



Washington State Auditor's Office

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Accountability Audit Report Island County Emergency Services Communications Center (I-COM)

For the period January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2015

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Washington State Auditor's Office

February 22, 2016

Board of Directors
I-COM
Oak Harbor, Washington

Report on Accountability

Thank you for the opportunity to work with you to promote accountability, integrity and openness in government. The State Auditor's Office takes seriously our role of providing state and local governments with assurance and accountability as the independent auditor of public accounts. In this way, we strive to help government work better, cost less, deliver higher value and earn greater public trust.

Independent audits provide essential accountability and transparency for Center operations. This information is valuable to management, the governing body and public stakeholders when assessing the government's stewardship of public resources.

The attached comprises our report on the Center's compliance and safeguarding of public resources. Our independent audit report describes the overall results and conclusions for areas we examined. We appreciate the opportunity to work with your staff and we value your cooperation during the audit.

Sincerely,

TROY KELLEY
STATE AUDITOR
OLYMPIA, WA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Audit Summary.....	4
Information About The Center.....	5
About The State Auditor’s Office.....	6

AUDIT SUMMARY

Results in brief

In the areas we audited, Center operations complied with applicable requirements and provided adequate safeguarding of public resources. The Center also complied with state laws and regulations and its own policies and procedures in the areas we examined.

About the audit

This report contains the results of our independent accountability audit of the I-COM from January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2015.

Management is responsible for ensuring compliance and adequate safeguarding of public resources from fraud, loss or abuse. This includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal controls relevant to these objectives.

Our audit involved performing procedures to obtain evidence about the Center's uses of public resources, compliance with state laws and regulations and its own policies and procedures, and internal controls over such matters.

In keeping with general auditing practices, we do not examine every transaction, activity or area. Instead, the areas examined were those representing the highest risk of fraud, loss, abuse, or noncompliance. The following areas were examined during this audit period:

- Payroll
- Maintenance costs
- Contracts and agreements
- Budget compliance follow-up
- Procurement follow-up
- Vehicle marking/monitoring follow-up

INFORMATION ABOUT THE CENTER

Island County Emergency Services Communications Center, doing business as I-COM, is an interlocal agency providing enhanced 9-1-1 services and consolidated law enforcement, fire and medical dispatch services. The Center serves approximately 71,000 citizens in Island County, located on Whidbey and Camano Islands.

The Center's seven-member Board of Directors is appointed from and serves the following 10 participating agencies: Island County Sheriff's Office, Oak Harbor Police Department, Coupeville Marshal's Office, Langley Police Department, Whidbey General Hospital, Camano Island Fire and Rescue, North Whidbey Fire and Rescue, South Whidbey Fire/EMS, Central Whidbey Island Fire and Rescue and Oak Harbor Fire Department. The Board of Directors appoints an Executive Director to oversee the Center's daily operations, as well as its approximately 22 employees. In fiscal years 2013, 2014 and 2015 the Center had operating budgets of \$2,590,259, \$2,423,103 and \$2,434,939, respectively.

Contact information related to this report

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Information current as of report publish date.

Audit history

You can find current and past audit reports for the Island County Emergency Services Communications Center at <http://portal.sao.wa.gov/ReportSearch>.

ABOUT THE STATE AUDITOR'S OFFICE

The State Auditor's Office is established in the state's Constitution and is part of the executive branch of state government. The State Auditor is elected by the citizens of Washington and serves four-year terms.

We work with our audit clients and citizens to achieve our vision of government that works for citizens, by helping governments work better, cost less, deliver higher value, and earn greater public trust.

In fulfilling our mission to hold state and local governments accountable for the use of public resources, we also hold ourselves accountable by continually improving our audit quality and operational efficiency and developing highly engaged and committed employees.

As an elected agency, the State Auditor's Office has the independence necessary to objectively perform audits and investigations. Our audits are designed to comply with professional standards as well as to satisfy the requirements of federal, state, and local laws.

Our audits look at financial information and compliance with state, federal and local laws on the part of all local governments, including schools, and all state agencies, including institutions of higher education. In addition, we conduct performance audits of state agencies and local governments as well as [fraud](#), state [whistleblower](#) and [citizen hotline](#) investigations.

The results of our work are widely distributed through a variety of reports, which are available on our [website](#) and through our free, electronic [subscription](#) service.

We take our role as partners in accountability seriously, and provide training and technical assistance to governments, and have an extensive quality assurance program.

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