



**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SSA FIELD OPERATIONS LOCALS**  
**AMERICAN FEDERATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO**  
*Representing over 29,000 Social Security Employees working in over 1,300 field installations and 36 teleservice centers across the nation, Puerto Rico and Pacific Islands*

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April 2, 2018

Nancy Berryhill  
Acting Commissioner  
SSA  
900 Altmeyer Bldg.  
6401 Security Blvd  
Woodlawn MD 21235

Acting Commissioner Berryhill:

On March 23, 2018 Congress passed and the President signed an Appropriation bill for SSA that includes \$480 million more for SSA LAE than was budgeted for FY 17. The legislation also provided that Congress was concerned that decisions to close SSA field offices may not have been in accordance with law, regulations and SSA procedures. The legislation stated that SSA's Inspector General is reviewing decisions to close offices to determine whether SSA was in compliance with law, regulation and SSA's internal procedures including notifying the public, and considering public input regarding closing an office. Congress further asked the Acting Commissioner to refrain from closing any SSA field offices until the OIG study is concluded and SSA considers fully implementing any OIG recommendations.

SSA recently closed the Milwaukee Mitchell St. field office and has announced closing the Baltimore Rotunda field office and the Arlington, Virginia field office. In view of this legislation AFGE Council 220 asks you to take action to immediately reopen the Milwaukee Mitchell St office. If necessary, we ask you to order that the office occupy temporary space until suitable space can be obtained in the Mitchell St community. We ask that you work with Milwaukee city officials who have indicated that they are willing to assist SSA in finding space in the South Milwaukee community to continue providing community based face to face service.

In addition, AFGE Council 220 asks that you cancel plans to close the Baltimore Rotunda office and the Arlington, Virginia office. We ask that you keep these offices open at least until OIG issues their report and that you implement SSA's current procedures if you believe that these offices should close to allow the community to provide input prior to a final decision on possibly closing these offices.

Sincerely,

Witold Skwierczynski  
President

Cc: AFGE C-220 EC

G. Bachinski

L. Schultz

AFGE GC

G Moore

T. Baldwin