



# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
CONTACT: Ed Bush  
PHONE : (312) 353-6979

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A Kankakee area resident recently received the highest cash award ever paid under the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Employee Suggestion Program. Charles E. Betterton of Stelle, Illinois, was awarded \$8,541.00 for a suggestion that saved the taxpayers approximately 10 million dollars over a three (3) year period. Mr. Betterton's suggestion involved significant modifications to a computerized property management system in the Department's Detroit Michigan Area Office, where he was employed until July of 1978.

Mr. Betterton began his career with HUD as a Disaster Relief Specialist when tornadoes struck sixteen (16) counties near his hometown of Greenville, Mississippi in 1971.

Over the next few years, Mr. Betterton became one of the Department's principal Disaster Relief Specialists, serving as the Director of Disaster Field Offices in Charlottesville, Virginia in 1972, St. Louis, Missouri in 1973, and Xenia, Ohio in 1974. In 1975, Mr. Betterton was appointed Assistant Director of the Housing Management Division in the HUD Area Office in Detroit, Michigan. He served in that position until his reassignment to Chicago.

Mr. Betterton commutes daily from his residence in Stelle to the HUD Area Office in Chicago. As the Chief Property Officer he supervises a staff of fifty-three (53) employees responsible for the management and sale of all HUD property in Illinois.