

News Release For Immediate Release April 24, 2023

Who Audits the Auditor?

Office of the State Auditor Successfully Completes 2023 Peer Review

Salt Lake City, UTAH -

The Office of the State Auditor (Office) provides Utah taxpayers and government officials with an independent assessment of financial operation, statutory compliance, and performance management for state and local government. This includes responsibility for auditing state agencies and ensuring Utah's local government entities are following proper government accounting standards. But who audits the Auditor?

Every 3 years, the Office undergoes an external quality control review, also called a "Peer Review," required by professional auditing standards. In that process, a team of auditors from across the United States review various audit engagements to ensure the Office complies with professional and government audit standards.

The Office is pleased to announce the successful completion of its 2023 Peer Review.

The review was performed by an external review team affiliated with the National State Auditors Association. The Peer Review focused specifically on the Office's audits and system of quality control for the period April 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023.

State Auditor John Dougall explains, "This year the Office of the State Auditor received a passing grade from our Peer Review. This continues a long tradition of our financial audit staff being recognized for their consistent, high-quality audit work. Each successful Peer Review reflects the effort of a hard-working team of professionals who are dedicated to serving Utah taxpayers."

The news release may be found on the Office's website at <u>auditor.utah.gov</u>. A copy of the Peer Review report from the National State Auditor's Association can be found on the Office's website at http://auditor.utah.gov/about-us/external-peer-review/.

The PDF of the report can be downloaded at

https://reporting.auditor.utah.gov/servlet/servlet.FileDownload?file=0151K000007kor1QAA.

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. These tools include the Transparent Utah Public Finance website (transparent.utah.gov) as well as the award-winning Project KIDS public education analysis dashboards (auditor.utah.gov/kids) and the Utah Health Cost Compare project (healthcost.utah.gov) to assist consumers in understanding the cost of health procedures.

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 <u>auditor.utah.gov</u>.

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