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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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**AFSCME satisfied with Attorney General Charlie Crist's actions on Convergys
and with actions taken by DMS to protect state employees**

AFSCME wants this terrible contract and company terminated because of the continuing complaints, problems and poor performance of the People First project. In testimony last week before the House Governmental Operations Committee, DMS Sec. Tom Lewis was asked by Rep. Holly Benson why he was seeking to impose a \$5 million fine on Convergys, a remedy not included in their contract. Lewis replied, "Because I am not accustomed to doing business with people who lie to me."

After the whistleblower lawsuit and DMS Inspector General's report were released, AFSCME met with the top staff of the AG's office in January to request that he use his power under the Fl. Stat. 817, which covers identity theft and breaches of personally identifiable data, to require Convergys to notify affected active and retired state employees. The AG's office got involved and DMS issued a notification to active state employees. After which, we thanked the AG's Office for doing what we asked them to do. We have continued to confer with the AG's Office, DMS and legislative oversight committees and are confident that Convergys' conduct and potential contract remedies are being aggressively investigated. There are many questions still outstanding regarding Convergys and its subcontractors. We await the outcomes of those investigations and the actions our elected leaders take on the investigative findings.

While initially displeased with the lax response of DMS to the whistleblower lawsuit, DMS through the prodding of the AG and legislators is now aggressively pursuing these issues. With the exception of terminating the contract, DMS has taken action on all of AFSCME's requests regarding notification and credit protection. Our one quibble is that we would rather the protection program automatically enroll all affected state employees, rather than require voluntary sign ups.

AFSCME Florida Council 79 represents 64,000 state Career Service employees in the Professional, Administrative/Clerical, Operational Services, and Human Services bargaining units.