

**COMMISSION ON STATE MANDATES**

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August 10, 2007

Ms. Juliana F. Gmur  
MAXIMUS  
2380 Houston Avenue  
Clovis, CA 93611

Ms. Ginny Brummels  
Division of Accounting and Reporting  
State Controller's Office  
3301 C Street, Suite 501  
Sacramento, CA 95816

Re: **Incorrect Reduction Claim**

*Absentee Ballots*, 07-3713-I-02

Statutes 1978, Chapter 77; Statutes 1994, Chapter 920; Statutes 2002, Chapter 1032;  
Fiscal Years 2000-2001, 2001-2002, and 2002-2003

Santa Clara County, Claimant

Dear Ms. Gmur and Ms. Brummels:

On July 25, 2007, the County of Santa Clara filed an incorrect reduction claim (IRC) with the Commission on State Mandates (Commission) based on the *Absentee Ballots* program for fiscal years 2000-2001, 2001-2002, and 2002-2003. Commission staff determined that the IRC filing is complete.

Government Code section 17551, subdivision (b), requires the Commission to hear and decide upon claims filed by local agencies and school districts that the State Controller's Office (SCO) has incorrectly reduced payments to the local agencies or school districts.

**SCO Review and Response.** Please file the SCO response and supporting documentation regarding this claim within 90 days of the date of this letter. Please include an explanation of the reason(s) for the reductions and the computation of reimbursements. All documentary evidence must be authenticated by declarations under penalty of perjury signed by persons who are authorized and competent to do so and be based on the declarant's personal knowledge, information or belief. The Commission's regulations also require that the responses (opposition or recommendation) filed with the Commission be simultaneously served on the claimants and their designated representatives, and accompanied by a proof of service (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 1185.01).

The failure of the SCO to respond within this 90-day timeline shall not cause the Commission to delay consideration of this IRC.

**Claimant's Rebuttal.** Upon receipt of the SCO response, the claimant and interested parties may file rebuttals. The rebuttals are due 30 days from the service date of the response.

**Prehearing Conference.** A prehearing conference will be scheduled if requested.

**Public Hearing and Staff Analysis.** The public hearing on this claim will be scheduled after the record closes. A staff analysis will be issued on the IRC at least eight weeks prior to the public hearing.

**Dismissal of Incorrect Reduction Claims.** Under section 1188.31 of the Commission's regulations, IRCs may be dismissed if postponed or placed on inactive status by the claimant for more than one year. Prior to dismissing a claim, the Commission will provide 60 days notice and opportunity for the claimant to be heard on the proposed dismissal.

Please contact Victoria Soriano at (916) 323-8213 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



NANCY PATTON  
Assistant Executive Director

cc: Lizanne Reynolds, Deputy County Counsel  
Enclosure: Incorrect Reduction Claim Filing - (SCO only)

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