



OFFICE OF THE
STATE AUDITOR

News Release

For Immediate Release

Sept 29, 2022

**Office of the State Auditor Releases a
Review of Certain Utah Inland Port Authority Procurement Practices**

Salt Lake City, UTAH –

The Office of the State Auditor (Office) today announces the release of a Review of certain Utah Inland Port Authority procurement practices. The Office received a complaint, through its hotline program alleging the Utah Inland Port Authority (Authority) improperly procured a contract for a communications and logistics management network worth \$2 million.

The Office reviewed applicable statutes and the Authority's purchasing policy (Policy). The Office noted a key weakness in that Policy, specifically that the Authority's Sole Source procurement policy lacks adequate transparency and accountability.

State Auditor John Dougall said, "Procurement policies are intended to provide a good value for taxpayers. Although state statute permits sole source procurement, these procurements can still be designed to improve accountability and prevent abuse. Increasing transparency, such as providing notice prior to granting a sole source contract, allows possible suppliers to step forward when they believe they have a possible product or service of which a governmental entity might be unaware. Because of the prominence of the Utah Inland Port Authority, it should strive for the best and strongest procurement policies possible."

The news release and related information may be found on the Office's website at auditor.utah.gov.

The Review may be found directly at:

<https://reporting.auditor.utah.gov/servlet/servlet.FileDownload?file=0151K000006oVUCQA2>.

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 Office also provides interactive graphical tools to help taxpayers and policymakers gain greater insight into governmental financial activities.

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.

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