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July 31, 2006

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Office of  
Children & Family  
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Dear Citizen Review Panel Chairs:

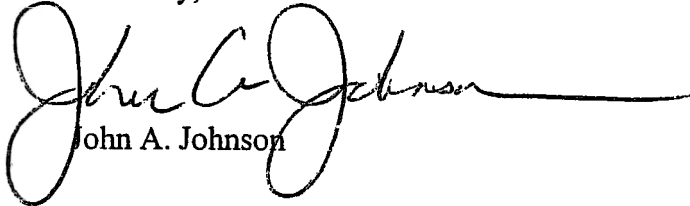
The attached document is presented in response to the *2005 New York State Citizen Review Panel's Annual Report*, as required under New York State Social Services Law section 371-B (5) and the 2003 amendments to the federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA).

The Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) continues its high regard for the work and recommendations of the Citizen Review Panels. To reflect this regard, OCFS, under the leadership of Executive Deputy Commissioner Larry Brown, held meetings with the Citizen Review Panel members to review and discuss the recommendations contained within the 2005 annual report. The meetings were held on May 15, 2006, in Utica, New York and May 19<sup>th</sup> in New York City. Each session was followed by OCFS participation in meetings with invited stakeholder representatives to further review and discuss the recommendations. These meetings and the enclosed OCFS formal response serve as testimony to the importance of the continued work of the New York State Citizen Review Panels.



Please accept our grateful appreciation for your ongoing endeavors and for the thoughtful recommendations to which we respond. The Office of Children and Family Services looks forward to our continuing working relationship.

Sincerely,



John A. Johnson

Attachment

cc: Karen Schimke  
Larry Brown