

May 1, 2025

The Honorable George Latimer U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Latimer:

Thank you for your April 2, 2025, follow-up letter regarding the closure of the White Plains, New York Hearing Office. As we previously shared, this office has had long-term issues with mold over the past several years. Soon, we will no longer have a lease in the current office space due to the lessor's decision not to renew it.

While we appreciate your offer to help us find space for a new hearing office, our position remains that we do not need space in White Plains. As noted in my previous letter, there are other in-person hearing options for claimants in the surrounding area. And we will continue to provide the option of a virtual hearing by audio (telephone) and online video, which is selected by over 83 percent of our claimants who receive service from the White Plains Hearing Office.

Like other federal agencies, we procure and manage our space requirements through the General Services Administration (GSA). To discuss offers of County-owned facilities—as you suggest in your most recent letter—please contact Michael Gerber, GSA Regional Commissioner for the Northeast and Caribbean Region, at <a href="michael.gerber@gsa.gov">michael.gerber@gsa.gov</a>.

I am sending a similar response to County Executive Jenkins.

Sincerely,

Leland Dudek

**Acting Commissioner** 

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