



COMPTROLLER OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
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WILLIAM C. THOMPSON, JR.
COMPTROLLER

September 10, 2009

Commissioner Robert V. Hess
New York City Department of Homeless Services
33 Beaver Street, 17th Floor
New York, New York 10004

Dear Commissioner Hess:

As you know, Basic Housing, Inc. is under contract with the City's Department of Homeless Services (DHS) to operate a Neighborhood Based Cluster Transitional Residence program at eight defined shelters in the Bronx and Manhattan.

It has come to my attention that Basic Housing is currently moving homeless families into 1564 St. Peter's Avenue, Bronx, which is not an approved location under its current contract, as renewed, with DHS.

It is my further understanding that DHS is paying Basic Housing for these services. If this is indeed the case, the Department is also in violation of the City Charter and I insist that your agency immediately cease making further payments and recover the contract funds previously misspent by DHS.

In a recent audit by my office, DHS indicated that it would closely monitor Basic Housing's compliance with its contract. I therefore insist that DHS confine the placement of homeless families to the eight locations detailed in the contract.

I look forward to your response.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William C. Thompson, Jr.".

William C. Thompson, Jr.