FOOD STAMP PROGRAM CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

November 2003 Update



STATE OF ALASKA FOOD STAMP PROGRAM CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN November 2003 Update

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1. QUALITY CONTROL ACTIVE REVIEWS IN ALASKA

The Alaska Food Stamp Quality Control Active Review consists of an audit of the case file for accuracy of eligibility and payment criteria; contact with the head of household; and verification of information through collateral contacts. When possible, the contact with the head of household or representative is a personal interview. When impossible, the reviewer strives to complete the review through telephone and mail contacts.

Quality Assessment (QA) reviewers document errors found, and identify the apparent causes. The field managers complete the CAP#11 form, identifying the causal factors for each error finding, and develop corrective actions. The QA Program Officer provides additional analysis and works with policy and training staff to implement corrective actions related to clarification of policy and QA process.

DPA recognizes that we could have the greatest influence in reducing agency errors. Agency failure to act accounted for 60% of the FFY03 agency errors. (Agency failure to act on known information caused 31% and failure to verify was 13% of FFY03 errors.) Although corrective actions continued into FFY03, the state calculated payment error rate¹ is high at 14%.

1.1 Alaska Food Stamp Reinvestment Plans

The State of Alaska met its obligations under the FFY97, FFY98, FY99, and FFY01 Reinvestment Plans. DPA currently is waiting for approval of the FFY02 Plan. (The FFY99 Plan ended September 30, 2003.) Alaska Quality Assessment provides separate quarterly status reports to FNS on corrective actions implemented under the Reinvestment Plans.

1.2 State Agency Exchange Program

State Exchange funds paid for Alaska's staff to visit Arizona and Washington states. The purpose was to learn about the initiatives these states implemented to improve payment accuracy. A total of 10 staff members traveled to Washington or Arizona during the month of September. The staff returned to meet as a group and developed a plan

¹ As of 10/21/03.

to develop and implement many of the initiatives employed by Washington, Arizona, or both.

1.3 Analysis of Quality Control FFY03 Statewide Reviews

The Quality Assessment (QA) Unit, using an automated computer program, randomly selected 388 reviews for the October 2002 through September 2003 review period. Of the 388 reviews, 18 were not-subject-to-review and 8 transmitted as incomplete, following the FNS 310 guidelines. The unit completed 319 active reviews².

Of the 319 completed reviews, 234 were correct cases and 80 were found to be incorrect³.

The state calculated payment error rate is 14% for FFY03. This number reflects:

86%
5%
6%
3%

1.4 FFY03 Statewide Error Trends

The FFY03 Sampling Plan required selection of at least 354 cases for review. The caseload increased in FFY02, resulting in a random selection of 388 cases for review.

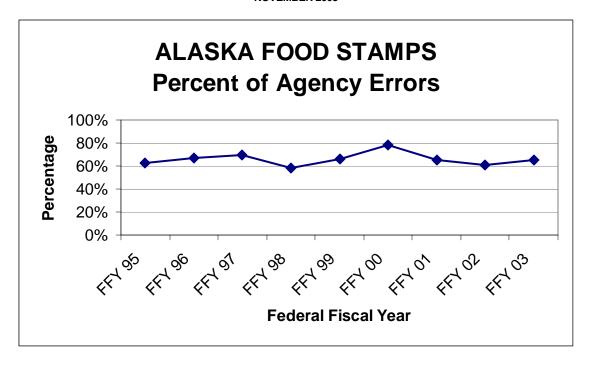
The error trends continue to show the agency caused the majority (65%) of payment errors. Of all agency errors, 19% were misapplication of policies and 4% were math errors by the agency.

State of Alaska

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² As of 10/21/03.

³ Appendices A and B provide greater statistical detail.



Of all FFY03 reviews with payment errors, 28% had Temporary Assistance (22 of 80), including 5 Native Family Assistance cases. This is down from 53% in FFY02.

Of all payment errors, 11 reviews (14%) had Adult Public Assistance (APA) benefits, reflecting a growth trend seen in the Food Stamp – APA combination caseload over the past three years.

Of all reviews, QA referred 9% to the DPA Fraud Unit for follow up⁴. This reflects 26 cases compared to 24 in FFY02, and is a typical number of QA referrals. Of the 26 referrals, 4 were Alaska Temporary Assistance, and 3 were Native Family Assistance Program cases. Three were Adult Public Assistance cases.

Of the FFY03 reviews with errors, families with earned income (42 of 80) accounted for 53% of the errors. This is down from FFY02 at 60%.

Historically, Alaska's highest element in error has been wages and salary. In FFY03, the wages and salary element continued as the highest percentage of payment errors at 29%, however it is a declining percentage. It is interesting to note that this is the first year in three years that this error element does not reflect combination TANF and Food Stamp cases.

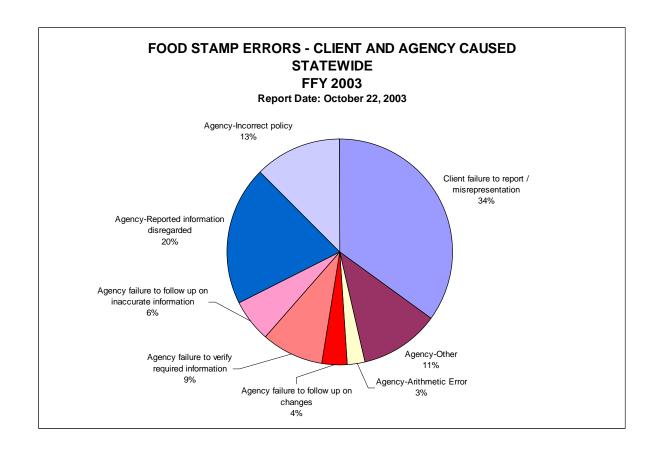
A profile of the case errors in this element follows:

⁴ The field staff may have determined additional cases warranted a fraud referral. That number is unknown. State of Alaska

Wage and Salary Errors of all case errors	29%
Wage and Salary Errors with TANF	0%
Wage and Salary Errors-Agency Caused	78%
Wage and Salary Errors-Agency Caused with TANF	0%
Wage and Salary Errors-Client Caused	22%
Wage and Salary Errors-Client Caused with TANF	0%

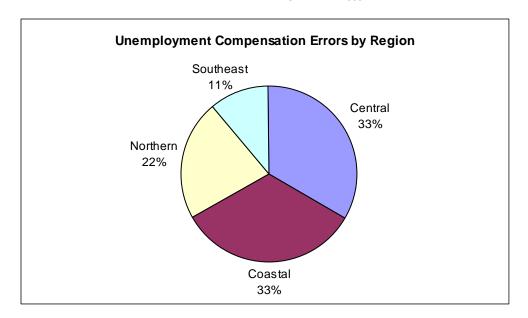
FFY03 saw a dramatic increase in agency caused earned income errors to 78%. The primary cause of these errors was failure to act on known information, including failing to verify reported information. Of the 23 earned income errors, 10 occurred during the months of April, May, and June, which are the months that many Food Stamp clients obtain seasonal employment.

In FFY03 there was a shift in the primary cause of errors to the agency failing to act on known information. In FFY02 the number one cause of case errors at 19% was incorrect application of policy, and specifically new policy in converting income for prospective budgeting. The second most common error (17%) in FFY02 was failure to act on known or reported information. Staff generally understood the averaging and converting income policies in FFY03, although a few related errors show early in the sample.



QA reviewers found a few child support, household composition, and shelter errors in FFY03 in every region. Coastal region had 2 household composition errors related to disqualified alien and drug felon policies. Although the percentage of child support and shelter errors declined, the same types and causes seen in FFY02 were present in these elements for FFY03.

Of all errors, 11% were in the calculation of Unemployment Benefits (UIB) or anticipation of UIB changes. Of the 9 UIB errors, 5 occurred in the first few months of the new fiscal year. This likely reflects a change in seasonal employments, which typically winds down in September and October each year.



SAQA did not find any resource errors in FFY99-01. FFY02 found a few resource errors, however, the clients intentionally hid bank accounts in FFY02. While it is notable that this is the second year with unreported bank accounts, 3 reviews in two regions do not provide enough information to identify trends.

The state-determined regional payment accuracy⁵ rate follows:

	Payment Accuracy							
	<u>FFY97</u>	FFY98	FFY99	FFY00	<u>FFY01</u>	FFY02	FY03 ⁶	
Central	89.1%	88.7%	85.3%	92.2%	86.4%	87.8%	85.1%	
Coastal	89.1%	87.9%	83.3%	96.2%	92.2%	91.2%	87.1%	
Northern	95.8%	88.5%	83.6%	90.6%	92.8%	83.8%	84.1%	
Southeast	94.8%	87.9%	78.0%	85.6%	95.8%	89.8%	84.8%	
STATEWIDE	90.3%	88.2%	83.7%	93.4%	90.8%	89.2%	85.8%	

Although it is not apparent in the chart above, Central and Northern regions' corrective action efforts, primarily case reading, caused an increase in their accuracy rate of nearly 5% each between May and October 2003.

1.5 Central Region Error Trends

CEN region has 5 offices, and there are multiple units within each office. The APA Unit has the lowest payment error rate at 11%. The Gambell office provides Food Stamp intake, and has the highest payment error rate

⁵ Error Elements by office are in Appendix C.

⁶ As of 10/21/03.

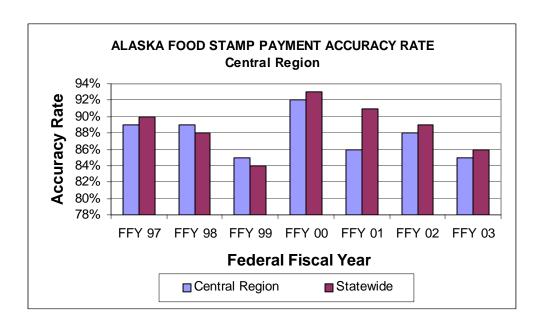
at 22%. Simplified reporting will help the CEN region's error rate; however errors made during intake will count under simplified reporting. Gambell and MatSu's error rates reflect a high percentage of intake errors.

The Muldoon statistics include the Eagle River office.

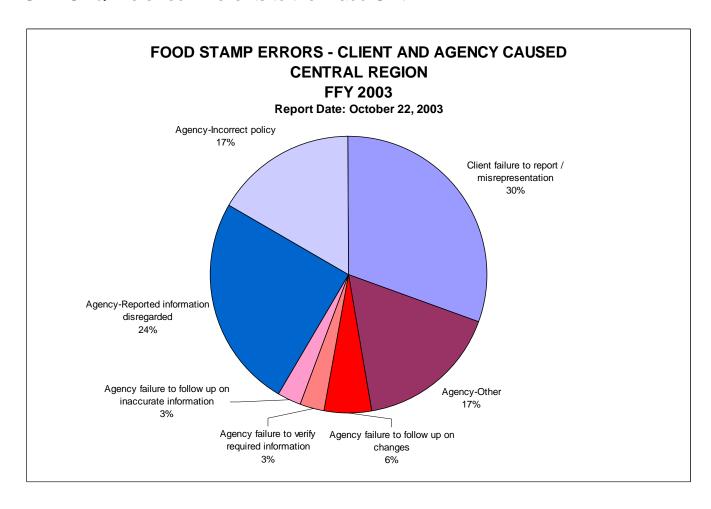
Central Region Errors FFY03

	Before Simp	lified	After Simplif	ied
	Errors	Fraud	Errors	Fraud
APA	5	1	5	0
Gambell	15	6	10	3
Matsu	11	2	7	1
Muldoon 5		2	3	1
TOTAL	36	11	22	5

QA sampled 138 cases in CEN region during FFY03, finding 36 with payment errors. This region typically has lower Food Stamp allotments, however the error reviews primarily had Food Stamp allotments greater than \$400. The median household size in CEN's error reviews is 4.



Of the 36 errors, the agency caused 14 by failure to act on known information. The client failed to report information or changes on 15 reviews. The repeated agency errors were in policy application for averaging and converting income, shelter deductions, and household composition. Of the 36, mass change caused 1 error and 2 were data entry errors. The most common client error was in failure to report earned income, and the second most common was failure to report a change in UIB. SAQA referred 11 clients to the Fraud Unit.



CEN had 3 negative errors. The agency failed to give the client 10-days advance notice, incorrectly closed for failure to provide shelter verification, and on the third, denied the applicant when the agency incorrectly counted exempt resources. Of the 3 negative errors, 2 were made in the APA Unit.

APA Unit

QA sampled 24 cases in the APA Unit, finding 5 in error. All were agency errors and 1 had agency and client errors.

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Of the 5 error reviews, 3 had coupon allotments over \$100. No trends are obvious in the 5 error cases. The agency erred in initializing FS with a TA case and incorrectly coded an urban household as rural. The agency failed to act on 2 reported rent/address changes and 1 report of wages.

SAQA reviewed 12 cases for the APA Unit in the negative sample, and found 2 in error. In one case the agency misapplied policy by incorrectly closing for client failure to provide rent verification, and in the other the agency failed to allow the client an opportunity to provide needed verification.

Gambell

QA sampled 38 cases in Gambell, finding 15 in error. Of these, 9 were agency errors and 6 client errors; 8 of the 15 had multiple agency and/or client errors. Of the 15 error reviews, 9 had coupon allotments over \$200 and 8 of the 15 were over \$400. Of the error reviews, 10 had earned income in the household.

The agency caused 6 of 9 errors by failing to act on known information, and 5 of these involved reports of change in employment or rates of pay. The client errors primarily are in unearned income (UIB, child support, and student grants). Only in 1 review did the client fail to report wages. Of the error reviews, 8 appear to occur at intake.

SAQA reviewed 35 cases for Gambell in the negative sample, and found all to be correct.

MatSu

QA sampled 44 cases in MatSu, finding 11 in error. Of these, 7 were agency errors and 4 had multiple agency and/or client errors. Of the 11 error reviews, 10 had coupon allotments over \$200 and half of the 10 were over \$400. Four of the error reviews had earned income in the household.

The agency caused 5 of 7 errors by failing to act on known information. This is the only obvious trend. Of the 5 reviews, 2 were reported child support and 3 were reported increases in household composition. The child support appears to have been reported at certification. The 3 household composition changes would increase allotments, and the clients probably would report these changes under simplified reporting. Mass Change reportedly contributed to one \$249 agency error.

SAQA reviewed 20 cases for MatSu in the negative sample, and found all to be correct.

Muldoon

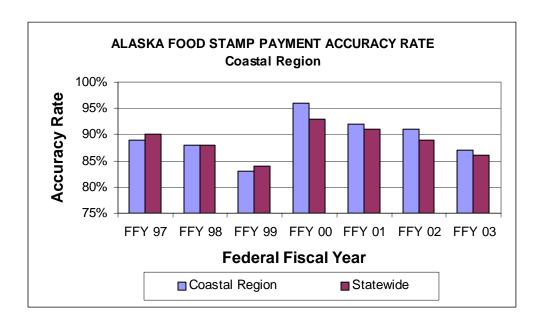
QA sampled 17 cases in Muldoon, finding 5 in error. Of these, 4 were agency errors, and 1 had multiple errors. Of the 5 error reviews, 4 had coupon allotments over \$400.

No trends were evident. The errors included incorrect coding on EIS, a conversion error, and incorrect counting of Temporary Assistance. It appears these errors would be countable under simplified reporting.

SAQA reviewed 13 cases for Muldoon in the negative sample, and found 12 to be correct. The one error occurred when the ET misapplied resource policy for a commercial fisherperson.

1.6 Coastal Region Error Trends

QA sampled 93 cases in COA during FFY03, finding 29 with payment errors. This region has higher than typical Food Stamp allotments, with allotments of \$400 or more in the error reviews and 9 of the 15 were greater than \$500. The median household size is 4. This indicates that countable income has not been included in the budget. Targeting coupon allotments or household size for case reading in COA might be more effective to detect errors than targeting earned income households.

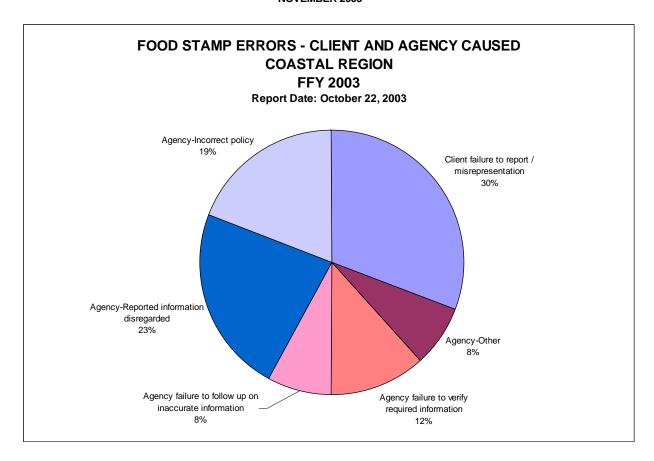


COA region has 5 units, and 4 of these are independent offices. Nome office has the lowest payment error rate at 8%. The highest unit, the COA Field Unit, provides case maintenance to the independent office of Kotzebue. During FFY02 Kotzebue also had a high payment error rate, and COA responded with a "clean sweep" case reading effort targeting all Kotzebue earned income cases.

Coastal Region Errors FFY03

	Before Simplified After Simplified			ied
	Errors	Fraud	Errors	Fraud
Bethel	9	4	5	1
Field Unit	8	3	2	3
Kenai	4	0	3	0
Kotzebue	4	1	4	0
Nome	2	0	2	0
TOTAL	28	8	16	4

In COA, client failure to report causes the majority of the errors in the active sample. Simplified reporting would have a positive impact in the COA region's payment error rate.



COA had 2 negative errors. No specific trends were noted. (Bethel and the COA Field Unit each had 1 error.)

Bethel

Bethel office had 9 error reviews. Of these, 6 had Food Stamp allotments over \$500, including 4 households with allotments over \$800. Bethel's median household size in error reviews is 4. In Bethel, half of the errors are client caused and half agency caused. Bethel's errors spread equally across the error elements for household composition, wages, and Native Temporary Assistance.

SAQA referred 4 of the 5 client caused errors to the Fraud Unit. Of the 4 fraud referrals, 2 had unreported wages, 2 had unreported household composition changes, 2 had unreported NFAP, and 1 unreported UIB. One fraud referral was an error that occurred at intake with a Fee Agent.

Seven of the 9 reviews had agency errors. Of the 7, SAQA found that the agency failed to verify reported income on 3 reviews and failed to act on a report of change for 2 reviews. SAQA found 1 error in coding shelter and 1 error in converting child support income.

Bethel had 1 negative error for failure to correctly apply policy on when to include a child who did not have a social security number.

COA Field Units

The Field Unit had 8 error reviews; 7 of these were agency caused and 5 of the 8 had multiple errors. SAQA found that the agency failed to act on 2 of the agency errors and failed to verify reported information on 2 reviews. Of the 8 reviews, 6 had Food Stamp allotments over \$100, and 4 of the 6 had allotments over \$200.

Of the 8 error reviews, 6 had errors in the calculation and reporting of unemployment benefits. The trend shows that staff might not understand policy on when and how to anticipate changes in unemployment benefits. The workers' responses to most of these indicated the worker failed to process the alert for the UIB change. COA staff might not be setting appropriate certification periods that coincide with seasonal changes in employment, which in turn dramatically change earned and unearned incomes. Simplified reporting will impact this process and the need to anticipate changes.

COA Field Unit had 1 negative error in 14 cases sampled. The worker misapplied policy by disqualifying a client for citizenship despite the Certificate of Naturalization in the case record. It is notable that SAQA found 2 active error reviews caused by incorrectly identifying alien status, indicating a possible trend in misunderstanding citizenship/alien policies. (3 different workers caused similar errors.) The negative errors occurred October 2002 and the two active reviews in March 2003.

Kenai

The Kenai office had 4 reviews in error from a sample of 24. The client caused 1 of the errors. Incorrect EIS coding for shelter caused 1 agency error, and the agency misapplied policy in 2 other reviews (student caretaker and child support policies).

No trends are apparent in the sample of Kenai cases. The misapplied policies were in household composition for a student, anticipating UIB, and garnisheed child support. The Food Stamp allotments and household sizes did not reveal any trends; however all coupon allotments for these 4 error reviews were over \$100.

SAQA reviewed 15 cases in the negative sample, and found all were correct.

Kotzebue

The Kotzebue office had 4 reviews in error from a sample of 8. Of the 4 errors, 3 had multiple errors. The client caused 2 of the errors, and the agency caused 2 errors. Of the 4 error cases, SAQA referred one client error to the Fraud Unit, however would not have made the referral under simplified reporting.

No trends are apparent in this small sample of Kotzebue cases. The misapplied policies were in household composition for drug felons, counting ending income, fluctuating income, and conversion of earned income. The Food Stamp allotments were large (over \$200), including 2 allotments over \$1000 each.

The agency failed to verify information on one review, causing an error. This is not a trend noted in the traditional QA sample, however recent case readings did find this to be a trend in the case reading sample of earned income cases. (The case reading sample found a tendency for intake in Kotzebue to accept client statement on income.)

SAQA reviewed 3 cases in the negative sample. All were correct.

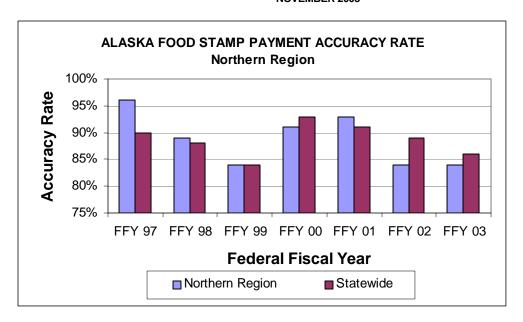
Nome

The Nome office had 2 reviews in error from a sample of 9. Both cases had coupon allotments over \$700 and countable earned income. The misapplied policies were in anticipation of overtime income and calculation of paid child support. Both cases lacked sufficient verifications.

SAQA reviewed 8 cases in the negative sample. All were correct.

1.7 Northern Region Error Trends

QA sampled 44 cases in NRO during FFY03, finding 11 with payment errors.



Eight of the error reviews in NRO had allotments over \$200; and 5 of the reviews had allotments over \$400. The median household size in the NRO error reviews is 5. Two error reviews also had NFAP and three had TA. SAQA referred all 6 of the client failure to report reviews to the Fraud Unit.

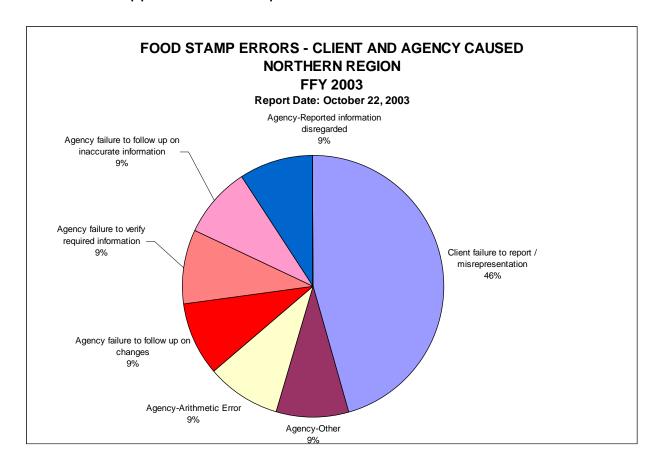
The agency failed to act on 3 reviews, and the client failed to report on 6 reviews. Half of the reviews had more than one error, and 3 of those had both agency and client errors.

Northern Region Errors FFY03

	Before Sim	plified	After Simplified		
	Errors	Fraud	Errors	Fraud	
Fairbanks	9	6	5	2	
Field Unit	2	1	0	0	
TOTAL	11	7	5	2	

The errors in NRO scatter across child support, earned income, and unemployment. The agency made 1 household composition error and 1 shelter deduction error. Although there were 5 agency income errors, none reflected income averaging or conversion policy errors. Of the 12 error cases, 3 were military households. Two of the clients failed to correctly report military income. The agency incorrectly allowed a clothing deduction to military income for 1 household. The fact is that military households were prominent in errors found during an August case reading effort and 3

of the 12 FFY03 errors were in military households. For NRO, military households appear to be error prone.



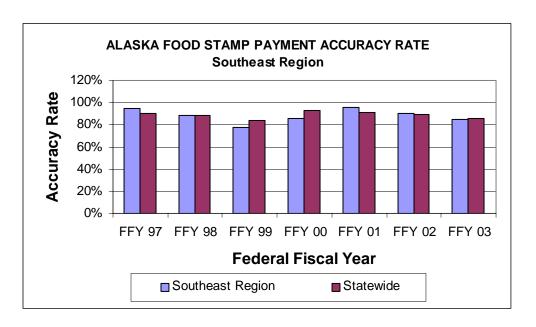
Most of the error reviews in the FFY03 sample had countable income, yet they also had large coupon allotments. Targeting coupon allotments over \$200 and/or household sizes over 4 for case reading might reduce the error risk.

Of the 7 negative error reviews, 2 were in NRO. Both reflect agency errors. Although on one the agency failed to give client an opportunity to provide information and the other stated the client failed to provide information, the root cause on both cases was that the agency failed to apply information and verification provided by the clients and filed in the case records.

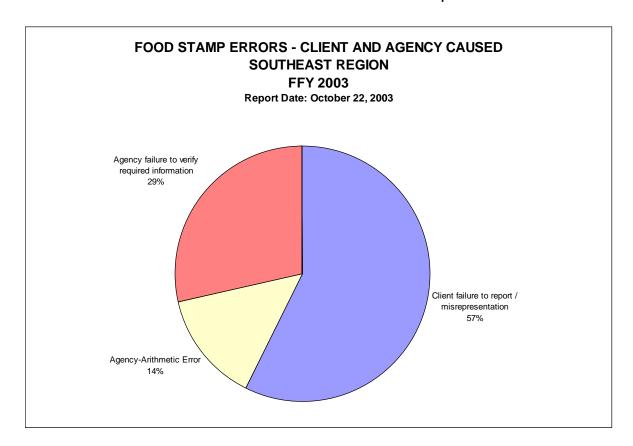
1.8 Southeast Region Error Trends

QA sampled 44 cases in SERO during FFY03, finding 7 with payment errors. The 7 errors occurred in 3 of the 4 SERO offices, without common trends. Six of the error reviews in SERO had allotments over \$200. The median household size in Southeast error reviews is 2 persons. Two of the reviews also had Adult Public Assistance and 3 had TANF benefits. The

primary cause of errors in Southeast is the client failing to report changes. This is a typical shift when reducing agency errors.



Four of the 7 had client caused errors for failure to report.



In 3 of the 4 reviews QA found unreported unearned income, and in 1 review the client failed to report a change in household composition.

Southeast Region Errors FFY03

	Before Sim	plified	After Simplified		
	Errors	Fraud	Errors	Fraud	
APA Unit	1	0	1	0	
Juneau	2	1	1	0	
Ketchikan	4	0	2	0	
Sitka 0		0	0	0	
TOTAL	7	1	4	0	

Juneau

The Juneau office had 2 of the 7 errors in the region. Both were client errors; one unreported change in the UIB and one change in household composition.

SAQA reviewed 6 cases in the negative sample. All were correct.

Ketchikan

The Ketchikan office had 4 of the 7 errors in the region. Three were agency caused; 1 of these also had a client error for failure to report a change in Worker's Compensation. Of the 3 agency errors, 1 was caused by failure to act on a reported change in address. The other two agency errors appear to be incorrect entry of income information into the EIS.

SAQA reviewed 12 cases in the negative sample. All were correct.

SERO APA

The APA Office had 1 error. This agency error in a FS/APA combination case caused a \$10 ineligible case. This case has a protective payee in one region while the client resided in another region. Intake occurred in one region and the SERO APA Unit received it for maintenance. Household composition information should have been questioned at intake. QA discovered the household composition error during an interview with the payee; it was not evident in the case record.

SAQA reviewed 5 cases in the negative sample. All were correct.

Sitka

QA reviewed 5 cases in Sitka with a 100% payment accuracy rate, and 4 cases in the negative sample. All were correct.

2. ANALYSIS OF QC NEGATIVE REVIEWS

2.1 Analysis of Quality Control FFY03 Statewide Reviews

The Food Stamp Quality Control Negative Review consists primarily of a desk audit of the case file for accuracy of the action to suspend, deny, or terminate benefits. If the eligibility determination cannot be supported by documentation in the file, the reviewer conducts an expanded field investigation using collateral contacts.

In FFY02, QA reviewers completed 210 negative reviews⁷ out of 228 sampled. The statewide negative error rate is 3% (rounded). This is half of the FFY02 error rate, and more typical for Alaska when compared to FFY01 and FFY00.

Of the 210 cases, 7 have errors in three regions. Of these, in 4 reviews the agency failed to give the client an opportunity to provide needed information. That is the only noted trend.

⁷ Appendix D has more detail on the negative errors.

3. ANALYSIS OF QC FFY03 VARIANCES

The federal agency (FNSQC) selected for re-review 157 of the transmitted FFY03 active cases for accuracy of the state's quality control findings. This is 56% of the transmitted reviews (157 of 281), and a typical sub-sample for Alaska. Of these, FNSQC's findings differed on 6, and SAQA successfully challenged 2 identified as incomplete reviews.

The 2 SAQA payment errors reflect a \$238 difference in FNSQC findings. Both incorrectly identified household members.

FNS re-reviewed 83 of 281 FFY03 negative cases. FNS' findings differed on 2 cases, and SAQA successfully challenged both.

Alaska SAQA Re-Reviews

	FFY96	FFY97	FFY98	FFY99	FFY00	FFY01	FFY02	FFY03
Total Variances	38	31	16	20	23	11	31	6
Incomplete Reviews	2	24	8	3	5	2	4	2
Dropped Reviews	2	1	4	3	8	0	2	0
Payment Errors	15	7	8	9	4	7	12	2
Incorrect ⁹ Negative	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	4	1	3	2
NSR	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0
Arbitrated	0	6	1	5	0	2	6	0

⁸ As of 10/7/03.

⁹ FNS started re-review of negatives in FFY00.

The following table details the variances and incomplete reviews found in FFY03 during the federal review process.

Review #	view # Month State Federal Reason		Amounts	
		Concur		State/Fed
45158	Nov 02	NO	NSTR invalid	
45145	Oct 02	NO	NSTR invalid	
31109	Oct 02	YES	HH comp incomplete	\$0/\$229
31213	Jan 03	YES	Incomplete income; no change	
31215	Jan 03	NO	HH comp incomplete	
31312	Apr 03	YES	HH comp incomplete	\$83/\$92
Strike thru means				
successful informal resolution or arbitration				

APPENDIX A

Detailed Statistical Data on FFY03 QA Findings - Actives

APPENDIX B

Synopsis of FFY03 FS Errors - Actives

APPENDIX C

Error Elements by District Office - FFY03

APPENDIX D

Detailed Statistical Data on FFY03 QA Findings - Negatives

APPENDIX E

Corrective Actions

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLANNING RECORD

Region: <u>CENTRAL</u>
Updated: <u>11/01/2003</u>

Problem/Cause	Corrective Action	Outcomes	Who is Responsible?	Status
New workers developed poor case management practices that are error prone.	2 senior MatSu ET oversee training; require collaterals, no macros, no cut/paste in CANOs, CANO standard format required, no client statement accepted for verifs, practice standard notice language.	MATSU ERRORS DECLINED IN FFY03.	Pulczinski	On going.
	2 senior ET provide mentoring/OJT to new MatSu staff.		Pulczinski	Started 3/03
	Developed caseload organization tools: use of CASS screen, coding hard copy files for recert dates, etc.		Koffard/ Kunnuk	Done 3/03
Agency fails to act on reported earned income changes.	QA and CEN supervisors will case read all earned income cases.		Smith/ Horner	Started 08/03. Due 12/03.
APA/FS clients fail to bring in needed verifications.	Utilize a "check list" of items the client must bring in to complete the application process. Used in addition to mailing a notice of items needed.	APA Unit's error rate down to 11% in FFY03	Schroeder	Done 3/03
Case errors undetected in supervisory reviews.	Re-Review of all CEN supervisory reviews.		Lenda/Smith	Started 08/03 - on
	Provide training to supervisors in CEN on policy and review process.		Lenda	going

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLANNING RECORD

Region: <u>Chief of Field Services</u> Updated: <u>11/01/2003</u>

Problem/Cause	CorrectiveAction	Outcomes	Who is responsible?	Status
Interfaces & alerts are cumbersome and might be generating more info than needed in pro-budgeting.	Assign task to gather interface material and begin Interface User Guide. Initiate committee work to evaluate interfaces and related alerts; recommend updates where appropriate.		Rogers	Deleted. Task undertaken by Sys Ops.
Supervisory reviews fail to identify error trends.	Prepare supervisory staff for implementation of CATS for supervisory reviews. Identify supervisory training needs thru rereview of supervisory reviews.		Rogers & Regional Managers Rogers/ Lenda	Due 12/03 Started 08/03
Temporary staff needed to perform case reading.	In partnership with QA, place non-perm, contract, and QA staff in COA, CEN, and NRO for case reading.		Rogers/ Horner	Started 08/03 in COA, 10/03 in NRO and CEN.
Staffs fail to act on reported changes.	Research call center concept; make recommendation to director.		Rogers	Started 09/03

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLANNING RECORD

Region: <u>COASTAL</u> Updated: <u>11/01/2003</u>

Problem/Cause	Corrective Action	Outcomes	Who is Responsible?	Status
Staff statewide needs guidance in use of DOL and NSTAR Interfaces.	Provide existing interface material to COFS for possible "guide".	FFY03 - no errors misreading DOL data.	Lenda	Done
COA errors primarily occur at intake.	100% Preemptive Review of all FS cases in the Bethel, Kenai, Nome and Field Offices.		COA supervisors	Due 1/1/04
COA staff unable to manage caseloads; impacts application timeframes.	Develop "Tips for Effective Caseload Management" & train staff; share with regional CIT members.	Application timeframes improved. # of	Lenda	Done 4/03
	Observe eligibility processes in Nome, Bethel, and Kenai; recommend basic techniques.	Nome cases in error improved.		Done 4/03
COA has high number of self-employed fisher people, which is an error prone caseload.	Train all staff on self-employment fishing policies.	FFY03- no related errors.	Done	Done 3/03
COA reviews reveal some conversion errors.	Provide training in workshops to all caseworkers on conversion policies.		COA supervisors	Due 11/15/03
Supervisory reviews didn't catch intake errors.	Identify supervisor training needs through Re-Review of pre-emptive reviews. Goal is 10 cases on each reviewer.		Hulce/Harris	Due 1/1/04
Bethel staff continues to make processing errors.	Implement interactive reviews to train staff.		Lenda	Done 03/03
Earned income cases are error prone.	QA reviewers case read 100% of Kotzebue earned income cases.		Hulce/ Horner	Done Aug-Oct 03.
	FNS case reads COA earned income cases.		Horner	Done 08/03

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLANNING RECORD

Region: <u>Director's Staff</u>
Updated: <u>11/1/2003</u>

Problem/Cause	CorrectiveAction	Who is	Status
		responsible?	
Corrective action efforts do not correlate well with DPA's desired outcomes.	Hold a series of management meetings to develop a DPA Strategic Plan.	Lombardo	First meeting 10/10/03; second 11/18/03.
	Publish Strategic Plan.		January 2004
Temporary staff needed to support case reading.	Contract or hire non-perm staff for case reading in Anchorage and Fairbanks through June 04.	Kreher/ Horner/ Rogers	First non-perm hired 11/03.

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLANNING

RECORD

Region: NORTHERN

Updated: 11/01/2003

Problem/Cause	Corrective Action Corrective Action	Outcomes	Who is responsible?	Status
Inadequate documentation does not support eligibility determination.	Staff training on standardized CANO format for all intake and recert applications.		NRO supervisors	Implement 11/03
ow awareness of error causes; orrective actions lack focus.	Regional CIT team meets monthly to review trends, share corrective actions, and tap into region's experts.	NRO Payment Accuracy improved in FFY03.	Roberts	On going
	Interactive case reviews for all caseworkers.		NRO supervisors	Implement 11/03
Issues/solutions seldom go beyond unit or worker; all NRO do not benefit from the region's experts.	Regional CIT oversees regular broadcasts called "Hot Flashes" to share policy clarifications, tips, and solutions to issues.	FFY03 Accuracy improved.	S. Skinner	On going
	Implement "topic of the month" 30 minute policy review training at monthly staff meeting.			
Incorrect identification/coding of expedited applications causes processing to be out of timeframes.	Review policy and EIS coding with staff. Targeted review of ES by supervisor prior to authorization.	Too soon to tell	NRO Supervisors	Done 10/03
	Broadcast an ES "hot flash" to all NRO			

Problem/Cause	Corrective Action	Outcomes	Who is responsible?	Status
	staff on policy and correct coding.			
Staffs are making arithmetic errors	All new workers use manual budget sheets	No arithmetic errors in	S. Skinner	On going
when prospecting income.	prior to data entry on EIS.	FFY03 sample.		
	Use a math problem during the interview process when hiring new workers.		S. Skinner	
Misapplication of conversion and	Train staff on applying policy to military		NRO Quality	Implement
income averaging policies.	income.		Council	11/03
	Standardize CANO format on reporting job changes.		NRO Supervisors	
	FNS and QA case reading targets Earned Income cases.		Roberts/ Horner	Implemented 08/03 Due 12/03
Staff workloads are unmanageable, contributing to untimely and inaccurate casework.	Observe processes via interactive case reviews to identify processing inefficiencies and obsolete tasks.		NRO Supervisors	Implement 12/03
	Develop training materials and guidance on efficient workload management.		NRO Quality Council members	

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLANNING

RECORD

Region: Quality Assessment

Updated: 11/01/2003

Problem/Cause	Corrective Action	Outcomes	Who is responsible?	Status
QA reviewers contribute to payment error rate.	Implement a monthly review of all reviews with errors cited.		Horner	Started 9/03
	Implement random sampling of work by reviewers.		Reed	
Earned Income cases are error prone.	QA reviewers perform case reading on Earned Income cases in NRO, COA, and CEN.		Horner/ Rogers	Started 10/1/03
Cited errors go uncorrected.	QA Researcher will check to ensure ET processed changes.	Only 2 of the 80 were uncorrected.	Horner	Done 11/03

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLANNING RECORD

Region: <u>SOUTHEAST</u> Updated: <u>11/01/2003</u>

Problem/Cause	CorrectiveAction	Outcomes	Who is responsible ?	Status
Inadequate documentation does not support eligibility determination.	Staff training using standard CANO format. Supervisors give ETs feedback on quality of documentation.	Improve documentation.	SERO Mgt Team	Implement 10/03
Low awareness of error causes; corrective action lack focus.	Require hard copy verifications. Regional CIT meets monthly to review trends, share corrective actions, and tap into region's experts. Implement QA Lite reviews	Staff awareness will cause errors to decline.	SERO Mgt Team	Implement 10/03
Issues/solutions seldom go beyond unit or worker; all SERO do not benefit from the region's experts.	Regional CIT members will share best practices with their office. Implement peer training at staff	Staff awareness will cause errors to decline.	SERO Mgt Team	Implement 10/03 Implement 11/03
Incomplete Fee Agent apps were error prone and caused processing delays.	meetings monthly. Centralized FA oversight to Sitka. E-mails to all FA any clarifications and coaching so all agents know of issues.	ET staff report better quality applications. Processing times improved. No errors in FFY03 related to Fee Agent process.	Snapp	Done 11/02 Done; on going

Problem/Cause	CorrectiveAction	Outcomes	Who is responsible?	Status	
	Provide training to all agents on new manual and DPA's expectations.			Done 05/03.	
Clients Fail to Report Changes	Implement Regional Call-Back Project. Better client education during intake and review interviews.	Clients will report appropriate changes.	Dawson SERO Mgt Team	Implement 10/03	
Workers fail to act on reported changes.	Work reviews from other caseloads.	Other worker may pick up on something the other worker missed.	SERO Mgt Team	Implemented 10/03	

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLANNING RECORD

Region: Systems Operations

Updated: 11/01/2003

Problem/Cause	CorrectiveAction	Outcomes	Who is responsible?	Status
Changes to income for parents with children on DKC Medicaid inadvertently changes countable FS income.	Working with Policy staffs to determine best system change to correct the problem.		Schoenborn	Sys Ops and Policy began researching solution 01/03.
Field Staff report CANOs overwritten by CMS workers lose valuable eligibility information needed for determining future benefits.	Sys Ops staff working with field staff to identify and resolve the problem.		Schoenborn	Reported to Sys Ops in 04/03. Research started.
Policy Manuals on Web difficult to search in their PDF format.	Exploring different software package to improve search ability.		Schoenborn	04/03 software options ready for field test.
Interfaces/Alerts became a cumbersome tool in error reduction.	Analyze current needs, then modify system to include proposed solutions. Consult with Policy and COFS staff to develop team for solution.		Aaltonen, with COFS and policy.	Started culling obsolete alerts August 03.
Workers overlook client reports of change.	Design and implement a change tracking system.		Schoenborn	Design meeting 10/13/03. Implementation due 12/03.
Mass Change caused payment error in FFYO3 sample.	Analyze error and develop solution.		Aaltonen	Report to QARC due 11/19/03
Supervisory review tool lacks ability to summarize data and error trends.	Import CATS and TAR-CATS from the state of Arizona.		Nelson	Due 12/1/03

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLANNING RECORD

Region: <u>Training Unit</u>
Updated: <u>11/01/2003</u>

Problem/Cause	CorrectiveAction	Outcomes	Vho is esponsible?	Status
QA and ET staffs incorrectly identify disqualified hh members.	Work with policy to develop FS refresher training specific to identifying excluded hh members and apply related income policies		JoLynn Cagle	Due May 2003
Eligibility staff confuses penalty policies.	Work with policy to develop FS refresher training specific to applying the different program penalties.		JoLynn Cagle	Due May 2003
Staff unnecessarily research drug felon and fleeing felons, which robs time.	Clarify expectations on verifying info on drug felons and fleeing felons in FS refresher training.		JoLynn Cagle	Due May 2003
Staff fails to recognize data entry errors in the final FS budget process because they lack understanding of the mechanics of doing the budget.	Develop exercises for FS refresher training that use manually prepared budgets.		JoLynn Cagle	Due May 2003
Inconsistent use of CANO formats.	Provide CANO training during FS refresher training.		JoLynn Cagle	Due May 2003
Staff misapplies appropriate use of conversion factors to earned and unearned income.	Work with policy to develop an online training exercise to appropriately apply conversion factors.		Cagle	Due 11/03
Work with policy to develop an online training exercise to appropriately apply conversion factors.	Work with Field Services and System Operations to develop training for the Change Reporting Tracking System.		Celli-miller	Due 12/03
	Work with policy to develop a FS training to initiate Simplified Reporting.			Due 03/04

ANALYSIS OF ERRORS ON FOOD STAMP ACTIVE CASES FFY03: OCTOBER 2002 through SEPTEMBER 2003

REPORT DATE: 11/10/2003

BY MONTH	Oct-02	Nov-02	Dec-02	Jan-03	Feb-03	Mar-03	Apr-03	May-03	Jun-03	Jul-03	Aug-03	Sep-03	Total
STATISTICS BY CASE:				-		<u></u>							
Sample Cases Selected	29	30	31	31	32	34	34	33	34	34	33	33	388
Cases Assigned to Reviewers	29	30	31	31	32	34	34	33	34	33	23	9	353
Cases Pending	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10	24	35
Total Cases Completed	26	26	29	28	29	34	34	30	32	31	19	7	325
·	20	4	1	3	29	0	0	1	1	2	19	2	19
Cases Not Subject to Review Cases Not Completed	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	3	0	9
Cases Not Completed	1	U		U	1	0	U	2	1	U	3	U	9
Total Cases Completed & Transmitted	26	26	29	28	29	34	34	30	32	31	19	7	325
Total Correct Cases	18	17	25	19	22	27	22	21	25	22	16	7	241
Total Error Cases	8	9	4	9	7	7	12	9	7	9	3	0	84
Total Ineligible Cases	2	2	1	2	1	2	4	1	0	0	1	0	16
Total Over Paid Cases	4	3	2	3	4	2	5	7	3	8	2	0	43
Total Under Paid Cases	2	4	1	4	2	3	3	1	4	1	0	0	25
Case Accuracy Rate (%)	69.23	65.38	86.21	67.86	75.86	79.41	64.71	70.00	78.13	70.97	84.21	100.00	74.15%
Case Error Rate (%)	30.77	34.62	13.79	32.14	24.14	20.59	35.29	30.00	21.88	29.03	15.79	0.00	25.85%
STATISTICS BY DOLLAR AMOUNTS:													
Total Allotment Issued (\$)	\$7,000	\$7,553	\$8,601	\$8,410	\$7,814	\$8,519	\$11,320	\$12,127	\$10,338	\$10.872	\$5,478	\$1,680	\$99,712
Total Error Payments (\$)	\$1,467	\$792	\$802	\$1,728	\$1,120	\$1,837	\$2,232	\$925	\$861	\$1,605	\$347	\$0	\$13,716
Total Ineligible Payments (\$)	\$746	\$256	\$393	\$279	\$226	\$1,192	\$1,292	\$49	\$0	\$0	\$169	\$0	\$4,602
Total Over Paid Payments (\$)	\$471	\$419	\$275	\$757	\$581	\$269	\$664	\$848	\$472	\$1.548	\$178	\$0	\$6,482
Total Under Paid Payments (\$)	\$250	\$117	\$134	\$692	\$313	\$376	\$276	\$28	\$389	\$57	\$0	\$0	\$2,632
Payment Accuracy Rate (%)	79.04%	89.51%	90.68%	79.45%	85.67%	78.44%	80.28%	92.37%	91.67%	85.24%	93.67%	100.00%	86.24%
Payment Error Rate (%)	20.96%	10.49%	9.32%	20.55%	14.33%	21.56%	19.72%	7.63%	8.33%	14.76%	6.33%	0.00%	13.76%
Ineligible Error Rate (%)	10.66%	3.39%	4.57%	3.32%	2.89%	13.99%	11.41%	0.40%	0.00%	0.00%	3.09%	0.00%	4.62%
Over Paid Error Rate (%)	6.73%	5.55%	3.20%	9.00%	7.44%	3.16%	5.87%	6.99%	4.57%	14.24%	3.25%	0.00%	6.50%
Under Paid Error Rate (%)	3.57%	1.55%	1.56%	8.23%	4.01%	4.41%	2.44%	0.23%	3.76%	0.52%	0.00%	0.00%	2.64%
Agency Caused Errors (%)	75%	88%	75%	56%	86%	86%	58%	78%	14%	50%	100%		65.0%
Client Caused Errors (%)	25%	12%	25%	44%	14%	14%	42%	22%	86%	50%	0%		35.0%
Native Family Assist. Program Participants*	1				1	1	1		1	2			7

Synopsis of FFY03 FS Errors

Region	District	Review Number	Case Number	Sample Month	Finding*	Error Amount	Responsibility	Earned Income	Fraud Referral	Field Response: 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error?
1. Agency	ntral AP	31141	-	Nov-02 se on EIS wl	2 nen the ATA	\$89 P case was a	Agency uthorized. The FS ca	No ase and ATA	No P case	 ET would have updated the FS case when the TA case was opened and TA money counted in the FS eligibility determination. Case was corrected for December.
 Agency sitting. No TA/a 		31187 coded househ	5003512 nold as living	Dec-02 in a rural 1	2 area when he	\$41 was actuall	Agency y living in Anchorag	No e. Client wa	No s house	1. ET I with less than 1 year experience was unaware that Slana was outside the Anchorage area. Verify client's residence in the future.
2. 10 1A/1	AI 71									2. Case was rebudgeted and a claim determination has been submitted. Case closed. Client has moved out of state.
1. Agency 2. TA	failed to act	31233 on client rep	5138555 oorted change	Feb-03 in rent. Ac	2 stion was not	\$32 taken within	Agency 10 days of report of	No change.	No	 ET would have questioned the difference between the LL statement and the client statement on Gen 72 and HC verification of paid rent in file. TC to LL would have cleared up the issue. DEMH correct. Notice sent to client and Gen 95 done.

^{*} 2 = Over Payment, 3 = Under Payment, 4 = Ineligible 05-Nov-03

Region Distr	ict Review Number	Case Number	Sample Month	Finding*	Error Amount	Responsibility	Earned Income	Fraud Referral	Field Response: 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error?
 Agency failed Client failed to APA 				2 urly wage rat	\$61 te.	Agency & Client	Yes	Yes	Client to fully report. ET to slow down, more thoroughly examine and document the situation and actions taken. ET re-worked the case. Discussed events and how to CANO prospective income and to thoroughly examine reports of change.
 Agency failed APA 	31403 o update the clie	5430079 Int's rent and to	Jul-03	2 she reported	\$32 a move.	Agency	No	No	 Old rent and utilities deleted from DEMH screen until client provided verification of new rent amount. ET would have requested new rent amount. Already corrected.
 Mat-Su Agency miscal subsequent month No TA/APA 		5433689 rty tax deduc	Nov-02	3 ed for it for 1	\$46 0/02 but did	Agency not make the correct	No ion for 11/0	No 2 and	 It's possible that a lower caseload could help prevent oversights. CW may have rushed through case in attempt to keep up with caseload demands. Correct DEMH screen on EIS.
 Agency failed No TA/APA 	31178 o add newborn c	5425754 hild to the ho	Dec-02 usehold at th	3 ne time the cl	\$134 ient reported	Agency the birth of the child	No I.	No	 ET should have sent a letter requesting the information and provide the client with a due date. ET reviewed case from the month after the first report of change, November through January and authorized supplements.

^{*} 2 = Over Payment, 3 = Under Payment, 4 = Ineligible 05-Nov-03

Region	District	Review Number	Case Number	Sample Month	Finding*	Error Amount	Responsibility	Earned Income	Fraud Referral	Field Response: 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error?
	failed to repor failed to repor /APA					\$314	Client	No	Yes	 If the client knew their case was in MatSu or Juneau, they could have directly contacted the ET thus had the opportunity to report the UIB as well as the worker would have received the alert. Overpayments for Jan and Feb 2003.
~ .	failed to act	31237 within 10 da	5004528 ays of client's	Feb-03	3 nange. Client	\$120 reported gra	Agency	No nto the house	No ehold.	1. Acting timely on the reported change of two new household members.
2. TA										2. Caseworker sent a supplement to the household.
1. Mass ch 2. APA	hange applied	31240	5401282 SI amounts to	Feb-03 the case wh	2 hich were use	\$249	Agency benefits.	No	No	1. Mass change would have applied correct income amounts for the annual budgeting.
2, 1111										2. EIS corrected and overpayment claims submitted.
	failed to ren			•	2 manner.	\$111	Agency	No	No	1. Error started in January when a co-worker processed the current month benefits that had been incomplete by the on-going worker.
	used an inco									2. Case was rebudgeted with correct household composition and shelter deduction. Discussion was held with ETII and WDSI.

Region	District	Review Number	Case Number	Sample Month	Finding*	Error Amount	Responsibility	Earned Income	Fraud Referral	Field Response: 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error?
 Client f. No TA/ 	ailed to repo APA	31306 rt an increase	5320478 e in wages.	Apr-03	3	\$54	Client	Yes	No	 CIT team created magnets and business cards that help explain types of changes. These are now being distributed and discussed at interviews to promote client reporting. Review was discussed with worker that the case was assigned to at the time.
		31308	5447833	Apr-03	2	\$110	Client	Yes	Yes	Educating the client on the report of change requirements and asking more questions may lead to
			elf-employme							more disclosure.
3. No TA/		it not son on	inprofition in	come.						2. Overpayment to be done for April.
		31339	5107011	May-03	2	\$66	Agency	Yes	No	It's possible that if the case were not transitioned to a second worker, the initial intake worker could have
 Agency No TA/ 		lude child su	ipport income	e that was re	ported and co	ounted in price	or months.			caught this error.
										2. Overpayments were done for the months of December 2002 through June 2003.
		31342	5431559	May-03	2	\$57	Agency & Client	No	No	At initial Food Stamp interview, ET should have verified child support income with the State of
 Agency failed to include reported child support in household's budget. Client failed to report that her mother no longer gave her money monthly. 										
3. No TA/	APA									2. Have rebudgeted FS for 7/03 to correct payment. Also completed Fraud Report Form.

Region	District	Review Number	Case Number	Sample Month	Finding*	Error Amount	Responsibility	Earned Income	Fraud Referral	Field Response: 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error?
1 Client	did not conta	31372	5066363	Jun-03	2	\$131	Client been anticipated at the	Yes	No	1. WDS could not have anticipated UIB and required the client to report according to reporting change rules.
interview. 2. No TA		et the divisio	in to report th	at sife was i	iot receiving	OID as had	occii ainterpated at ti	е г з аррпес	шоп	
2. 110 111	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,									2. ET submitted fraud referral based on unreported changes - earnings and HH member changes.
83 A	nchorage-	Gambell								
		31122	5299955	Oct-02	2	\$218	Agency	Yes	Yes	1. Follow up on information. Intake worker setting an alert for the maintenance worker. Beginning of new
	y failed to fol fter maternity	-	return	process.						
2. NO 1A	APA									2. Workers no longer with the agency. Need to have better communication between intake, processors and maintenance.
		31151	5120879	Nov-02	4	\$169	Agency	Yes	No	Agency following-up on reported change of employment.
 Agency No TA 	•	nsider the cli	ent's report o	f a new job.	Her new inc	come was no	t processed in the re	view month.		
2. NO TA	AIA									2. Caseworker will do redetermination of 11/02 benefits and send claim determination.
		31152	5290792	Nov-02	2	\$51	Agency	Yes	No	Worker not rushing, taking more time to work individual cases.
actual pay	y history.	plain why he	used the clie	nt's weekly	work schedu	le to determi	ine the estimated wa	ges instead o	f using the	
2. No TA	/APA									2. Worker rebudgeted case.

Region	District	Review Number	Case Number	Sample Month	Finding*	Error Amount	Responsibility	Earned Income	Fraud Referral	Field Response: 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error?
		31182	5375107	Dec-02	2	\$234	Agency	No	No	1. Acting timely on reports of change. ET was not able to work reports of change timely due to high case load.
 Agency TA 	failed to act	in a timely i	manner to clie	ent reported	increase in V	Veteran's ben	efits.			
										2. Case has been closed. Notice F402 for penalty for non-cooperation was sent.
		31212	5351585	Jan-03	2	\$252	Client	No	Yes	Client reporting timely. Initializing and authorizing into the system month.
			ment benefits t amount for		nonth.					
3. TA										2. UIB had already been caught and corrected. Reminder at next team meeting that must initialize and authorize.
		31213	5435590	Jan-03	3	\$270	Client	Yes	No	Client reporting change in household composition and change in address and rent.
			sehold member rent increase				n rent.			
3. APA				our silv ium	od to report					2. Redetermination of benefits done and supplement not issued per FS ms 607-2.
		31252	5430696	Feb-03	2	\$81	Agency	Yes	No	Use most current information available when provided by the client. Receiving ET to review
~ .	did not use ase in benefi		ome informati	on to calcul	ate income in	n the budget.	The new income de	etermination	resulted	CANOs and case file at time of receipt of case.
2. Client fa3. No TA/A		rt child supp	ort.							2. Reviewed budgeting procedures with supervisor.
2. 2.0 112/1										Reviewed reporting procedures with client.

Region	District	Review Number	Case Number	Sample Month	Finding*	Error Amount	Responsibility	Earned Income	Fraud Referral	Field Response: 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error?
			5050733 nal household but entered t		3	\$120	Client	No	Yes	1. Inform client again of reporting requirements. Set an alert for ending UIB. Closer attention to detail.
3. No TA/A	•	iculated OID	o but entered t	o wrong am	ount into Ex	.				2. Removed UIB. Double check income screens.
			5403744 isability payn		4 me in the hou	\$164 usehold's buc	Agency lget.	No	No	1. Attention to detail. Better understanding from client and co-workers on income in households.
3. No TA/A		ow the increa	ase in rent and	i tile SOD.						2. Changed on EIS. Case closure. Sent Gen 95.
1 Agangy	incorrectly,	31286	5444634	Mar-03	2	\$27	Agency	Yes	No	1. Earned income should have been prospected using conversion factor of 4.3.
2. No TA/	-	converted the	e spouse's ear	ned income.	•					2. Corrected February, March and April 2003.
		-	5325694 -rating of Ten				Agency	Yes	No	1. Spend more time reviewing case. Access CASS screen to review all information regarding income, resources and shelter costs prior to authorizing case.

^{2.} Agency stopped counting earned income for household but PI never stopped working. Agency failed to verify employment.3. TA

^{2.} Removed TA coded next to individual household members. Counted total income received by PI for 4/03.

Region	District	Review Number	Case Number	Sample Month	Finding*	Error Amount	Responsibility	Earned Income	Fraud Referral	Field Response: 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error?
		31312	5430696	Apr-03	2	\$83	Agency & Client	Yes	No	Use most current information available when provided by client. Intake ET set alert when receive
			rrent income child support			calculate av	erage income for the	household.		information that may need follow-up.
3. No TA/	APA									2. Reviewed budgeting procedures with ET. Reviewed reporting procedures with client.
1 (21)		31318	5116424	Apr-03	4	\$462	Client	Yes	Yes	1. Household reporting all accounts with balances.
1. Client 1: 2. No TA/		rt bank accoi	unts. Client e	exceeded res	source limits.					
										2. Client will provide all statements to determine future benefit eligibility.
		31345	5215413	May-03	2	\$120	Client	No	Yes	Client reporting truthfully. Greater investigation at
1. Client f	ailed to repo	rt a student g	grant for depe	ndents and l	living expens	es.				the time of the interview.
2. TA	1		, 1							2. Claim determination filed.
		31411	5032970	Jul-03	2	\$39	Agency & Client	Yes	Yes	HH reporting changes. Agency completing collateral contacts with landlord/AHFC at time of
		-	mployment in spouse's uner			cation.				recertification.
	failed to ver	rify rent amo	-	1 1						2. Received employment information from employer. Removed unemployment benefits. Corrected rent

amount on DEMH.

^{*} 2 = Over Payment, 3 = Under Payment, 4 = Ineligible 05-Nov-03

Region	District	Review Number	Case Number	Sample Month	Finding*	Error Amount	Responsibility	Earned Income	Fraud Referral	Field Response: 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error?
	chorage-l	31124	5286644	Oct-02	4 nousehold ove	\$455	Client	Yes	Yes	If client had provided information about bank accounts and sources of income, eligibility worker could have processed case accurately.
2. No TA/A	-			F						2. Fraud IPV is being submitted and request for information notice is being sent.
1 Agamay	failed to year	31347	1920743	May-03	3	\$28	Agency	Yes	No	1. Worker verifying that proper conversion factor is applied based on frequency of pay.
2. No TA/A		e the correct of	conversion fa	ctor when c	alculating ea	med income.				2. Processing worker is no longer with the agency. Forwarded case to current caseworker for corrections.
		31349	5414617	May-03	2	\$44	Agency	No	No	Contacting the employer to verify estimated hours per week client was scheduled to work and to get the
 Agency TA 	did not cour	nt the TA sup	plement in th	ne food stam	p budget wh	en calculatin	g the food stamp su	pplement.		gross pay before estimating income for 5/03.
										2. Reworked 5/03 food stamps based on \$0 actual income. Corrected EAIN screen to \$0 income.
~ .	failed to ren		5418842 nt's increase i benefits wher		_		Agency ppearing on the EA	Yes IN screen.	Yes	 Removal of the ATAP amount on the UNIN. Request an updated work statement from the new job. Follow up on the change. Issued underpayments. Obtained updated pay stubs and corrected the income.

Region	District	Review Number	Case Number	Sample Month	Finding*	Error Amount	Responsibility	Earned Income	Fraud Referral	Field Response: 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error?
		31415	5356233	Jul-03	3	\$57	Agency	No	No	1. Processing changes by sending a N020 to request documentation for the change and update of the DEMH
 Agency TA 	did not act	on client repo	orted changes	s in addresse	s and shelter	costs.				screen.
										2. DEMH screen was coded correctly for 6/03 and 7/02 causing an underpayment. Client was issued the underpayment of \$114.
Coasta 46 No										
		31136	5097203	Nov-02	3	\$41	Agency	Yes	No	Review child support information and follow up on interface checks.
	used an inc	-	U for each of la to determir				y for the client. e client's pay.			2. Additional training on how to determine child support payments being deducted from payrolls. Reminders to follow-up on information provided and to conduct interface checks.
		31196	5019807	Jan-03	2	\$42	Agency	Yes	No	Worker should have requested copies of actual pay stubs at recertification as it was an ongoing job and we
month.		quest verifica	tion of client	's employme	ent at recertif	fication. Clie	ent anticipated work	ing overtime	every	needed to see actual income.
2. No TA/	/APA									2.
47 K	otzebue	21105	5201000	0 . 02		Φ201				
	6.11.1.	31107	5201089	Oct-02	4	\$291	Agency	Yes	No	 If client had reported the last paycheck and ending income.
2. Agency	incorrectly		ast paycheck oouse's incom		ed to include	the earned in	ncome in the budget	•		
3. No TA/	/APA									2. Enter the actual income received and remove the ending income that was included on the case.

Region	District	Review Number	Case Number	Sample Month	Finding*	Error Amount	Responsibility	Earned Income	Fraud Referral	Field Response: 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error?
	failed to repo		5434884 ported inform GA payments				Agency convicted drug felor	No n.	No	 Run Ingens to detect convicted drug felons. Closed case.
1. Agency 2. No TA		31295 e pay stubs to	5186624 o verify clien	Apr-03	3 g income, in	\$128 stead used cl	Agency ient's "scheduled" ho	Yes urs.	No	 If ET had made a case for using the work schedule in the case notes then the error could have been prevented. Correct the month of April using the actual check stubs received.
	y failed to us		5009491 ousehold mer version facto			\$446 ome.	Agency & Client	Yes	Yes	 If ET had used the proper conversion method to anticipate income and had reviewed the household member listed on the FS recertification. Corrections made to household members and prospective income as noted in review.
1. Client f	y failed to us		5055775 e in rate of panyersion fact		2 t the bi-week	\$27	Client ort to monthly incom	Yes	Yes	 Coaching of client. Better understanding by the ET of the conversion formulas and which one to use when computing child support income. A claim determination will be completed when FS

policy concurs with the review. Correct income

information entered on EIS.

^{*} 2 = Over Payment, 3 = Under Payment, 4 = Ineligible 05-Nov-03

Region	District	Review Number	Case Number	Sample Month	Finding*	Error Amount	Responsibility	Earned Income	Fraud Referral	Field Response: 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error?
		31139	5331001	Nov-02	2	\$30	Agency	Yes	No	1. The ET taking time to request verification of rental expense listed on the GEN 72.
 Agency APA 	y failed to ver	rify a client r	eported rent a	amount on th	ne recertifica	tion applicat	ion.			
2. 1111										2. The correct amount of rental expense is entered on the DEMH.
		31199	5373841	Jan-03	3	\$373	Agency	Yes	No	ET reviewing exempt income policy. Taking time to correct benefits for the review month. Coaching client
			ome in the cl ources. One				en excluded. ded prior to applicat	ion.		to report changes.
			r her daughter				1 11			2. Income was verified and correct coding on EIS to
4. Agency	y anticipated	more social s	security incor	ne than the	client actuall	y received.				issue correct benefits for the review month. New job schedule was verified and entered on EIS.
5. No TA	/APA									
		31283	5029771	Mar-03	4	\$1,028	Agency	Yes	No	ET requesting hard copy verification of all accounts in the household.
 Agency No TA 		low-up on re	questing tota	l household	resources aft	er household	d was placed into PF	D hold harm	nless.	
										2. Coach the ET to ask follow-up questions on resource information when PFD spend-down is reported.
		31297	5263694	Apr-03	4	\$219	Client	Yes	Yes	1. The fee agent completing the check list with all
	uts the house		es with his far gross and ne			ey purchase	and prepare food to	gether. The	father's	household members listed. Use of ETAL to alert workers to household composition.
2. INU IA	/ AI A									2. The case has been closed for excess resources.

Region	District	Review Number	Case Number	Sample Month	Finding*	Error Amount	Responsibility	Earned Income	Fraud Referral	Field Response: 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error?
			5393204 sehold members are base fits		3	\$49	Agency & Client	No	Yes	1. The client reporting changes. The ET acting in UIB alerts within 10 days. ET allowing the household to have the SUD.
3. Client fa	ailed to repo listed the SI	rt TANF ben					y were not receiving	the allowab	le SUD in	2. The correct income and household composition entered on EIS for the review month. A supplement will be issued.
5. NFAP		31397 icipate the A	575498 AVCP native 7	Jul-03 ΓANF benef	2 Fits in the bud	\$156 lget.	Agency	No	No	1. ET acting on the report of change within 10 days.
Z. NFAF										2. A CD has been set up for the review month. ET has been instructed to act on reports of change timely.
1. Client fa 2. NFAP	ailed to repo	31399 rt that her A'	5391621 VCP Native T	Jul-03 FANF benef	2 its increased.	\$124	Client	No	Yes	 Better understanding of reporting requirements by client. Have alert when NFAP shows a payment change of \$50 or more. A CD has been completed.
	eld Office	31200	5365590 port extended	Jan-03 unemploym	4 eent benefits v	\$269 when he lear	Client ned of them or at rec	No ertification.	Yes	 Client following the 10 day reporting requirements. Closed the case.

Region	District	Review Number	Case Number	Sample Month	Finding*	Error Amount	Responsibility	Earned Income	Fraud Referral	Field Response: 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error?
		31217	5007625	Jan-03	3	\$49	Agency	No	No	1. Reviewing income. Using correct utility costs on DEMH.
2. Agency	•		ment to client f shelter and h				allow SUD deduction	n.		
3. APA										2. Review with ET.
	failed to che	31333 eck the DOL	5434304 interface for	May-03 PI's employ	4 ment informa	\$49 ation. Clien	Agency t failed to report inco	Yes me.	No	1. Follow up on DOL information.
2. APA										2. Reviewed with caseworker/unit.
		_	5314002 om a rural vill	_		\$341	Agency & Client	No	Yes	1. Client reporting the change in address.
2. Agency3. APA	continued to	allow a moi	rtgage payme	nt when it h	nad ended in p	orior to the c	ertification period.			2. Form Gen 95 issued for recoupment of over payment.
76 Ke	enai									
DEMH scre		31114 SUD at recen	5261508 rtification and	Oct-02 d entered th	3 e information	\$64 in the case	Agency notes but it was not e	No ntered on the	No e	It appears to have been a concentration error.
2. TA										2. Supplements are being processed.

Region	District	Review Number	Case Number	Sample Month	Finding*	Error Amount	Responsibility	Earned Income	Fraud Referral	Field Response: 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error?
		31115	5432210	Oct-02	2	\$120	Agency	No	No	1. Code one parent out of the household per fs/ms 605-1.
	y can allow o cated as a nor /APA		2. One parent was coded out and the income was exempt. On-going in-house training regarding education and students is in order.							
2. Agency	y did not corr	TA income f	or the review	month. Be	3 enefit not issu arnished from			Yes	No	 Don't anticipate UIB due to possible job end penalty issue to be resolved. Remove TA income from initial month budget. Allow verified child support deduction. Underpayment supplement will be issued.
1. Client f 2. No TA	failed to repo /APA	31370 ort child supp	5026077 ort ended.	Jun-03	3	\$63	Client	No	No	1. No CAP #11 provided.
82 Fi	ield Office	# 1 31120	5347576	Oct-02	3	\$186	Agency	Yes	No	ET should have reviewed the case and
	y incorrectly y counted hou	recorded hou	sehold mem	bers as ineli	gible aliens.		re been considered a			documentation in casefile more carefully.
3. Agency considerate4. Agency	ion the fluctu y should have	nation of earn	nings. rate the shelte	er expense to		ld members.	period. The agency There is a data entry APA		e into	2. Redetermine case with the corrections made and claim submitted.

Region Dis	strict	Review Number	Case Number	Sample Month	Finding*	Error Amount	Responsibility	Earned Income	Fraud Referral	Field Response: 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error?
		31242	5355526	Feb-03	3	\$193	Agency	No	No	1. If ET received alert and would have checked the
 Agency failed No TA/APA 	d to veri	fy the endin	g of the clier	nt's unemplo	yment benef	its.				balance available on UIB for both household members.
										2. Enter correct UIB figures and issue underpayment.
		31275	5145772	Mar-03	2	\$242	Agency	Yes	Yes	Act on report of change timely and use correct mortgage amount as listed on recert. Error on SEPA
 Agency failed Client failed 					Food Stamp	household.				effected shelter, UIB and earned income amounts.
	ipated in				er #1 and sho	ould have an	ticipated no UIB ear	rnings for HI	I member	2. Have staff review alien policy and make sure all reports of change are acted on timely.
4. Agency misa5. No TA/APA	pplied tl	he SUD poli	icy.							
1 Agamay faila	d to oot	31309	5379168	Apr-03	4	\$136	Agency	Yes	No	1. If ET would have acted timely on reports of change.
 Agency failed Because the aunemployment b 	agency f	ailed to cha				action was	taken to recalculate	the client's		
3. No TA/APA										2. EIS will be corrected. All Eligibility Staff reminded about acting timely on reports of change.
Northern										
41 Fairba										
		31104	5431985	Oct-02	2	\$106	Agency	Yes	Yes	1. ET should have slowed down and used actual
 Agency dedu Client failed 					y rather than	the gross in	come.			income information available at the time this case was opened. Client should have reported timely.
3. No TA/APA	1		1	1 2						2. Gen 95 was completed.

Region	District	Review Number	Case Number	Sample Month	Finding*	Error Amount	Responsibility	Earned Income	Fraud Referral	Field Response: 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error?
		31133	5270735	Nov-02	4	\$87	Agency	No	No	1. Case was transferred from WDS in 10/02 to a caseload whose worker was on vacation. During this
1. Agency household:		on client rep	port that son	was not with	n her during t	he school m	onths making him in	eligible as a		time we implemented EOIP.
3. Agency	failed to act	on client's c	oort that she lountable stude	lent loans.	job to attend	college and	no longer had earne	d income.		2. Gen 95
1 (1)	. 11 . 1	31163	5347848	Dec-02	4	\$393	Client	Yes	Yes	1. Client report.
2. TA	aned to repo	rt a certificat	te of deposit f	or ner son v	vnich was ov	er the resour	ce limit.			
										2. FS case is closed.
		31193	5199872	Jan-03	2	\$149	Agency	No	No	1. Smaller caseloads.
added to th	failed to act e case recor	-	om TCC ASA	AP that bene	fits were app	roved for the	e client so unearned	income was i	10t	
2. NFAP										2. GEN 95
		31225	5335680	Feb-03	4	\$226	Client	Yes	Yes	1. Client's timely reporting.
			nd her family ported pay inc		ith her mothe	er. They we	re not eligible as a se	eparate house	hold	
3. No TA/.		1	. 1.7							2. GEN 95

Region	District	Review Number	Case Number	Sample Month	Finding*	Error Amount	Responsibility	Earned Income	Fraud Referral	Field Response: 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error?
	ailed to repo		5374019 t's report of a ses in her spo			\$44 anner.	Agency	Yes	Yes	 Less work. Baby added and benefits issued in March for February and March benefits.
 Agency of March. No TA/ 		31291 nuary recertif	5325205 Tication in Ma	Apr-03 arch and fail	4 ed to verify c	\$475 current pay in	Agency nformation for Janua	Yes ry, February	No and part	 Gathering current pay information. The team has gone over the regulations pertinent to collecting current information before processing applications and recertifications.
 Agency TA 	used an inco	31350 orrect amoun	5431234 at for an unen	May-03	2 enefit to calc	\$55 ulate the hou	Agency usehold's budget.	No	No	 Greater attention to detail. Review of previous CANOs. The case is now correct.
1. Client fa		31358 rt change of	5151497 employment	Jun-03 and income	2 timely.	\$151	Client	Yes	Yes	 Client timely reporting of changes. Fraud referral completed and changes made to EIS.

Region	District	Review Number	Case Number	Sample Month	Finding*	Error Amount	Responsibility	Earned Income	Fraud Referral	Field Response: 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error?
44 F	airbanks I	ield								
		31135	5033190	Nov-02	2	\$113	Client	No	No	1. Greater attention to detail. Client reporting timely.
1. Client	failed to repo	rt timely the	death of her	mother.						
· .	y allowed a r	ent deduction	that the clie	nt was not e	ntitled to.					
3. TA										2. Case managers have been instructed to e-mail ETs with the reports of change that they receive from clients.
			5024855 busehold had lent of unemp		_		Client s since 12/02.	No	Yes	1. The client reporting the unearned income.
3. NFAP			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·							2. Gen 95
South 20 Se	east outheast A	PA Office 31190	5413162	Jan-03	4	\$10	Agency	No	No	This application was processed in another office and
		31170	3413102	Jan-03	7	ΨΙΟ	Agency	110	110	the new caseworker did not review the case when it
 Client APA 	resides with l	nis sister and	she purchase	s and prepar	es food for h	nim. Client o	does not qualify as a	separate eco	onomic	was received in our office.

2. The food stamp case has been closed.

^{* 2 =} Over Payment, 3 = Under Payment, 4 = Ineligible 05-Nov-03

Region Di	strict Revi Numl		Sample Month	Finding*	Error Amount	Responsibility	Earned Income	Fraud Referral	Field Response: 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error?
21 Junea	u District 3115	5 5118746	Nov-02	2	\$166	Client	No	No	Obtaining client's bank account deposit records back several months.
 Client failed to report the social security check the father of the client's grandchildren deposits into the client's savings account for his children's care. APA 									
									 Bank account records requested to allow proper determination to anticipate amount of SS SU income. Claims will be done for months in which this income was deposited.
 Client failed TA 	3135. to report that h	5 5338905 er two children ha	Jun-03 ad left the ho	2 ousehold.	\$190	Client	Yes	Yes	1. Client reporting timely.
									2. Case closed. Fraud referral was completed by QA.
23 Ketch	ikan 3132	4 5427433	May-03	2	\$60	Agency	No	No	Client reporting she had moved. ET requesting
1. Agency faile		expenses for clie	•	2	ΨΟΟ	Agency	140	NO	verification of shelter costs at recertification.
2. TA	,								2. ETs will send notices to clients requesting verification when not received.
1 Client failed	3135	7 5387527 as no longer rece	Jun-03	3 lovment bene	\$151	Client	Yes	No	Better comprehension and cooperation by client of reporting requirements.
2. No TA/APA		as no longer leec.	iving unemp	to jinene ben					2. No supplements are issued for client-caused underpayments.

Region	District	Review Number	Case Number	Sample Month	Finding*	Error Amount	Responsibility	Earned Income	Fraud Referral	Field Response: 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error?	
31391 5332512 Jul-03 2 \$254 Agency & Client No No 1. Timely reporting of Worker's Comp by client. 1. Client did not report timely the receipt of her Workman's Compensation every two weeks. 2. Agency correctly anticipated receipt of child support in the initial month of eligibility but did not consider it in the following months.											
3. TA										2. ET will complete/submit a GEN 95 to claims for over payment.	
ŭ •										1. ET failed to verify with employer client's work schedule.	
2. NO 1A/F	AFA									2. ET will be more careful on examining pay verification and verifying wage info through employer. Improve cano on income decisions.	

^{*} 2 = Over Payment, 3 = Under Payment, 4 = Ineligible 05-Nov-03

Food Stamp Error Element Report by District - FFY 03

District Sample Review

Name Month Number Element Description

1. What would have prevented the error?

Anchorage-Gambell

Oct-02 31122 Wages and Salaries

1. Follow up on information. Intake worker setting an alert for the maintenance worker. Beginning of new process.

Error Amount: \$218 Allotment: \$443

Nov-02 31151 Wages and Salaries

1. Agency following-up on reported change of employment.

Error Amount: \$169 Allotment: \$169

Nov-02 31152 Wages and Salaries

1. Worker not rushing, taking more time to work individual cases.

Error Amount: \$51 Allotment: \$173

Dec-02 31182 Veterans Benefits

1. Acting timely on reports of change. ET was not able to work reports of change

timely due to high case load.

Error Amount: \$234 Allotment: \$234

Jan-03 31213 Household Composition

1. Client reporting change in household composition and change in address and rent.

Error Amount: \$270 Allotment: \$39

Jan-03 31212 Unemployment Compensation

1. Client reporting timely. Initializing and authorizing into the system month.

Error Amount: \$252 Allotment: \$558

Responsibility Description

2. What actions were taken to correct the error?

Agency Fail to follow up on changes

2. Workers no longer with the agency. Need to have better communication between intake, processors and maintenance.

Agency Reported information disregarded or not applied

2. Caseworker will do redetermination of 11/02 benefits and send claim determination.

Agency Other

Worker rebudgeted case.

Agency Reported information disregarded or not applied

2. Case has been closed. Notice F402 for penalty for non-cooperation was sent.

Client Fail to report

Redetermination of benefits done and supplement not issued per FS ms 607-2.

Client Fail to report

2. UIB had already been caught and corrected. Reminder at next team meeting that must initialize and authorize.

District Sample Review Name Month Number **Element Description** 1. What would have prevented the error? Feb-03 31252 Wages and Salaries 1. Use most current information available when provided by the client. Receiving ET to review CANOs and case file at time of receipt of case. Error Amount: \$81 Allotment: Mar-03 **Household Composition** 31276 1. Inform client again of reporting requirements. Set an alert for ending UIB. Closer attention to detail. Error Amount: \$120 Allotment: \$663 31286 Mar-03 Wages and Salaries 1. Earned income should have been prospected using conversion factor of 4.3. Error Amount: \$27 \$29 Allotment: Mar-03 31278 Veterans Benefits 1. Attention to detail. Better understanding from client and co-workers on income in households. Frror Amount: \$164 Allotment: \$164 Apr-03 31312 Wages and Salaries 1. Use most current information available when provided by client. Intake ET set alert when receive information that may need follow-up. Error Amount: \$83 Allotment: \$443 Apr-03 31318 Bank Accounts or Cash on Hand 1. Household reporting all accounts with balances. Error Amount: \$462 Allotment: \$462

TANF, PA, or GA

regarding income, resources and shelter costs prior to authorizing case.

1. Spend more time reviewing case. Access CASS screen to review all information

Allotment:

\$113

Responsibility Description

2. What actions were taken to correct the error?

Agency Incorrect policy

2. Reviewed budgeting procedures with supervisor. Reviewed reporting procedures with client.

Client Fail to report

2. Removed UIB. Double check income screens.

Agency Incorrect policy

2. Corrected February, March and April 2003.

Agency Reported information disregarded or not applied

2. Changed on EIS. Case closure. Sent Gen 95.

Agency Incorrect policy

2. Reviewed budgeting procedures with ET. Reviewed reporting procedures with client.

Client Fail to report

2. Client will provide all statements to determine future benefit eligibility.

Agency Computer user error

2. Removed TA coded next to individual household members. Counted total income received by PI for 4/03.

Apr-03

Error Amount:

31311

District Sample Review
Name Month Number Element Description

1. What would have prevented the error?

May-03 31345 Educational Grants / Scholarships / Loans

1. Client reporting truthfully. Greater investigation at the time of the interview.

Error Amount: \$120 Allotment: \$575

Jul-03 31411 Wages and Salaries

1. HH reporting changes. Agency completing collateral contacts with landlord/AHFC

at time of recertification.

Error Amount: \$39 Allotment: \$681

Anchorage-Muldoon

Oct-02 31124 Bank Accounts or Cash on Hand

1. If client had provided information about bank accounts and sources of income,

eligibility worker could have processed case accurately.

Error Amount: \$455 Allotment: \$455

May-03 31349 TANF, PA, or GA

1. Contacting the employer to verify estimated hours per week client was scheduled to work and to get the gross pay before estimating income for 5/03.

Error Amount: \$44 Allotment: \$432

May-03 31347 Wages and Salaries

1. Worker verifying that proper conversion factor is applied based on frequency of

pay.

Error Amount: \$28 Allotment: \$258

Jun-03 31387 Wages and Salaries

1. Removal of the ATAP amount on the UNIN. Request an updated work statement

from the new job. Follow up on the change.

Error Amount: \$126 Allotment: \$543

Jul-03 31415 Shelter Deduction

1. Processing changes by sending a N020 to request documentation for the change

and update of the DEMH screen.

Error Amount: \$57 Allotment: \$606

Responsibility Description

2. What actions were taken to correct the error?

Client Misrepresentation by failing to report

Claim determination filed.

Client Fail to report

2. Received employment information from employer. Removed unemployment benefits. Corrected rent amount on DEMH.

Client Fail to report

2. Fraud IPV is being submitted and request for information notice is being sent.

Agency Data entry and/or coding error

2. Reworked 5/03 food stamps based on \$0 actual income. Corrected EAIN screen to \$0 income.

Agency Incorrect policy

2. Processing worker is no longer with the agency. Forwarded case to current caseworker for corrections.

Agency Reported information disregarded or not applied

2. Issued underpayments. Obtained updated pay stubs and corrected the income.

Agency Fail to verify required information

2. DEMH screen was coded correctly for 6/03 and 7/02 causing an underpayment. Client was issued the underpayment of \$114.

District Sample Review
Name Month Number Element Description
1. What would have prevented the error?

Responsibility Description

2. What actions were taken to correct the error?

Bethel

Oct-02 31108 Wages and Salaries

1. Coaching of client. Better understanding by the ET of the conversion formulas and which one to use when computing child support income.

Error Amount: \$27 Allotment: \$975

Nov-02 31139 Shelter Deduction

1. The ET taking time to request verification of rental expense listed on the GEN 72.

Error Amount: \$30 Allotment: \$475

Jan-03 31199 Wages and Salaries

1. ET reviewing exempt income policy. Taking time to correct benefits for the review month. Coaching client to report changes.

Error Amount: \$373 Allotment: \$882

Mar-03 31283 Bank Accounts or Cash on Hand

1. ET requesting hard copy verification of all accounts in the household.

Error Amount: \$1,028 Allotment: \$1,028

Apr-03 31297 Household Composition

1. The fee agent completing the check list with all household members listed. Use of ETAL to alert workers to household composition.

Error Amount: \$219 Allotment: \$219

Jun-03 31365 Household Composition

1. The client reporting changes. The ET acting in UIB alerts within 10 days. ET allowing the household to have the SUD.

Error Amount: \$49 Allotment: \$688

Jul-03 31399 TANF, PA, or GA

1. Better understanding of reporting requirements by client. Have alert when NFAP shows a payment change of \$50 or more.

Error Amount: \$124 Allotment: \$818

Client Fail to report

2. A claim determination will be completed when FS policy concurs with the review. Correct income information entered on EIS.

Agency Reported information disregarded or not applied

2. The correct amount of rental expense is entered on the DEMH.

Agency Incorrect policy

2. Income was verified and correct coding on EIS to issue correct benefits for the review month. New job schedule was verified and

Agency Fail to verify required information

2. Coach the ET to ask follow-up questions on resource information when PFD spend-down is reported.

Client Misrepresentation by failing to report

2. The case has been closed for excess resources.

Client Fail to report

2. The correct income and household composition entered on EIS for the review month. A supplement will be issued.

Client Fail to report

2. A CD has been completed.

District Sample Review Name Month Number **Element Description**

1. What would have prevented the error?

Jul-03

31397

TANF, PA, or GA

1. ET acting on the report of change within 10 days.

Error Amount:

\$156

Allotment:

Responsibility Description

2. What actions were taken to correct the error?

Agency Reported information disregarded or not applied

2. A CD has been set up for the review month. ET has been instructed to act on reports of change timely.

Central APA Unit

Nov-02

31141

TANF, PA, or GA

1. ET would have updated the FS case when the TA case was opened and TA money counted in the FS eligibility determination.

Error Amount:

\$89

Allotment: \$99

Dec-02

31187

Household Composition

1. ET I with less than 1 year experience was unaware that Slana was outside the Anchorage area. Verify client's residence in the future.

Error Amount:

\$41

Allotment:

\$151

\$558

Feb-03 31233 Shelter Deduction

1. ET would have questioned the difference between the LL statement and the client statement on Gen 72 and HC verification of paid rent in file. TC to LL would have

Error Amount:

\$32

Allotment:

\$103

Apr-03 31300 Wages and Salaries

1. Client to fully report. ET to slow down, more thoroughly examine and document the situation and actions taken.

Error Amount:

\$61

Allotment:

\$460

31403 Jul-03 Shelter Deduction

1. Old rent and utilities deleted from DEMH screen until client provided verification of new rent amount. ET would have requested new rent amount.

Error Amount:

\$32

Allotment:

\$42

Agency Computer user error

Case was corrected for December.

Agency Incorrect policy

2. Case was rebudgeted and a claim determination has been submitted. Case closed. Client has moved out of state.

Agency Reported information disregarded or not applied

2. DEMH correct. Notice sent to client and Gen 95 done.

Agency Reported information disregarded or not applied

2. ET re-worked the case. Discussed events and how to CANO prospective income and to thoroughly examine reports of change.

Agency Fail to follow up on inaccurate information

2. Already corrected.

District Name	Sample Month	Review Number	Element Description		Responsibility Description
			e prevented the error?		2. What actions were taken to correct the error?
airbar			- -		
arrour	Oct-02	31104	Wages and Salaries		Agency Arithmetic error
	1. ET should	d have slowed e was opened	· ·	ne information available at the d timely. \$165	2. Gen 95 was completed.
	Nov-02	31133	Household Composition		Agency Fail to verify required information
			rom WDS in 10/02 to a caselowe implemented EOIP.	oad whose worker was on	2. Gen 95
	Error Amoun	t: \$87	Allotment:	\$87	
	Dec-02	31163	Bank Accounts or Cash or	n Hand	Client Misrepresentation by failing to report
	1. Client rep	ort.			2. FS case is closed.
	Error Amoun	t: \$393	Allotment:	\$393	
	Jan-03	31193	TANF, PA, or GA		Agency Reported information disregarded or not applied
	1. Smaller c	aseloads.			2. GEN 95
	Error Amoun	t: \$149	Allotment:	\$443	
	Feb-03	31225	Household Composition		Client Fail to report
	1. Client's tir	mely reporting			2. GEN 95
	Error Amoun	t: \$226	Allotment:	\$226	
	Mar-03	31258	Household Composition		Agency Fail to follow up on changes
	1. Less work	ζ.			2. Baby added and benefits issued in March for February and March benefits.
	Error Amoun	t: \$44	Allotment:	\$62	
	Apr-03	31291	Wages and Salaries		Agency Fail to follow up on inaccurate information
	1. Gathering	current pay i	nformation.		The team has gone over the regulations pertinent to collecting current information before processing applications and recertifications.
	Γ Λ		Allatasast	Ф.47.Г	. 5

Error Amount: \$475

Allotment: \$475

District Sample Review Number **Element Description** Responsibility Description Name Month 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error? 31350 **Unemployment Compensation** May-03 Agency Other 1. Greater attention to detail. Review of previous CANOs. 2. The case is now correct. Error Amount: \$55 \$232 Allotment: Jun-03 31358 Wages and Salaries Misrepresentation by failing to report 1. Client timely reporting of changes. 2. Fraud referral completed and changes made to EIS. Error Amount: \$151 Allotment: \$589 Fairbanks Field Office Nov-02 31135 **Household Composition** Fail to report Client 1. Greater attention to detail. Client reporting timely. 2. Case managers have been instructed to e-mail ETs with the reports of change that they receive from clients. Error Amount: \$113 Allotment: \$592 Apr-03 31293 **Unemployment Compensation** Misrepresentation by failing to report 1. The client reporting the unearned income. 2. Gen 95 Error Amount: \$299 \$1.038 Allotment: Field Office # 1 Oct-02 31120 **Household Composition** Agency Incorrect policy 1. ET should have reviewed the case and documentation in casefile more carefully. 2. Redetermine case with the corrections made and claim submitted. Error Amount: \$186 Allotment: \$108 Feb-03 31242 **Unemployment Compensation** Agency Fail to verify required information 1. If ET received alert and would have checked the balance available on UIB for 2. Enter correct UIB figures and issue underpayment. both household members.

Error Amount:

\$193

Allotment:

\$458

District Sample Review
Name Month Number Element Description

1. What would have prevented the error?

Mar-03 31275 Citizenship and Non-Citizenship Status

1. Act on report of change timely and use correct mortgage amount as listed on recert. Error on SEPA effected shelter, UIB and earned income amounts.

Error Amount: \$242 Allotment: \$265

Apr-03 31309 Wages and Salaries

1. If ET would have acted timely on reports of change.

Error Amount: \$136 Allotment: \$136

Field Office # 3

Jan-03 31217 TANF, PA, or GA

1. Reviewing income. Using correct utility costs on DEMH.

Error Amount: \$49 Allotment: \$82

Jan-03 31200 Unemployment Compensation

1. Client following the 10 day reporting requirements.

Error Amount: \$269 Allotment: \$269

May-03 31333 Wages and Salaries

1. Follow up on DOL information.

Error Amount: \$49 Allotment: \$49

Jul-03 31400 Household Composition

1. Client reporting the change in address.

Error Amount: \$341 Allotment: \$351

Responsibility Description

2. What actions were taken to correct the error?

Agency Fail to verify required information

2. Have staff review alien policy and make sure all reports of change are acted on timely.

Agency Reported information disregarded or not applied

2. EIS will be corrected. All Eligibility Staff reminded about acting timely on reports of change.

Agency Data entry and/or coding error

2. Review with ET.

Client Fail to report

2. Closed the case.

Agency Fail to follow up on inaccurate information

2. Reviewed with caseworker/unit.

Client Fail to report

2. Form Gen 95 issued for recoupment of over payment.

District Sample Review Number **Element Description** Responsibility Description Name Month 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error? Juneau District Office Nov-02 31155 Other Earned Income Client Misrepresentation by failing to report 1. Obtaining client's bank account deposit records back several months. 2. Bank account records requested to allow proper determination to anticipate amount of SS SU income. Claims will be done for months in Error Amount: \$166 Allotment: \$255 Jun-03 31355 **Household Composition** Client Fail to report 1. Client reporting timely. 2. Case closed. Fraud referral was completed by QA. Error Amount: \$190 Allotment: \$200 Kenai Student Status Oct-02 31115 Agency Incorrect policy 1. Code one parent out of the household per fs/ms 605-1. 2. One parent was coded out and the income was exempt. On-going in-house training regarding education and students is in order. Error Amount: \$120 Allotment: \$262 Oct-02 31114 Standard Utility Allowance Agency Reported information disregarded or not applied 2. Supplements are being processed. 1. It appears to have been a concentration error. Error Amount: \$64 Allotment: \$401 Mar-03 **Unemployment Compensation** 31269 Agency Incorrect policy 1. Don't anticipate UIB due to possible job end penalty issue to be resolved. 2. Underpayment supplement will be issued. Remove TA income from initial month budget. Allow verified child support Error Amount: \$212 Allotment: \$177 Jun-03 31370 Child Support Payments Received from Absent Parent Fail to report

\$577

Allotment:

1. No CAP #11 provided.

\$63

Error Amount:

District Sample Review
Name Month Number Element Description

Responsibility Description

2. What actions were taken to correct the error?

1. What would have prevented the error?

Ketchikan

May-03 31324 Shelter Deduction

1. Client reporting she had moved. ET requesting verification of shelter costs at recertification.

Error Amount: \$60 Allotment: \$239

Jun-03 31357 Unemployment Compensation

1. Better comprehension and cooperation by client of reporting requirements.

Error Amount: \$151 Allotment: \$244

Jul-03 31417 Wages and Salaries

1. ET failed to verify with employer client's work schedule.

Error Amount: \$224 Allotment: \$443

Jul-03 31391 Worker's Compensation

1. Timely reporting of Worker's Comp by client.

Error Amount: \$254 Allotment: \$264

Kotzebue

Oct-02 31107 Wages and Salaries

1. If client had reported the last paycheck and ending income.

Error Amount: \$291 Allotment: \$291

Feb-03 31229 Recipient Disqualification

1. Run Ingens to detect convicted drug felons.

Error Amount: \$219 Allotment: \$481

Agency Fail to verify required information

2. ETs will send notices to clients requesting verification when not received.

Client Fail to report

2. No supplements are issued for client-caused underpayments.

Agency Arithmetic error

2. ET will be more careful on examining pay verification and verifying wage info through employer. Improve cano on income decisions.

Client Fail to report

2. ET will complete/submit a GEN 95 to claims for over payment.

Agency Fail to follow up on inaccurate information

2. Enter the actual income received and remove the ending income that was included on the case.

Agency Reported information disregarded or not applied

2. Closed case.

District Sample Review Responsibility Description Name Month Number **Element Description** 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error? Apr-03 31295 Wages and Salaries Agency Incorrect policy 1. If ET had made a case for using the work schedule in the case notes then the 2. Correct the month of April using the actual check stubs received. error could have been prevented. Error Amount: \$128 Allotment: \$1.131 May-03 31329 **Household Composition** Misrepresentation by incorrect or incomplete information 1. If ET had used the proper conversion method to anticipate income and had 2. Corrections made to household members and prospective income as reviewed the household member listed on the FS recertification. noted in review. Error Amount: \$446 Allotment: \$1,546 Mat-Su Nov-02 31149 **Shelter Deduction** Agency Data entry and/or coding error 1. It's possible that a lower caseload could help prevent oversights. CW may have 2. Correct DEMH screen on EIS. rushed through case in attempt to keep up with caseload demands. Error Amount: \$46 \$448 Allotment: Dec-02 31178 Household Composition Agency Fail to follow up on changes 1. ET should have sent a letter requesting the information and provide the client with 2. ET reviewed case from the month after the first report of change. a due date. November through January and authorized supplements. Error Amount: \$134 Allotment: \$309 Jan-03 31208 **Unemployment Compensation** Client Misrepresentation by failing to report 1. If the client knew their case was in MatSu or Juneau, they could have directly 2. Overpayments for Jan and Feb 2003. contacted the ET thus had the opportunity to report the UIB as well as the worker Error Amount: Allotment: \$314 \$563 31240 Feb-03 SSI and/or State SSI Supplement Agency Mass change error 1. Mass change would have applied correct income amounts for the annual 2. EIS corrected and overpayment claims submitted. budgeting. Error Amount: \$249 Allotment: \$259 Feb-03 31237 **Household Composition** Agency Reported information disregarded or not applied 1. Acting timely on the reported change of two new household members. 2. Caseworker sent a supplement to the household.

\$443

Allotment:

Error Amount:

\$120

District Name	Sample Month	Review Number	Element Description	
	1. What w	vould have	prevented the error?	
	Apr-03	31306	Wages and Salaries	
		ese are now b	nets and business cards that he being distributed and discussed Allotment:	
	Apr-03	31305	Household Composition	
		incomplete t	when a co-worker processed by the on-going worker. Allotment:	d the current month benefits \$396
	Apr-03	31308	Self-Employment	
	1. Educating questions ma		the report of change requiren e disclosure.	nents and asking more
	Error Amount	: \$110	Allotment:	\$441
	May-03	31339	Child Support Payments R	eceived from Absent Parent
			ase were not transitioned to a aught this error.	a second worker, the initial
	Error Amount		Allotment:	\$706
	May-03	31342	Child Support Payments R	eceived from Absent Parent
	1. At initial Fo		terview, ET should have verif	ied child support income with
	Error Amount	: \$57	Allotment:	\$443
	Jun-03	31372	Unemployment Compensa	tion
	WDS could reporting cha		ticipated UIB and required th	e client to report according to
		-		

Responsibility Description

2. What actions were taken to correct the error?

Client Fail to report

2. Review was discussed with worker that the case was assigned to at the time.

Agency Reported information disregarded or not applied

2. Case was rebudgeted with correct household composition and shelter deduction. Discussion was held with ETII and WDSI.

Client Fail to report

2. Overpayment to be done for April.

Agency Reported information disregarded or not applied

2. Overpayments were done for the months of December 2002 through June 2003.

Agency Fail to follow up on inaccurate information

2. Have rebudgeted FS for 7/03 to correct payment. Also completed Fraud Report Form.

Client Fail to report

2. ET submitted fraud referral based on unreported changes - earnings and HH member changes.

Nome

Nov-02 31136 Child Support Payment Deduction

1. Review child support information and follow up on interface checks.

Error Amount: \$41 Allotment: \$786

Agency Reported information disregarded or not applied

2. Additional training on how to determine child support payments being deducted from payrolls. Reminders to follow-up on information

District Sample Review Month Number **Element Description** Responsibility Description Name 1. What would have prevented the error? 2. What actions were taken to correct the error? Jan-03 31196 Wages and Salaries Agency Other 1. Worker should have requested copies of actual pay stubs at recertification as it 2. was an ongoing job and we needed to see actual income. Error Amount: Allotment: \$778 Southeast APA Office Jan-03 31190 **Household Composition** Agency Fail to verify required information 1. This application was processed in another office and the new caseworker did not 2. The food stamp case has been closed. review the case when it was received in our office. Error Amount: \$10 Allotment: \$10

Synopsis of Negative Food Stamp Errors – FFY 03

Region District Review Case Review Number Number Month

Central

71 45295 5427308 May 2003

1. Agency failed to allow the client 10 days to provide information prior to case being closed.

84 45306 5377640 May 2003

1. Agency denied recertification due to boat and motor. Boat was last used for commercial fishing less than one year ago so it is exempt.

71 45319 5299798 June 2003

1. Agency closed the case when client did not provide verification of increase in rent and utilities.

Coastal

51 45228 5013068 February 2003

1. Agency did not include a child who did not have a social security number. Household was not given an opportunity to provide proof of application or notified of the requirement to apply for one.

80 45255 5444703 March 2003

1. Agency denied the case because there were no eligible household members due to citizenship. However, the PI's Certificate of Naturalization shows he became a citizen on 7/28/2000.

Northern

41 45182 5438894 December 2002

1. Agency failed to correct client's address on EIS so client was never notified in writing of closure and given the opportunity to respond to the notices as required.

43 45183 5437292 December 2002

1. Agency denied application for failure to provide "equity value of the 1994 Ford" but the client did provide enough information to determine the equity value of the vehicle.

ANALYSIS OF ERRORS ON FOOD STAMP NEGATIVE CASES FFY03: OCTOBER 2002 through SEPTEMBER 2003

REPORT DATE: 11/10/2003

BY MONTH	Oct-02	Nov-02	Dec-02	Jan-03	Feb-03	Mar-03	Apr-03	May-03	Jun-03	Jul-03	Aug-03	Sep-03	Total
STATISTICS BY CASE:													
Total Number of Cases Transmitted	26	21	23	20	21	19	23	23	25	27			228
Total Cases Completed	23	19	22	18	20	16	20	22	24	26			210
Cases Not Subject to Review	3	2	1	2	1	3	3	1	1	1			18
Total Cases Completed & Transmitted	23	19	22	18	20	16	20	22	24	26			210
Total Correct Cases	23		20	18		15			23	26			203
Total Error Cases	0		2	0		1	0		1	0			7
Case Accuracy Rate (%)	100.00	100.00	90.91	100.00	95.00	93.75	100.00	90.91	95.83	100.00			96.67%
Case Error Rate (%)	0.00	0.00	9.09	0.00		6.25	0.00		4.17	0.00			3.33%
Errors	DO#	Error Eleme	ont			Nature C	odo						
Denied Cases	80			ip & Non-C			Eligible pe	erson excl	ıded				
201104 44000	84		Vehicles	ip a rion o	10.2011		Resource should have been excluded						
	43						Improper						
	41						Data entry mistake on address						
Terminated Cases	51	51 170 Social Security Nu			ber	18 Eligible person disqualified							
	71						0 No application or info to support denial/term/suspen						
	71	71 416 Action Type				72	Improper term/susp for fa			failure to meet reporting requirement			
Suspended Cases													

ANALYSIS OF ERRORS ON FOOD STAMP NEGATIVE CASE REVIEWS FFY03: OCTOBER 2002 through SEPTEMBER 2003

REPORT DATE: 11/10/2003

BY DISTRICT	District				Case	Case	
	Office	Correct	Error	Total	Accuracy	Error	
	Number	Cases	Cases	Cases	Rate	Rate	
Juneau District Office	21	6	0	6	100.0%	0.0%	
Ketchikan	23	12	0	12	100.0%	0.0%	
Sitka	22	4	0	4	100.0%	0.0%	
Southeast APA Office	20	5	0	5	100.0%	0.0%	
Southeast Region Total		27	0	27	100.0%	0.0%	
Fairbanks	41	21	1	22	95.5%	4.5%	
Fairbanks FO	44	8	0	8	100.0%	0.0%	
NRO APA Unit	43	4	1	5	80.0%	20.0%	
Northern Region Total		33	2	35	94.3%	5.7%	
Statewide Support Unit	24						
Bethel	51	23	1	24	95.8%	4.2%	
Field Office #1	82	8	0	8	100.0%	0.0%	
Field Office #2	80	2	1	3	66.7%	33.3%	
Field Office #3	70	3	0	3	100.0%	0.0%	
Kenai SSU	55	1	0	1	100.0%	0.0%	
Kenai	76	15	0	15	100.0%	0.0%	
Kotzebue	47	3	0	3	100.0%	0.0%	
Nome	46	8	0	8	100.0%	0.0%	
Nome SSU	48						
Coastal Region Total		63	2	65	96.9%	3.1%	
	1	1	_ 1	1			
APA Unit	71	12	2	14	85.7%	14.3%	
Anchorage - Gambell	83	35	0	35	100.0%	0.0%	
Anchorage - Muldoon	84	13	1	14	92.9%	7.1%	
Mat-Su	77	20	0	20	100.0%	0.0%	
Central Region Total		80	3	83	96.4%	3.6%	
Alaska State Total	ALL	203	7	210	96.7%	3.3%	