THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS THE PRESIDING BISHOPRIC

50 East North Temple Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-0018

July 21, 2014

To: General Authorities and the following leaders in the United States: Area Seventies; Stake, Mission, and District Presidents; Bishops and Branch Presidents

Dear Brethren:

Responding to Government Inquiries about Church Welfare Assistance

If a Church member applies for government benefits in the United States, a government agency may contact you about Church welfare assistance the member may have received. We remind you of the need to maintain confidentiality about Church welfare assistance (see Handbook 1: Stake Presidents and Bishops [2010], 5.2.8; Handbook 2: Administering the Church [2010], 6.4). Unless you receive a subpoena compelling disclosure of welfare assistance, you should obtain the member's written consent before responding to a government inquiry about that assistance. Use the attached form to obtain the member's consent.

If you have questions about these government inquiries or if you receive a subpoena or other legal process relating to welfare assistance provided to a Church member, please contact the Office of General Counsel at 1-801-240-6301.

Sincerely yours,

The Presiding Bishopric

oury E. Stevenson

Gérald Caussé

Dean M. Davies