

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, 02133, February 28, 1977.

JANUARY 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 January 1, 1977 through January 31, 1977.

During this month three hundred fifty-nine (359) 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.

January 1, 1977 - January 31, 1977

*CASE

CATEGORY	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	10	11	Totals
DPW	1	1	17	217	1	2	7	22	13	-	281
CIT	3	1	10	46	-	5	6	6	-	1	78
TOTAL	4	2	27	263	1	7	13	28	13	1	359

**SOURCE
OF
COMPLAINTS

***CASE CATEGORIES**

1. Medical Vendor Investigations
2. State Employee Investigations
3. Undeclared Contributor of Income in the Home
4. Unreported Income
5. Receipt of Multiple Payments/Benefits
6. Check Investigations
7. Residency Requirements Are Not Met
8. Ineligible/Non-Existent Recipient
10. Food Stamp Investigations
11. Non-Medical Vendor Investigations

****SOURCE OF COMPLAINTS**

DPW: Complaints received from Department of Public Welfare

CIT: Complaints received from General Public and Otherwise

Six (6) cases indicating possible fraudulent receipt of or claim for payment from the Department of Public Welfare were reported in January by this Bureau to the Attorney General for fraud evaluation and for such action as he may deem appropriate. Those cases are described below:

Number of Cases	Case Category	Region
1	Receipt of Multiple Payments/Benefits	Boston
2	Unreported Income	Greater Boston
1	Unreported Income	New Bedford
2	Unreported Income	Worcester

Seven (7) additional criminal complaints were filed this month by the Bureau in the Commonwealth's district courts relative to welfare recipient violations.

Twelve (12) criminal cases of alleged welfare fraud investigated by this Bureau were prosecuted in January. Five defendants were found "guilty" with most of them given a suspended jail sentence and/or

probation with a court order to fully repay the welfare funds obtained by fraudulent means. One case was "continued without a finding" and five cases were presented to a clerk of court with restitution ordered in each case. The remaining matter was "dismissed". The total amount of money repaid or ordered to be repaid to the Commonwealth in these cases was Thirty-Nine Thousand Two Hundred Forty and 92/100 (\$39,240.92) Dollars.

Included among the court dispositions described above were cases against the owners of two ambulance companies. One individual was convicted of the larceny of \$25,360.00 in Medicaid funds, for his false claims made to the Department of Public Welfare. He was given a two year suspended sentence to the House of Correction, with a corresponding probationary term. He was also fined \$750.00, assessed with court costs of \$1,750.00 and ordered to repay the \$25,360.00 to the Welfare Department.

The second individual was convicted of the larceny of \$2,100.00 in connection with false ambulance claims submitted to Medicaid by his company. The judge gave him a six month suspended jail term, two years of probation and ordered him to repay the \$2,100.00 to the Welfare Department. His corporation was also fined \$250.00.

These two cases were prosecuted by the Criminal Division of the Office of the Attorney General. Both companies were providing ambulance services within the Greater Boston area. Their cases are now being reviewed by the Provider Sanctions Unit of the Department of Public Welfare where they face possible suspension from the Medicaid Program for up to three years and other possible administrative penalties.

Respectfully submitted,

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

The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the country and the progress of the war. It is followed by a detailed account of the military operations in the various theaters of the war. The author then discusses the political and diplomatic relations of the United States with the other nations of the world. The report concludes with a summary of the achievements of the government and the people during the year.

The report is a valuable source of information for those who are interested in the history of the United States and the progress of the war. It is written in a clear and concise style and is easy to read. The author has done a thorough job of research and his account is accurate and reliable. The report is a must-read for anyone who wants to know more about the United States and the war.

Approved and forwarded for publication
 by the President of the United States
 January 1, 1875

Printed by the Government Printing Office
 Washington, D. C.