

UNITED STATES GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

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GENERAL GOVERNMENT DIVISION **DECEMBER 9, 1983**

B-202245



The Honorable Ike F. Andrews Chairman, Subcommittee on Human Resources Committee on Education and Labor House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Subject: Travel By The Office Of Juvenile Justice

And Delinquency Prevention's Administrator And His Staff Was Reasonable And Appropriate

(GAO/GGD-84-18)

This letter is one of a series which will address the concerns in your April 29, 1983, request about the manner in which the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is implementing the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5601 et seq.). In response to one of your concerns, we have reviewed all travel by the Administrator, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and his five professional staff members which began or ended between December 1, 1982, and May 31, 1983, to determine if it was reasonable and appropriate.

We evaluated the travel justifications and claims for reimbursements for all trips taken during this period and discussed our findings with the Administrator; his staff; and the
Comptroller's Office of the Office of Justice Assistance,
Research, and Statistics. We also reviewed travel regulations, policies, and documentation required for reimbursement. Our work was performed at the Office of Juvenile
Justice and Delinquency Prevention in Washington, D.C., and
was done in accordance with generally accepted government
auditing standards.

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The Comptroller's Office of the Office of Justice Assistance, Research, and Statistics provides financial and accounting assistance to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention pursuant to the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

We have determined that travel by the Administrator and his staff during the time period reviewed was reasonable and appropriate. The few questionable expenses found during the review were of a low dollar value.

We found that trips taken by the Administrator and members of his staff were not excessively long, frequent, or expensive. Trips made by air were economy class, and all trips were taken to obtain information or to attend functions related to juvenile justice activities. (See enc. II.)

From December 1, 1982, to May 31, 1983, six individuals began or ended 40 trips totaling \$18,077. Ten trips were made by two or more individuals, with group trip costs ranging from \$222 to \$1,873. (See enc. III.) The various individuals traveled from 2 to 13 times with total travel costs ranging from \$747 to \$4,815. (See enc. I.)

Individuals were generally reimbursed for the proper per diem or subsistence costs allowed for the locations visited. We found a small number of questionable payments, all of low dollar value, resulting from arithmetic errors or insufficient documentation. We reported these payments to the Comptroller's Office of the Office of Justice Assistance, Research, and Statistics which informed us that corrective actions had been taken.

Agency Comments

In commenting on a draft of this report the Department of Justice stated it considers the details of travel described in the report to be substantially correct and finds no reason for further comment. (See enc. IV.)

We would be pleased to meet with you or your staff if you desire any additional information on this matter. As arranged with your office, we are sending copies of this report to the Attorney General and the Administrator, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Copies will also be sent to other interested parties who request them.

Sincerely yours,

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William J. Anderson Director

Enclosures

ENCLOSURE I ENCLOSURE I

Summary Of Individual Trips Begun Or Ended Between December 1, 1982, And May 31, 1983

Mwanalaw	mying taken	<u>Tri</u> Tota	p costs Average
Traveler	Trips taken	IOLA	Average
Alfred Regnery, Administrator	13	\$ 4,815	\$ \$370
Thomas Dailey, Special Assistant to the Administrator	10	4,437	7 444
John Winkfield, Deputy Administrator	7	3,88	554
Benjamin Shapiro, Special Assistant to the Deputy Administrator	5	2,363	3 473
James Howell, Acting Director of the National Institute for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention	3	1,834	4 611
Sharon Wagner, Executive Assistant	_2	747	<u>7</u> 374
Totals	40	\$18,07	7 =

Individual Trips 1

Traveler	Trip dates	Location	Purpose
Alfred Regnery	1. Dec. 8-9, 1982	New York, NY	Meet juvenile jus- tice experts
	2. Dec. 13-14, 1982	Hilton Head Island, SC	Participate in 2nd Annual Southern Legislators Confer- ence
	3. Dec. 28-29, 1982	Pittsburgh, PA; Canton, OH	Meet juvenile jus- tice experts
	4. Jan. 10-11, 1983	St. Louis, MO	Meet Chairman, Na- tional Advisory Committee for Juve- nile Justice and Delinquency Preven- tion
	5. Feb. 10-13, 1983	Raleigh, Durham, NC	Attend National In- stitute of Justice Advisory Board meeting
	6. Feb. 21-24, 1983	Hilton Head Island, SC	Participate in 10th National Conference on Juvenile Justice
	7. Mar. 2-4, 1983	Fisheating Creek, Bushnell, Brooksville, Okeechobee, Lake Placid, Vero Beach, FL	Visit correctional institutions for juveniles
	8. Mar. 15-18, 1983	Sacramento, Los Angeles, CA	Participate in California Youth Education Conference, and meet juvenile justice experts

¹ Individuals attending the same meeting did not always arrive or leave on the same dates.

<u>Travele</u> r	Trip dates	Location	Purpose
Alfred Regnery			
	9. Mar. 30, 1983	Atlantic City, NJ	Attend National Boy Scouts' Law Enforce- ment Exploring Committee meeting
	10. Apr. 14, 1983	Boston, MA	Discuss proposal to hold executive sessions at Harvard University
	11. Apr. 24-25, 1983	Dallas, TX; Detroit, MI	Participate in National Boys Club Con- ference, and National Advisory Com- mittee for Juvenile Jus- tice and Delinquency Prevention meeting
	12. May 9-11, 1983	New Orleans, Baton Rouge, LA	Participate in Governor's Advi- sory Board, and visit grantees
	13. May 24-25, 1983	Kansas City, MO	Participate in 4th Annual State Advisory Group meeting

ENCLOSURE II ENCLOSURE II

Traveler	Trip dates	Location	Purpose
Thomas Dailey	14. Dec. 8-9, 1982	See Trip Number 1	
	15. Dec. 13-14, 1982	See Trip Number 2	
	16. Dec. 28-29, 1982	See Trip Number 3	
	17. Jan. 5-11, 1983	San Francisco CA; Reno, NV	Meet juvenile justice experts, visit grantees, and attend Research on Serious Juve- nile Crime Semi- nar
	18. Feb. 22-24, 1983	See Trip Number 6	
	19. Mar. 2-6, 1983	See Trip Number 7	
	20. Mar. 15-18, 1983	See Trip Number 8	
	21. Apr. 14, 1983	See Trip Number 10	
	22. Apr. 24-26, 1983	See Trip Number 11	
	23. May 24-25, 1983	See Trip Number 13	
John Wink- field	24. Jan. 26 -Feb. 2, 1983	New Orleans, LA; Los Angeles, CA; Phoenix, AZ; New York, NY; Chicago, IL	Visit five grantees

Traveler	Trip dates	Location	Purpose
John Wink- field			
	25. Mar. 2-4, 1983	See Trip Number 7	
	26. Apr. 16-18, 1983	Hedgesville, WVA	Participate in Governor's Award Confer- ence
	27. Apr. 22-26, 1983	Detroit, MI; Cincinnati, OH	See Trip Number 11, and speak at Ohio Juvenile Judges Association meeting
	28. May 17-22, 1983	Miami, FL	Participate in Closeup Foundation meeting, and visit grantees
	29. May 24-26, 1983	See Trip Number 13	
	30. May 31 - June 2, 1983	St. Thomas, VI	Participate in annual Conference for Government of the Virgin Islands
Benjamin Shapiro			
	31. Nov. 29 - Dec. 3, 1982	Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, PA	Monitor grant pro- jects
	32. Mar. 16-18, 1983	See Trip Number 8	
	33. Apr. 7-9, 1983	Denver, CO	Attend National Conference of State Legislators
	34. May 2-3, 1983	Portland, ME	Participate in Maine Youth Day
	35. May 24-26, 1983	See Trip Number 13	

ENCLOSURE II ENCLOSURE II

Traveler	Trip dates	Location	Purpose
James Howell			
	36. Jan. 9-12, 1983	Reno, NV	Participate in Research on Serious Juvenile Crime Seminar
	37. Feb. 21-24, 1983	See Trip Number 6	
	38. Apr. 11-15, 1983	Tucson, AZ	Witness in law suit against the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
Sharon Wagner			
	39. Apr. 24-26, 1983	See Trip Number 11	
	40. May 21-26, 1983	See Trip Number 13	

Combined Trip Statistics 1

Travelers	Total trip cost	Dates	Location/purpose
 A. Regnery T. Dailey J. Winkfield B. Shapiro S. Wagner 	\$1,850	May 21- 26, 1983	Kansas City, MO, attend 4th Annual State Advisory Group meeting
 A. Regnery T. Dailey J. Winkfield S. Wagner 	\$1,742	Apr. 22- 26, 1983	Detroit, MI, attend National Advisory Committee for Ju- venile Justice and Delinquency Preven- tion meeting
3. A. Regnery T. Dailey B. Shapiro	\$1,873	Mar. 15- 18, 1983	Sacramento, Los Angeles, CA, meet juvenile justice experts, and attend California Youth Education Confer- ence.
 A. Regnery J. Winkfield T. Dailey 	\$1,626	Mar 2-4, 1983	Bushnell, Fisheat- ing Creek, Brooks- ville, Okeechobee, Lake Placid, Vero Beach, FL, visit correctional in- stitutions for juveniles
5. A. Regnery T. Dailey J. Howell	\$1,079	Feb. 21- 24, 1983	Hilton Head Island, SC, attend 10th Na- tional Conference on Juvenile Justice

¹Individuals did not always arrive or leave together.

Travelers	Total trip cost	Dates	Location/purpose
6. T. Dailey J. Howell	\$1,097	Jan. 9-12, 1983	Reno, NV, attend Research on Seri- ous Juvenile Crime Seminar
7. A. Regnery T. Dailey	\$ 631	Dec. 28- 29, 1982	Pittsburgh, PA; Canton, OH, meet juvenile justice experts
8. A. Regnery T. Dailey	\$ 482	Dec. 13- 14, 1982	Hilton Head Island, SC, participate in 2nd Annual Southern Legislators Conference
9. A. Regnery T. Dailey	\$ 328	Dec. 8-9, 1982	New York, NY, meet juvenile justice experts
10. A. Regnery T. Dailey	\$ 222	Apr. 14, 1983	Boston, MA, dis- cuss proposal to hold executive sessions at Har- vard University



U.S. Department of Justice

Washington, D.C. 20530

November 2, 1983

Mr. William J. Anderson
Director
General Government Division
United States General Accounting Office
Washington, D.C. 20548

Dear Mr. Anderson:

This letter responds to your request to the Attorney General for the comments of the Department of Justice (Department) on your proposed letter report to Congressman Ike F. Andrews entitled "Travel by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Administrator and his Staff was Reasonable and Appropriate."

The Department has reviewed the travel data shown in your report for the six individuals listed for the 6-month period ended May 31, 1983. We consider the details of the travel as described in the report to be substantially correct and find no reason for further comment.

We appreciate the opportunity to review the report while in draft form.

Sincerely,

Kevin D. Rooney
Assistant Attorney General

for Administration