

Date: December 6, 2004

Notification regarding:

Virtual Private Network (VPN) Access to the Human Services Enterprise Network Request for State CONNECTIONS In A Box Personal Computers (CIABs)

Please note: The information regarding VPN access request for state CONNECTIONS In A Box (CIABs) notification, that was included in the CONNECTIONS Weekly Update dated December 3, 2004, has been updated. Since that time, *the URL address* has been changed to provide easier user access *directly* to the VPN document. The *direct* path to the document is via a VPN webpage at the following address: <http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/VPN>. It should be noted that the document name on the website is **VPN Procedures and Application Process** and the form name is **VPN Access Request Form** form OCFS-4735.

The prime objective of this initiative is to allow voluntary agency staff access to the CONNECTIONS Application, through state CIAB computers, via the use of the VPN solution. A virtual private network supplies connectivity over a long physical distance. The key feature of a VPN is its' ability to use public networks, like the Internet, rather than rely on private leased lines. VPN technologies implement restricted-access networks that utilize the same cabling and routers as a public network without sacrificing features or basic security. It should be noted that connectivity provided by an Internet Service Provider (ISP) must be in place before submitting the request for the CIAB VPN solution.