



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

JAN 28 2014

Food and
Nutrition
Service

Northeast Region

10 Causeway St.
Room 501
Boston, MA 02222

Patricia Duda, Food and Nutrition Programs Director
Department for Children and Families
Economic Services Division
103 South Main Street
Waterbury, VT 05671-1201

Dear Ms. Duda:

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) approves the changes to your Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Claims Management Plan with the following comments:

- The revision in Section F to increase the claims establishment thresholds from the existing \$400 threshold to a \$600 threshold for both active and inactive Agency Error claims is approved.
- The revisions in Section J to compromise a portion of each Agency Error claim using the methods outlined in J1 and J2 of your plan are approved.
 - Please provide written procedures that are issued to the Fraud/Claims unit and the District Offices on this new compromise policy.
 - Please ensure that all compromised claims are reported correctly on the FNS-209. FNS is available to provide technical assistance on the FNS-209.
 - In Section J1a of your plan, it indicates that the compromise calculation will be made, "...at the specific point in time that the written request for compromise is made." Given that the Agency Error claims will now be compromised automatically rather than upon a client's written request, please clarify this item to differentiate between Inadvertent Household Error compromise procedures and Agency Error compromise procedures.
- Please note that the Claims Management Plan needs additional revisions to reflect the removal of the 10-year statute of limitations for the Treasury Offset Program, as well as a modification to reflect that the age of the claim is calculated based on the delinquency date (not the date of the Demand Letter). My staff is working with DCF to provide technical assistance on these items.

If you have any questions, please contact Joanne Rando at (617) 565-6421 or Joanne.Rando@fns.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bonnie Brathwaite', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bonnie Brathwaite, Director
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
Northeast Region

cc: Richard Giddings
Andy Lange