



**Homeland Security
and Emergency Services**

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

ROGER L. PARRINO, SR.
Commissioner

Mr. Brian Reilly, Audit Director
Office of the State Comptroller
Division of State Government Accountability
110 State Street – 11th Floor
Albany, New York 12236

Dear Mr. Reilly:

The New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) has reviewed the Office of the State Comptroller's (OSC's) final audit report regarding the review and evaluation of Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP) on a statewide basis. OSC's final audit report is positive and provides confirmation of the continued success, hard work and dedication of DHSES. DHSES will continue to provide expert training and technical assistance to state agencies.

DHSES program accomplishments include:

- Establishment and leading a State Continuity of Operations Planning working group comprised of all DPC agencies. The group is brought together to share ideas, best practices, and provide a forum for improving the level of continuity preparedness across the agencies.
- DHSES has launched its new COOP curriculum, which includes a 2-day course that sets a new standard in continuity preparedness by leveraging the best core COOP concepts that stem from public and private sector continuity standards.
- DHSES staff offer assistance to stakeholders in conducting a business process analysis and in facilitating a risk assessment/business impact analysis through the use of a tool that was created by DHSES staff that is the first of kind in the continuity industry.

We thank the OSC team for their professionalism and efforts in conducting this review and for the opportunity to respond to the report. DHSES always seeks to continuously improve its program administration and welcomes OSC's recommendations and will implement them where appropriate and feasible.

If you have any questions regarding the Agency's response, please contact Brian D. Jackson of DHSES' Office of Internal Audit at (518) 457-5120.

Sincerely,



Terence J. O'Leary
Executive Deputy Commissioner



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cc: Commissioner Parrino
Elisha Tomko
Anne Bink
Kevin Wisely
Dave DeMatteo
Brian Jackson