

January 20, 2023

Ayse Kalaycioglu Chief Operating Officer Illinois Department of Central Management Services 555 West Monroe, Suite 1300 Chicago, Illinois

Dear Ayse:

I would like to congratulate you on your outstanding and dedicated service to the State of Illinois. As CMS' Chief Operating Officer, you oversaw its bureaus of Agency Services, Emergency Management, Environmental Health & Safety, and Property Management comprising a \$350 million budget and over 450 employees to support nearly 700 facilities and 12,000 vehicles.

You have quite a list of achievements of which to be proud, but I must commend you and highlight a few accomplishments: 1) the strategic acquisition of 555 W. Monroe, an important step in the State's effort to optimize its real estate portfolio, reduce operating expenses, and enhance workplace performance. 2) the sale of the James R. Thompson Center, a transformative agreement that leveraged a critical asset for the benefit of Illinois taxpayers. 3) Implementation of new space standards to help realign the State's office space usage with industry standards, which allows for a more efficient use of space and lowers operating expenses. 4) overseeing the State's COVID-19 "Remote Work" and "Return to the Workplace" efforts that resulted in the safe return of the State government workforce.

Please know that I admire your dedication and integrity. Your professionalism and attention to detail was evident when programming our new office space at 555 W. Monroe and was much appreciated.

I join your family, friends, and colleagues for every good wish in the New Year and for greater success and progress.

Sincerely.

Susana A. Mendoza Illinois State Comptroller

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