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Department of Corrections
Division of Human Resources

STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

REHABILITATION ADVISORY COUNCIL AND INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL

1-800-624-4105 (V/TTY) OR (360) 407-3606

1009 College Street • Lacey WA

Mailing Address: PO Box 45343 • Olympia WA 98504-5343

January 21, 1997

Wanda Thompson
DOC Human Resources
PO Box 41103
Olympia, WA 98504-1103

Dear Ms. Thompson:

Congratulations on your recent appointment to the Washington State Rehabilitation Advisory Council (RAC). The 1992 amendments to the Rehabilitation Act assigned major responsibilities to the Council for reviewing, analyzing, and advising the designated state unit on vocational rehabilitation programs. Much has happened since November 1993, when the Council first convened; however, our job is far from over. To help prepare you to become an active Council member we have planned a new member orientation for the four new council members on **February 21 at our office (the Lacey Government Center) in Lacey.**

Enclosed you will find a draft agenda outlining the days activities. We strongly encourage you to attend. As you may notice from the agenda, the morning is dedicated to educating you about the role and responsibilities of the Council and committees with the afternoon dedicated to additional training and a tour of the local DVR office here in Lacey.

The Council is currently supported by an Executive Director and Executive Assistant. Both positions are in essence part time. The Executive Assistant position is shared with the State Independent Living Council (SILC). Paul Wysocki is the Executive Director. Paul was retired from the City of Seattle when he began as our first Executive Director in February of 1995. Paul has been very active in advocacy and disability issues for many years. Kimberly Frinell-Garlinghouse began as the Executive Assistant in the fall of 1995. She has worked as an intern in the state legislature and is very knowledgeable about RAC activities.



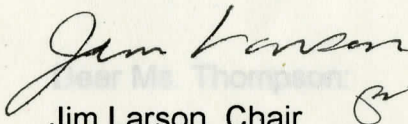
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Enclosed are copies of the Councils by-laws, membership list, and the last quarterly meeting minutes. Future Council meetings are set for **March 10 in Spokane and June 16 in Lacey.**

These are challenging times for vocational rehabilitation in our state and nation. One stop service and integration with other workforce and training programs are issues facing vocational rehabilitation in our state and reauthorization of the Rehabilitation Act will be a major issue at the federal level. Your involvement and contribution to the Council and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation is crucial for an effective program.

Thank you for your willingness to serve. If you wish additional information, please contact the RAC office. I look forward to working with you.

DOC Human Resources
PO Box 41103
Sincerely, WA 98504-1103



Jim Larson, Chair
Rehabilitation Advisory Council

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