

CITY OF BALTIMORE

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS

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December 15, 2011

Honorable President and
Members of the Board of Estimates

Dear Mr. President and Members:

The Department of Audits has conducted a review of claims for potential overpayments that remained either unclaimed or unresolved for three or more years. The Department of Finance, Bureau of Revenue Collections sent 3,292 claim forms to the potential claimants listed on the City's Abandoned Property Report for fiscal year 2008, dated July 1, 2011. The claim forms contained instructions to complete and return those forms to the Board of Estimates. Under procedures established by the Board of Estimates, 691 claim forms, requesting refunds totaling \$554,982.84, were received by the Board of Estimates and forwarded to the Department of Audits for review and recommendation.

We determined that \$387,647.00 included in the attached schedule, represents valid refunds to 417 claimants resulting from duplicate payments, abatements, and tax credits, and we recommend that these refunds be approved for payment. We further recommend that the \$387,647.00 be removed from the listing of abandoned property to be submitted to the State by the Department of Finance, Bureau of Revenue Collections. We also determined that potential claims received, totaling \$72,020.28 resulted from various clerical or accounting errors and should not have been included in the Abandoned Property Report. Therefore, we recommend that \$72,020.28 associated with those claims be retained by the City and removed from the listing of abandoned property to be submitted to the State. The balance of \$95,315.56 represents the adjusted amount for abandoned property that will be included in the amount to be remitted to the State.

Respectfully yours,

Robert L. McCarty, Jr., CPA
City Auditor

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF ESTIMATES

CLERK _____

DATE _____

cc: Henry Raymond
Janice Jones Simmons
Frank Derr
Milton Wolinski