



OFFICE OF BANKS AND REAL ESTATE

January 17, 2002

Ben Henson, Executive Director
Appraisal Subcommittee
2000 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mr. Henson:

According to your letter of December 17, 2001, I understand that your staff failed to complete the accelerated field review conducted in November 2001. Without identifying any specific reasons, your letter suggests that time and other constraints precluded your staff from completing the review.

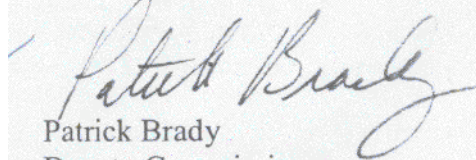
I am surprised and disappointed to learn that your staff failed to complete the review. I did not have the impression that your staff was operating under any constraints that would have prevented them from completing the review.

As a result of this failure, and in spite of our disappointment, I understand that you will be looking to schedule additional dates to complete the review. I am certain that we can find a mutually agreeable time to schedule the remainder of the field review. Prior to scheduling your return, it would be useful to know what aspects of the review have been conducted and what aspects remain to be completed.

As to your concern related to the exit conference, I believe I can resolve this issue. We would prefer to have this field review, and future field reviews, conducted without the benefit of an exit conference. Instead, please communicate your findings to us in writing.

While we disagree with Marc Weinberg's conclusion that the Real Estate Appraisal Board has authority beyond its advisory role, given our preference to forgo an exit conference, I believe that a detailed rebuttal of Mr. Weinberg's conclusion is not necessary.

Sincerely,



Patrick Brady
Deputy Commissioner