



**Office of the Washington State Auditor**  
**Pat McCarthy**

**Financial Statements Audit Report**  
**King County Fire Protection District**  
**No. 13**  
**(Vashon Island Fire and Rescue)**

**For the period January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016**

**Published February 22, 2018**

**Report No. 1020814**





**Office of the Washington State Auditor  
Pat McCarthy**

February 22, 2018

Board of Commissioners  
Vashon Island Fire and Rescue  
Vashon, Washington

**Report on Financial Statements**

Please find attached our report on the Vashon Island Fire and Rescue's financial statements.

We are issuing this report in order to provide information on the District's financial condition.

Sincerely,

Pat McCarthy  
State Auditor  
Olympia, WA

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL  
OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND  
OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL  
STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

**Vashon Island Fire and Rescue  
King County  
January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016**

Board of Commissioners  
Vashon Island Fire and Rescue  
Vashon, Washington

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Vashon Island Fire and Rescue, King County, Washington, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated February 14, 2018.

We issued an unmodified opinion on the fair presentation of the District's financial statements in accordance with its regulatory basis of accounting. We issued an adverse opinion on the fair presentation with regard to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) because the financial statements are prepared by the District using accounting practices prescribed by Washington State statutes and the State Auditor's *Budgeting, Accounting and Reporting System* (BARS) manual described in Note 1, which is a basis of accounting other than GAAP. The effects on the financial statements of the variances between the basis of accounting described in Note 1 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material.

**INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's

internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the District's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

## **COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of the District's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

## **PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

It also serves to disseminate information to the public as a reporting tool to help citizens assess government operations.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat McCarthy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pat McCarthy

State Auditor

Olympia, WA

February 14, 2018

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## **Vashon Island Fire and Rescue King County January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016**

Board of Commissioners  
Vashon Island Fire and Rescue  
Vashon, Washington

### **REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Vashon Island Fire and Rescue, King County, Washington, for the year ended December 31, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's financial statements, as listed on page 10.

#### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions of Washington State statutes and the *Budgeting, Accounting and Reporting System* (BARS) manual prescribed by the State Auditor described in Note 1. This includes determining that the basis of accounting is acceptable for the presentation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial

statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the District's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

### **Unmodified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting (BARS Manual)**

As described in Note 1, the Vashon Island Fire and Rescue has prepared these financial statements to meet the financial reporting requirements of Washington State statutes using accounting practices prescribed by the State Auditor's *Budgeting, Accounting and Reporting System* (BARS) manual. Those accounting practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). The differences in these accounting practices are also described in Note 1.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position and results of operations of the Vashon Island Fire and Rescue, for the year ended December 31, 2016, on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

### **Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. GAAP**

Auditing standards issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) require auditors to formally acknowledge when governments do not prepare their financial statements, intended for general use, in accordance with GAAP. The effects on the financial statements of the variances between GAAP and the accounting practices the District used, as described in Note 1, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material. As a result, we are required to issue an adverse opinion on whether the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with GAAP.

### **Adverse Opinion on U.S. GAAP**

The financial statements referred to above were not intended to, and in our opinion they do not, present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Vashon Island Fire and Rescue, as of December 31, 2016, or the changes in financial position or cash flows for the year then ended, due to the

significance of the matter discussed in the above “Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. GAAP” paragraph.

## **Other Matters**

### ***Supplementary and Other Information***

Our audit was performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements taken as a whole. The Schedule of Liabilities is presented for purposes of additional analysis, as required by the prescribed BARS manual. This schedule is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

## **OTHER REPORTING REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 14, 2018 on our consideration of the District’s internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District’s internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Pat McCarthy  
State Auditor  
Olympia, WA

February 14, 2018

## **FINANCIAL SECTION**

**Vashon Island Fire and Rescue  
King County  
January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016**

### **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Fund Resources and Uses Arising from Cash Transactions – 2016  
Notes to Financial Statements – 2016

### **SUPPLEMENTARY AND OTHER INFORMATION**

Schedule of Liabilities – 2016

**King County Fire Protection District No. 13**  
**Fund Resources and Uses Arising from Cash Transactions**  
**For the Year Ended December 31, 2016**

		<u>Total for All Funds (Memo Only)</u>	<u>001 2016 Expense Fund 10-013-0010</u>	<u>321 9/11 Memorial Fund 2016</u>
<b>Beginning Cash and Investments</b>				
30810	Reserved	164	164	-
30880	Unreserved	2,792,827	2,790,955	1,871
388 / 588	Prior Period Adjustments, Net	-	-	-
<b>Revenues</b>				
310	Taxes	2,341,473	2,341,473	-
320	Licenses and Permits	-	-	-
330	Intergovernmental Revenues	303,716	303,716	-
340	Charges for Goods and Services	2,246,459	2,246,459	-
350	Fines and Penalties	-	-	-
360	Miscellaneous Revenues	62,653	62,650	3
Total Revenues:		<u>4,954,301</u>	<u>4,954,298</u>	<u>3</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
510	General Government	-	-	-
520	Public Safety	4,756,603	4,756,603	-
Total Expenditures:		<u>4,756,603</u>	<u>4,756,603</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (Deficiency) Revenues over Expenditures:		197,698	197,695	3
<b>Other Increases in Fund Resources</b>				
391-393, 596	Debt Proceeds	-	-	-
397	Transfers-In	407	407	-
385	Special or Extraordinary Items	-	-	-
386 / 389	Custodial Activities	-	-	-
381, 395, 398	Other Resources	-	-	-
Total Other Increases in Fund Resources:		<u>407</u>	<u>407</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Other Decreases in Fund Resources</b>				
594-595	Capital Expenditures	399,588	398,121	1,467
591-593, 599	Debt Service	-	-	-
597	Transfers-Out	407	-	407
585	Special or Extraordinary Items	-	-	-
586 / 589	Custodial Activities	(210)	(210)	-
Total Other Decreases in Fund Resources:		<u>399,785</u>	<u>397,911</u>	<u>1,874</u>
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Investments:</b>		<b>(201,680)</b>	<b>(199,809)</b>	<b>(1,871)</b>
<b>Ending Cash and Investments</b>				
5081000	Reserved	-	-	-
5088000	Unreserved	2,591,311	2,591,311	-
<b>Total Ending Cash and Investments</b>		<b><u>2,591,311</u></b>	<b><u>2,591,311</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

**Vashon Island Fire & Rescue 2510**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2016**

**Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

The King County Fire District No. 13 was incorporated in 1942 and operates under the laws of the state of Washington applicable to a District. The District is a general purpose local government and provides fire and medical aid service to the general public and is supported primarily through property taxes.

The District reports financial activity in accordance with the *Cash Basis Budgeting, Accounting and Reporting System* (BARS) Manual prescribed by the State Auditor's Office under the authority of Washington State law, Chapter 43.09 RCW. This manual prescribes a financial reporting framework that differs from generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) in the following manner:

- Financial transactions are recognized on a cash basis of accounting as described below.
- Component units are required to be disclosed, but are not included in the financial statements.
- Government-wide statements, as defined in GAAP, are not presented.
- All funds are presented, rather than a focus on major funds.
- The *Schedule of Liabilities* is required to be presented with the financial statements as supplementary information.
- Supplementary information required by GAAP is not presented.
- Ending balances are not presented using the classifications defined in GAAP.

A. Fund Accounting

Financial transactions of the government are reported in individual funds. Each fund uses a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprises its cash and investments, revenues and expenditures. The government's resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds depending on their intended purpose. Each fund is reported as a separate column in the financial statements. The following fund types are used:

GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES:

General Fund

This fund is the primary operating fund of the government. It accounts for all financial resources except those required or elected to be accounted for in another fund.

Capital Projects Funds

These funds account for financial resources which are restricted, committed, or assigned for the acquisition or construction of capital facilities or other capital assets.

B. Basis of Accounting and Measurement Focus

Financial statements are prepared using the cash basis of accounting and measurement focus. Revenues are recognized when cash is received and expenditures are recognized when paid.

C. Budgets

The District adopts annual appropriated budgets for the general expense fund. These budgets are appropriated at the fund level. The budget constitutes the legal authority for expenditures at that level. Annual appropriations for these funds lapse at the fiscal year end.

Annual appropriated budgets are adopted on the same basis of accounting as used for financial reporting.

The appropriated and actual expenditures for the legally adopted budgets were as follows:

<b>Fund/Department</b>	<b>Final Appropriated Amounts</b>	<b>Actual Expenses</b>	<b>Variance</b>
General Fund	5,472,849.00	5,154,513.80	318,335.20

Budgeted amounts are authorized to be transferred between departments within any fund; however, any revisions that alter the total expenditures of a fund, or that affect the number of authorized employee positions, salary ranges, hours, or other conditions of employment must be approved by the District's legislative body.

The board approved a budget amendment on December 27, 2016, to increase the expenditures by \$180,000 due to the hiring of a new Chief and excessive overtime and associated taxes and benefits.

D. Cash and Investments

See Note 3, *Deposits and Investments*.

E. Capital Assets

Capital assets are assets with an initial individual cost of more than \$5000 and an estimated useful life in excess of 3 years. Capital assets and inventory are recorded as capital expenditures when purchased.

F. Compensated Absences

Vacation leave may be accumulated up to 480 hours and is payable upon separation or retirement. Sick leave may be accumulated; 480 hours for 40-hour per week employees and 960 hours for represented employees. Upon separation or retirement employees do not receive payment for unused sick leave. Compensatory time may be accumulated up to 80 hours for non-represented employees, 80 hours for 40-hour represented employees and 144 hours per bargaining agreements and departmental policy.

G. Risk Management

Vashon Island Fire & Rescue is a member of Enduris. Chapter 48.62 RCW provides the exclusive source of local government entity authority to individually or jointly self-insure risks, jointly purchase insurance or reinsurance, and to contract for risk management, claims, and administrative services. Enduris was formed July 10, 1987 pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 48.62 RCW, Chapter 200-100 WAC, and

Chapter 39.34 RCW. Two (2) counties and two (2) cities in the State of Washington joined together by signing an interlocal governmental agreement to fund their self-insured losses and jointly purchase insurance and administrative services. As of August 31, 2016, there are 524 Enduris members representing a broad array of special purpose districts throughout the state. Enduris provides property and liability coverage as well as risk management services and other related administrative services.

Members make an annual contribution to fund Enduris and share in the self-insured retention of the jointly purchased excess and/or reinsurance coverage. The self-insured retention is:

\$1,000,000 deductible on liability loss - the member is responsible for the first \$1,000 of the deductible amount of each claim, while Enduris is responsible for the remaining \$999,000 on a liability loss.

\$250,000 deductible on property loss - the member is responsible for the first \$1,000 of the deductible amount of each claim, while Enduris is responsible for the remaining \$249,000 on a property loss.

Enduris is responsible for the \$4,000 deductible on boiler and machinery loss.

Enduris acquires reinsurance from unrelated insurance companies on a “per occurrence” basis to cover all losses over the deductibles as shown on the policy maximum limits. Liability coverage is for all lines of liability coverage including Public Official’s Liability. The Property coverage is written on an “all risk”, blanket basis using current Statement of Values. The Property coverage includes but is not limited to mobile equipment, boiler and machinery, electronic data processing equipment, business interruption, course of construction and additions, property in transit, fine arts, cyber and automobile physical damage to insured vehicles. Liability coverage limit is \$20 million per occurrence and property coverage limit is \$1 billion per occurrence. Enduris offers crime coverage up to a limit of \$1 million per occurrence.

Since Enduris is a cooperative program, there is a joint liability among the participating members.

The contract requires members to continue membership for a period of not less than one (1) year and must give notice 60 days before terminating participation. The Master Agreement (Intergovernmental Contract) is automatically renewed after the initial one (1) full fiscal year commitment. Even after termination, a member is still responsible for contribution to Enduris for any unresolved, unreported and in-process claims for the period they were a signatory to the Master Agreement.

Enduris is fully funded by its member participants. Claims are filed by members with Enduris and are administered in house.

A Board of Directors consisting of seven (7) board members governs Enduris. Its members elect the Board and the positions are filled on a rotating basis. The Board meets quarterly and is responsible for conducting the business affairs of Enduris.

#### H. Reserved Portion of Ending Cash and Investments

Beginning and Ending Cash and Investments is reported as reserved when it is subject to restrictions on use imposed by external parties or due to internal commitments established by the board of commissioners. When expenditures that meet restrictions are incurred, the District intends to use reserved resources first before using unreserved amounts.

Reservations of Ending Cash and Investments consist of:

Fund Name	Amount Reserved	Reason for Restriction
Fund 001	\$164	State of WA Dept of Health Trauma Grant

**Note 2 - Property Tax**

The county treasurer acts as an agent to collect property tax levied in the county for all taxing authorities. Collections are distributed after the end of each month.

Property tax revenues are recognized when cash is received by the District. Delinquent taxes are considered fully collectible because a lien affixes to the property after tax is levied.

The District’s regular levy for the year 2016 was \$0.95129 per \$1,000 on an assessed valuation of \$2,485,609,697 for a total regular levy of \$2,343,950.

**Note 3 – Deposits and Investments**

It is the District’s policy to invest all temporary cash surpluses. The interest on these investments is prorated to the various funds.

In accordance with State law, the District’s governing body has entered into a formal interlocal agreement with the District’s ex officio treasurer, King County, to have all its fund not required for immediate expenditure to be invested in the King County Investment Pool.

Investments are reported at fair value. Investments by type at December 31, 2016 are as follows:

<u>Type of Investment</u>	The District's own investments	Investments held by the City as an agent for other local governments, individuals, or private organizations.	<u>Total</u>
King County Investment Pool	2,589,311	0	2,589,311

**Note 4 – Pension Plans**

A. State Sponsored Pension Plans

Substantially all the District’s full-time and qualifying part-time employees participate in the following statewide retirement systems administered by the Washington State Department of Retirement Systems (DRS), under cost-sharing, multiple-employer public employee defined benefit and defined contribution retirement plans LEOFF2, PERS2 and PERS3.

The State Legislature establishes, and amends, laws pertaining to the creation and administration of all public retirement systems.

The Department of Retirement Systems, a department within the primary government of the State of Washington, issues a publicly available comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for each plan. The DRS CAFR may be obtained by writing to:

Department of Retirement Systems  
 Communications Unit  
 P.O. Box 48380  
 Olympia, WA 98540-8380

Also, the DRS CAFR may be downloaded from the DRS website at [www.drs.wa.gov](http://www.drs.wa.gov).

The District also participates in the Volunteer Fire Fighters' and Reserve Officers' Relief and Pension Fund (VFFRPF) administered by the State Board for Volunteer Fire Fighters and Reserve Officers. Detailed information about the plan is included in the State of Washington CAFR available from the Office of Financial Management website at [www.ofm.wa.gov](http://www.ofm.wa.gov).

At June 30, 2016 (the measurement date of the plans), the District's proportionate share of the collective net pension liabilities, as reported on the Schedule 09, was as follows:

Plan Type	Plan Liability / Asset	Responsibility Percentage	NPL	NPA
PERS 1 UAAL	\$ 5,370,471,000	0.002298%	\$ 123,413.42	
PERS 2/3	\$ 5,034,921,000	0.002841%	\$ 143,042.11	
LEOFF 2	\$ (581,630,000)	0.083335%		\$ (484,701.36)
VFFRPF		0.650000%		\$ (111,396.00)
		<i>Total</i>	\$ 266,456	\$ (596,097)

**LEOFF Plan 2**

The District also participates in the LEOFF Plan 2. The Legislature, by means of a special funding arrangement, appropriates money from the state general fund to supplement the current service liability and fund the prior service costs of Plan 2 in accordance with the recommendations of the Pension Funding Council and the LEOFF Plan 2 Retirement Board. This special funding situation is not mandated by the state constitution and could be changed by statute.

**Note 5 – Other Disclosures**

*Unfunded Retirement*

The District discovered in 2009 that the Pension Plans of a number of employees had been under funded for the fiscal years ended 12/31/08 and 12/31/09. This was due to errors in calculating the employer and employee portions. District & employee portions of the underfunded pension were paid to the Department of Retirement Systems (DRS) in 2010. The district is still owed the Employee portion of \$14,133 for 2008 and \$2,032 for 2009.

The District's new administration filed a claim with our insurance provider and they concur as such. They believe the claim is applicable under our errors and omission clause. Enduris will be paying all but our \$1,000 deductible.

### Budget Amendment

The Board approved a budget amendment to increase expenditures by \$180,000 primarily due to excessive overtime and associated taxes and benefits and the hiring of a new Fire Chief.

### Interlocal Agreement

A one year agreement for 2016 was entered into with Kent Fire Department Regional Fire Authority (aka Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority) to provide training services for fire protection and emergency medical providers in South King County. The South King County Fire Training Consortium (SKCFTC) consists of numerous municipal corporations that are cooperatively providing training services. The purpose and scope of the agreement allows the District to participate in and benefit from the joint training activities provided by the SKCFTC.

### Subsequent Event

On February 01, 2017 District's Advance Life Support (ALS) service and paramedics transitioned to King County Medic One. The District is now a Basic Life Support (BLS) only program. King County Medic One approved the District to use and reallocate equipment funds from the District's ALS Reserve Fund to cover the District's costs related to transitioning from an ALS agency to a BLS only program. Equipment that were sent to King County Medic One: Two Ford Expedition vehicles (from 2005 & 2006), three Life Pak 15 defibrillators (two from 2011 & one from 2013). Equipment that remained at VIFR: portable radios, Aid 55 vehicle and Stryker stretcher, mobile data terminals.

**King County Fire Protection District No. 13**  
**Schedule of Liabilities**  
**For the Year Ended December 31, 2016**

ID. No.	Description	Due Date	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance
<b>Revenue and Other (non G.O.) Debt/Liabilities</b>						
264.30	Pension Liability		238,282	28,174	-	266,456
259.12	Compensated Absences		236,855	-	107,896	128,959
	<b>Total Revenue and Other (non G.O.) Debt/Liabilities:</b>		<b>475,137</b>	<b>28,174</b>	<b>107,896</b>	<b>395,415</b>
	<b>Total Liabilities:</b>		<b>475,137</b>	<b>28,174</b>	<b>107,896</b>	<b>395,415</b>

## 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.

<b>Contact information for the State Auditor's Office</b>	
<b>Public Records requests</b>	<a href="mailto:PublicRecords@sao.wa.gov">PublicRecords@sao.wa.gov</a>
<b>Main telephone</b>	(360) 902-0370
<b>Toll-free Citizen Hotline</b>	(866) 902-3900
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.sao.wa.gov">www.sao.wa.gov</a>