



OFFICE OF THE  
**STATE AUDITOR**

**News Release**

**For Immediate Release**

**January 16, 2019**

**Office of the State Auditor Releases  
A Performance Audit of The Division of Emergency Management's  
Budget and Performance Management Practices**

**Salt Lake City, UTAH –**

The Office of the State Auditor (Office) today released its Performance Audit of The Division of Emergency Management's (DEM's) Budget and Performance Management Practices. DEM is a division of the Department of Public Safety (DPS). The Audit includes two key findings:

- DEM risks budget deficit due to mismatch between federal funds availability and DEM's accelerated spending.
- DEM cannot adequately judge how effectively it is accomplishing its mission because it lacks performance measures and does not align its goals with strategic priorities.

Auditor Dougall expressed his concerns, saying, "The Division of Emergency Management's current spending levels are unsustainable and its reliance on an inconsistent federal budget process places DEM at financial risk. I encourage the Department of Public Safety to take prompt action to help DEM improve its financial practices. I also encourage the Division of Emergency Management to align its financial resources with its strategic priorities. Strong performance metrics can strengthen DEM's effectiveness."

The report may be found on the Office's website at [auditor.utah.gov](http://auditor.utah.gov) and specifically at: <https://reporting.auditor.utah.gov/servlet/servlet.FileDownload?file=0151K00000317aQQAQ>.

**About the Office of the State Auditor**

The Office of the State Auditor provides Utah taxpayers and government officials with an independent assessment of financial operation, statutory compliance, and performance management for state and local government.

Specific activities of the Office include performing financial audits, conducting Federal funds compliance audits, providing local government oversight, conducting agency and program performance audits, performing fraud and compliance audits, and operating the State Auditor Hotline for citizens to report suspected financial issues or improprieties. These capabilities

strengthen Utah State Government and help taxpayers have confidence in the integrity of Utah's government agencies.

The State Auditor is a Constitutional Officer of the State of Utah, elected directly by the state's citizens every four years. The role of the State Auditor is authorized in Article VII, Section 15 of the Utah Constitution. For more information, see [auditor.utah.gov](http://auditor.utah.gov).

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