



OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR



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December 7, 2020

Seven State Departments Holding Too Much Cash

DENVER—The Colorado Office of the State Auditor (OSA) has issued its annual Cash Funds Uncommitted Reserves audit for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020. The audit identified seven state departments with about \$9.1 million in fee-based revenue in excess of allowed statutory reserves at the end of the fiscal year.

State law requires departments with excess uncommitted reserves to reduce fees or increase expenditures. “Paying attention to excess revenue in cash funds is important because it can affect whether the State owes refunds under the Taxpayer’s Bill of Rights,” said Crystal Dorsey, Legislative Audit Manager.

The seven departments with excess uncommitted reserves included: Department of Agriculture, Department of Law, Department of Personnel & Administration, Department of Public Health and Environment, Department of Public Safety, Department of Regulatory Agencies, and Department of State. The Department of Law has had one cash fund with excess uncommitted reserves for four consecutive years; as a result, the Office of the State Controller began restricting its spending authority in Fiscal Year 2020 and will continue to restrict its spending authority in Fiscal Year 2021 until the excess is eliminated.

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The audit makes seven recommendations.

The full report is available @ www.colorado.gov/auditor.

About the Office of the State Auditor (OSA)

Under the direction of the State Auditor, the OSA is the State's nonpartisan, independent external auditor with broad authority to audit state agencies, departments, institutions of higher education, and the Judicial and Legislative Branches. The OSA also conducts evaluations of the State's tax expenditures (e.g., credits, exemptions, deductions) established in statute, administers a fraud reporting hotline, and tracks about 4,000 Colorado local governments for compliance with the Local Government Audit Law. The OSA's professional staff serve the people of Colorado by addressing relevant public issues through high-quality, objective audits, evaluations, and other work products that promote accountability and positive change in government.

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