

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR**

ACTION REFERRAL

TO	DATE
<i>Jacobs</i>	<i>10-30-08</i>

DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER <i>J00232</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>cc: Ms Forlner</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action

APPROVALS (Only when prepared for director's signature)	APPROVE	* DISAPPROVE (Note reason for disapproval and return to preparer.)	COMMENT
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			



SOCIAL SECURITY

Office of the Regional Commissioner

61 Forsyth Street SW, Suite 22T64

Atlanta, GA 30303-8907

October 24, 2008

RECEIVED

OCT 29 2008

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Ms. Emma Forkner, Director
Bureau of Long Term Care
Department of Health and Human Services
P.O. Box 8206
Columbia, SC 29202-8206

Dear Ms. Forkner:

Thank you for the fast response on how you plan to pass along the January 2009 cost of living adjustment (COLA) to your state supplement recipients. The Bureau of Labor Statistics has announced that the COLA will be 5.8 percent. The Supplemental Security Income (SSI) federal benefit rates will be \$674 for an individual and \$1011 for an eligible couple. The essential person increment is \$338.

The SSI payment cap for those in Medicaid facilities (federal living arrangement D) remains at \$30 (individual)/\$60 (couple). The value of the one-third reduction (for living in another's household will be \$224.66/\$337. The presumed maximum value of in-kind support and maintenance computes to \$244.66/\$357. The resource limits remain at \$2000/\$3000.

If you need additional information about the January 2009 COLA, please contact Barbara Schindler, SSI Program Team, 404-562-5836.

Sincerely,

Paul D. Barnes
Regional Commissioner