers, receipts for lodging and transportation, cellular telephone call data, and time and attendance records. The Inspector General cross-referenced the audit records with train departure and arrival information obtained from Amtrak.

As a result of this analysis, the Inspector General identified 10 travel vouchers
submitted between July 2008 and April 2009 in which he provided false
information. Specifically, claimed on his vouchers earlier departure times and
later return times than had actually occurred, resulting in meal expense reimbursements
to which he was <u>not entitled</u> . In total, requested and received \$547 in improper
reimbursements. testified under oath before the Inspector General and admitted
to knowingly and intentionally providing false information on his travel vouchers. As

you no doubt are aware, OCFS terminated on November 18, 2010, as a result of the internal audit findings. OCFS, however, did not require that make any restitution.

The Inspector General has forwarded these findings to the Rensselaer County District Attorney for his review.

While no response is requested, if you would like additional information regarding our investigation, you may contact me at (518) 474-1010.

Sincerely.

Catherine Le. Scott
Acting Inspector General

cc: Larry Graven
Director, Special Investigations Unit