

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE  
BUREAU OF WELFARE AUDITING

1 ASHBURTON PLACE, ROOM 501, BOSTON 02108, December 29, 1978

### NOVEMBER REPORT OF THE BUREAU OF WELFARE AUDITING

To: *His Excellency Michael S. Dukakis, Governor*  
*Clerk of the Senate*  
*Clerk of the House of Representatives*

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to G.L., c. 7, s. 30T (6), the Bureau of Welfare Auditing, by its Director, submits this report of its activities for the period from November 1, 1978 through November 30, 1978.

During this month two hundred and seventy-three (273) complaints were received by this Bureau alleging a wrongful receipt or claim for payment under assistance programs administered by the Department of Public Welfare.

The chart below indicates the category and source of the referral of these complaints.

November 1, 1978 — November 30, 1978

\*CASE

CATEGORY	1D	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	10	Totals
DPW	1	—	—	16	120	4	2	2	18	13	176
CIT	1	1	2	28	35	2	2	14	6	6	97
TOTAL	2	1	2	44	155	6	4	16	24	19	273

\*\*SOURCE  
OF  
COMPLAINTS

**\*CASE CATEGORIES**

- 1D. Investigation of Dentists and Doctors
- 1O. Investigation of Other Medical Providers
- 2. State Employee Investigations
- 3. Investigations of Undeclared Contributor of Income in the Home
- 4. Unreported Income Investigations
- 5. Investigations of Receipt of Multiple Payments/Benefits
- 6. Check Investigations
- 7. Investigations of Residency Requirements Which Are Not Met
- 8. Investigations of Ineligible/Non-Existent Recipients
- 10. Food Stamp Investigations

**\*\*SOURCE OF COMPLAINTS**

DPW: Complaints received from Department of Public Welfare  
 CIT: Complaints received from General Public and Otherwise

Sixteen (16) cases indicating possible fraudulent receipt of or claim for payment from the Department of Public Welfare were reported in November by this Bureau to the Attorney General for fraud evaluation and for such action as he may deem appropriate. Those cases are described below:

<u>Number of Cases</u>	<u>Case Category</u>	<u>Region</u>
2	State Employee Investigation	Boston
3	Unreported Income Investigations	Greater Boston
4	Unreported Income Investigations	Brockton
1	Undeclared Contributor of Income in the Home	Lawrence
1	Unreported Income Investigations	Lawrence
3	Unreported Income Investigations	New Bedford
2	State Employee Investigations	Springfield

Three (3) additional criminal complaints were filed this month by this Bureau in the Commonwealth's district courts relative to welfare recipient violations.

Eleven (11) criminal cases of alleged welfare fraud investigated by this Bureau were prosecuted during November. Seven defendants were found "guilty" and were given either a suspended jail sentence and/or probation with a court order to fully repay the welfare funds obtained by fraudulent means, and one defendant was found "not guilty". Two cases were "continued without a finding" and the remaining case was presented to a clerk of court, with restitution ordered in all three cases. The total amount of money repaid or ordered to be paid to the Commonwealth in these cases was Eighteen Thousand Five Hundred and Seventy-Four (\$18,574) Dollars.

Also, as a result of a joint investigation undertaken by this Bureau and the "Medicaid Fraud Control Unit" in the Department of the Attorney General, the owner of four nursing homes throughout the state pleaded guilty in Suffolk Superior Court this month to various charges of larceny, perjury and false statements in connection with his Medicaid claims to the state. The investigation disclosed that he had inflated his cost reports submitted to the state either by falsely claiming personal expenses as business costs or by otherwise falsifying his business cost reports. He was ordered to repay the Commonwealth a total of \$78,000 in overpayments by May of 1979, at which time final disposition of his case would take place. He was also placed under the supervision of the Suffolk County probation department until that time.

Respectfully submitted,

RAYMOND F. JOWDY,  
*Director, Bureau of Welfare Auditing.*

