The Washington Employment Security Department (ESD) has issued new guidance regarding these letters.  Persons do not have to repay benefits or appeal the overpayment letter.

**What You Need to Know:**  The ESD fraud webpage contains valuable information for both employers and individuals - [https://esd.wa.gov/unemployment/unemployment-benefits-fraud](https://custapp.marketvolt.com/link/cDFVSNpdl3?CM=1533362098&X=49157262).  
  
Under the section, “What to expect after you have reported fraud” is the following language:  
  
**You do not owe us any money as a result of the fraudulent claim**You might have received a letter from us stating that you must repay benefits (called an overpayment) that we paid on the fraudulent claim in your name. You can ignore that letter! Our computer system automatically generates the letter when we deny an unemployment application. We’re sorry for the anxiety it may have caused.

**Action Items:**  This new information supersedes the instruction contained in our June 11th Alert.  If any of your workers has been a victim of a fraudulent/imposter claim filing and has received a benefit overpayment letter, no action needs to be taken by those workers.  
  
You can advise your impacted workers there is no need to appeal; the letter can simply be disregarded.