



**WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE AUDIT BUREAU
LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL**

February 8, 2002

Senator Gary R. George and
Representative Joseph K. Leibham, Co-chairpersons
Joint Legislative Audit Committee
State Capitol
Madison, Wisconsin 53702

Dear Senator George and Representative Leibham:

We have completed a limited-scope fiscal review of the Department of Corrections' Bureau of Technology Management, which was initiated in response to an anonymous complaint about purchasing procedures, controls over the computer inventory, and budgeting processes. We did not find misappropriation of assets; however, the attached report identifies a total of \$2.2 million in questionable accounting transactions, as well as recommendations for improving accountability over computers and software licenses.

The questionable transactions include \$1.7 million in general purpose revenue funding that the Department transferred to a continuing program revenue appropriation under its control at the end of fiscal year 2000-01, and the accumulation of an excess balance of \$.5 million in another account in the same continuing appropriation. Instead of returning these funds to the General Fund for appropriation by the Legislature, the Department has designated them, or has already spent them, for various information technology projects and other items. The Legislature may wish to consider whether the Department should be allowed to retain some, or all, of the funds for the identified projects. In addition, the Legislature could consider whether the Department should continue to use its program revenue appropriation in the manner that led to the questioned transfers and excess balances.

We appreciate the courtesy and cooperation extended to us by agency staff during our review.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Mueller

State Auditor

JM/BN/bm

[letter report, PDF file \(46KB\)](#)