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**For Immediate Release**

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## **GEFI Building Update – May 22, 2014**

As noted previously, throughout the building closure, both DWD and DCF are operating all their online services as normal. None of the services have been interrupted. All of DWD's non-GEF1 locations have continued to operate normally, including the Unemployment Insurance Call Centers and Wisconsin Job Service centers. All of the services that DCF performs for its partners in counties throughout Wisconsin have also continued to operate without disruption. All Department of Workforce Development (DWD) and Department of Children and Families (DCF) employees will have a long-term work location on or before Tuesday, May 27.

Both DWD and DCF have begun to retrieve work files or equipment that will be crucial to work functions in the weeks ahead. Employees will be able to retrieve their personal items and additional work files in the next few days. We have received reports that some media outlets have attempted to gain access into the building. The building remains locked during the closure, and only approved personnel will access the building. Of course, you may continue to film the exterior of the building from public sidewalks and other areas of the building, but we ask that you please refrain from attempting to enter the building.

I [Stephanie Marquis] have also received questions asking if we are laying off or furloughing employees:

- No one has been furloughed or laid off. We would notify employees if we were going to furlough or lay off employees, and that has not happened. In addition, all DCF and DWD employees will have a long-term solution for their work location by next Tuesday, May 27.
- Employees working from home or other state offices are entering their work time as normal while they work from other locations.
- If employees have some hours they are unable to work, they have the choice to use vacation, personal holiday, sabbatical or accrued comp time as paid leave (sick leave cannot be used), or they can take leave without pay if they want to save their vacation time. When possible, employees are also able to make up work time rather than use paid or unpaid leave.

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