

Office of Inspector General

**U.S. Department of Labor
Office of Audit**

**Audit of
Pinellas Workforce Development Board's
Competitive Welfare-to-Work Grant
July 1, 1998 Through June 30, 2001**

**Report Number: 04-02-002-03-386
Date Issued: March 26, 2002**

EXHIBIT 3

**THE COMPLETE TEXT OF
PINELLAS COUNTY'S RESPONSE
TO THE DRAFT AUDIT REPORT**

Following this title page is the complete text of Pinellas County's response to our draft audit report, issued to them on February 12, 2002.



March 11, 2002

Robert R. Wallace
Regional Inspector General for Audit
U.S. Department of Labor, OIG
61 Forsyth Street, S.W., Room 6T20
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3104

RE: Report No. 04-02-002-03-386

Dear Mr. Wallace:

We have reviewed the above referenced draft report titled, "Audit of Pinellas Workforce Development Board's Competitive Welfare-to-Work Grant" ("Draft Report"). As you are aware, during the period of the Competitive Welfare-to-Work Grant which is the subject of the Draft Report ("Grant"), Pinellas Workforce Development Board, Inc. ("PWDB"), the old private industry council, was the grant recipient for both JTPA and WIA funds. PWDB was also the direct recipient of the Grant, which is the subject of the Draft Report.

Based upon the information provided to us in the Draft Report, we are unable to respond because Pinellas County does not currently possess all the necessary files to respond to the Draft Report. During the period of the Grant, PWDB, not Pinellas County, was responsible for, and had custody of, any files related to the Grant. The County stepped in to respond to the findings in the interest of seeing the review expeditiously resolved. However, the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners has not agreed to assume any liability in connection to the Grant, the award of which the County was not privy to, was not consulted about and did not agree to accept.

We would also like to take the opportunity to formally inform the USDOL OIG that PWDB is still in existence. Its address is 14605 49th Street North, #3, Clearwater, FL, 33762. It is operating under the name Fresh Start, Inc. We request that they also be contacted for the purpose of providing a response to the report.

To the extent that the books of account indicate that payments may have been made contrary to the intent of the law, we are requesting that you take notice that (1) Pinellas County, which was designated Administrative Entity in January 2001, retained KPMG to conduct a Close-Out Audit of PWDB, and (2) Pinellas County is involved in a legal dispute with its former one stop operator under whose auspices many of the Grant services occurred. In connections with both the Close-Out Audit and the litigation, Pinellas has already notified the former one stop operator that it is deducting from any final pay the amounts questioned in the Close-Out Audit.

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Because of the above reasons, we are not able to comment at this time. We reserve, however, the right to make such comments as may be appropriate at a later date. Please let us know when we might expect an initial determination in this matter so that we may plan on responding by the time the document reaches the next level.

Sincerely,



Bonnie Moore
Executive Director

cc: Leroy Sullivan, Chairman
WorkNet Pinellas Board