

June 28, 2006

Mail Stop 4561  
John J. Davis  
Chief Executive Officer  
Center Bancorp, Inc.  
2455 Morris Avenue  
Union, New Jersey 07083-0007

**Re: Center Bancorp, Inc.  
Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2005  
File No. 0-11486**

Dear Mr. Davis:

We have completed our review of your Form 10-K and have no further comments at this time.

Sincerely,

Joyce Sweeney  
Accounting Branch Chief