

*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

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EIGHTEENTH REPORT  
OF THE  
BUREAU OF WELFARE AUDITING  
OF ITS ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE PERIOD  
MAY 1, 1973 TO MAY 31, 1973.

(Submitted under authority  
of Section 30T (6) of Chapter 7  
of the General Laws)

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July 12, 1973.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE,  
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133, June 30, 1973.

MAY REPORT OF  
THE BUREAU OF WELFARE AUDITING

To: *His Excellency Francis W. Sargent, 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 May 1, 1973 through May 31, 1973.

During this month four hundred twenty-seven (427) 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.

May 1, 1973 - May 31, 1973

*CASE										
CATEGORY		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Totals
**SOURCE OF COMPLAINTS	DPW	3	-	33	262	5	6	1	11	321
	CIT	2	-	35	50	4	2	2	5	100
	INV	2	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	6
TOTALS		7	-	68	315	9	8	3	17	427

\*CASE CATEGORIES

1. 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

\*\*SOURCE OF COMPLAINTS

DPW: Complaints received from Department of Public Welfare

CIT: Complaints received from the General Public and Otherwise

INV: Complaints received from Bureau of Welfare Auditing Personnel

Thirty-four (34) cases indicating possible fraudulent receipt or claim for payment from the Department of Public Welfare were reported in May by this Bureau to the Attorney General for fraud evaluation and for such further action as he may deem appropriate. Those cases are described below:

<u>Number of Cases</u>	<u>Case Category</u>	<u>Region</u>
1	Vendor Investigation	Boston
1	Undeclared Contributor of Income in the Home	Boston
12	Unreported Income	Boston
1	Ineligible/Non-Existent Recipient	Boston
1	State Employee Investigation	Brockton
2	Unreported Income	Brockton
1	Undeclared Contributor of Income in the Home	Greater Boston
7	Unreported Income	Greater Boston
1	Ineligible/Non-Existent Recipient	Greater Boston
1	Undeclared Contributor of Income in the Home	Lawrence
3	Unreported Income	Lawrence
1	Unreported Income	New Bedford
1	Undeclared Contributor of Income in the Home	Worcester
1	Unreported Income	Worcester

Fifty-five (55) criminal complaints were filed this month by the Bureau in the Commonwealth's district courts relative to welfare recipient violations.

Fifty (50) criminal matters investigated by this Bureau were prosecuted in Court in May. Twenty-nine defendants were found "Guilty" with most of them given a suspended jail sentence and/or probation and a court order to make full repayment of the welfare monies fraudulently obtained. However, three of these defendants appealed the court decisions when two of them were given jail sentences and a third was ordered to make full restitution. One defendant was found "Not Guilty" and the cases of seven other defendants were "continued without a finding" with court orders of full restitution in each case. Three cases were dismissed, one of them based upon receipt by the court of full restitution. The case of one defendant was "filed" and two defendants "admitted to sufficient facts" with court-ordered restitution in all cases. The remaining seven cases were heard by a clerk of court who ordered restitution in each case. The total amount of money repaid or ordered to be repaid to the Commonwealth in these cases was Sixty-Six Thousand Four Hundred Ninety-Three and 99/100 (\$66,493.99) Dollars.

In May, indictments were returned by Grand Juries of the Commonwealth in two cases investigated by this Bureau. An incorporated pharmacy and its president were indicted by the Worcester County Grand Jury of "grand larceny" of monies of the State Department of Public Welfare. A welfare recipient was also indicted by the Suffolk County Grand Jury on one count of "grand larceny" and four counts of "perjury" in connection with alleged welfare fraud of an amount in excess of Twenty-Seven Thousand Dollars.

Respectfully submitted,

RAYMOND F. JOWDY

*Director, Bureau of Welfare Auditing*