

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMISSION
STATE COMPLIANCE EXAMINATION**

For the Two Years Ended June 30, 2022

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LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMISSION
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For the Two Years Ended June 30, 2022**

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**STATE OF ILLINOIS
LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMISSION
STATE COMPLIANCE EXAMINATION
For the Two Years Ended June 30, 2022**

COMMISSION OFFICIALS

Executive Director (Acting) (7/1/20 – Present) Ms. Laurie Eby

COMMISSION OFFICERS

Chairperson (7/1/22 – Present) Rep. Maurice West
Chairperson (7/1/20 – 6/30/2022) Sen. Jil Tracy

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Senate President Appointees

Member (9/8/20 – Present) Comm. Pat McGuire
Member (8/14/20 – 9/7/20) Vacant
Member (7/1/20 – 8/13/20) Sen. Terry Link

Member (7/1/20 – Present) Sen. Cristina Castro

Senate Minority Leader Appointees

Member (1/18/23 – Present) Sen. Terri Bryant
Member (1/11/23 – 1/17/23) Vacant
Member (7/1/20 – 1/10/23) Sen. Brian Stewart

Member (7/1/20 – Present) Sen. Jil Tracy

Speaker of the House of Representatives Appointees

Member (2/16/21 – Present) Rep. Kelly Burke
Member (2/11/21 – 2/15/21) Vacant
Member (7/1/20 – 2/10/21) Rep. Kathleen Willis

Member (2/16/21 – Present) Rep. Maurice West
Member (2/11/21 – 2/15/21) Vacant
Member (7/1/20 – 2/10/21) Rep. Natalie Manley

House Minority Leader Appointees

Member (1/21/22 – Present)

Member (7/1/20 – 1/21/22)

Member (7/1/21 – Present)

Member (7/1/20 – 6/30/21)

Rep. Jeff Keicher

Rep. Avery Bourne

Rep. Michael Marron

Rep. Norine Hammond

COMMISSION OFFICE

The Commission's administrative office is located at:

William G. Stratton Building
401 S. Spring Street, Room 420
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Members
Sen. Terri Bryant
Sen. Cristina Castro
Comm. Pat McGuire
Sen. Jil Tracy

Rep. Kelly Burke
Rep. Jeff Keicher
Rep. Michael Marron



Chairperson
Rep. Maurice West

**Acting
Executive Director**
Laurie Eby

LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMISSION

420 Stratton Office Building, Springfield, IL 62706
Phone: (217) 558-1561

MANAGEMENT ASSERTION LETTER

September 29, 2023

Honorable Frank J. Mautino
Auditor General
State of Illinois
740 East Ash Street
Springfield, Illinois 62703-3154

Auditor General Mautino:

We are responsible for the identification of, and compliance with, all aspects of laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements that could have a material effect on the operations of the State of Illinois, Legislative Ethics Commission (Commission). We are responsible for and we have established and maintained an effective system of internal controls over compliance requirements. We have performed an evaluation of the Commission's compliance with the following specified requirements during the two-year period ended June 30, 2022. Based on this evaluation, we assert that during the years ended June 30, 2021, and June 30, 2022, the Commission has materially complied with the specified requirements listed below.

- A. The Commission has obligated, expended, received, and used public funds of the State in accordance with the purpose for which such funds have been appropriated or otherwise authorized by law.
- B. The Commission has obligated, expended, received, and used public funds of the State in accordance with any limitations, restrictions, conditions, or mandatory directions imposed by law upon such obligation, expenditure, receipt, or use.

- C. The Commission has complied, in all material respects, with applicable laws and regulations, including the State uniform accounting system, in its financial and fiscal operations.

Yours truly,

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

Laurie Eby, Acting Executive Director
State of Illinois, Legislative Ethics Commission

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMISSION
STATE COMPLIANCE EXAMINATION
For the Two Years Ended June 30, 2022**

STATE COMPLIANCE REPORT

SUMMARY

The State compliance testing performed during this examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants; the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the Illinois State Auditing Act (Act); and the *Audit Guide*.

ACCOUNTANT’S REPORT

The Independent Accountant’s Report on State Compliance and on Internal Control Over Compliance does not contain scope limitations, disclaimers, or other significant non-standard language.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Number of	<u>Current Report</u>	<u>Prior Report</u>
Findings	0	2
Repeated Findings	0	2
Prior Recommendations Implemented or Not Repeated	2	0

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Last/First Reported</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Finding Type</u>
Prior Findings Not Repeated				
A	9	2020/2010	Procedural Deficiencies	
B	9	2020/2008	Inadequate Segregation of Duties	

EXIT CONFERENCE

The Commission waived an exit conference in a correspondence from Laurie Eby, Acting Executive Director, on September 29, 2023.

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OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL
FRANK J. MAUTINO

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT
ON STATE COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE

Honorable Frank J. Mautino
Auditor General
State of Illinois

and

Governing Board
State of Illinois, Legislative Ethics Commission

Report on State Compliance

We have examined compliance by the State of Illinois, Legislative Ethics Commission (Commission) with the specified requirements listed below, as more fully described in the *Audit Guide for Financial Audits and Compliance Attestation Engagements of Illinois State Agencies (Audit Guide)* as adopted by the Auditor General, during the two years ended June 30, 2022. Management of the Commission is responsible for compliance with the specified requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Commission's compliance with the specified requirements based on our examination.

The specified requirements are:

- A. The Commission has obligated, expended, received, and used public funds of the State in accordance with the purpose for which such funds have been appropriated or otherwise authorized by law.
- B. The Commission has obligated, expended, received, and used public funds of the State in accordance with any limitations, restrictions, conditions, or mandatory directions imposed by law upon such obligation, expenditure, receipt, or use.
- C. The Commission has complied, in all material respects, with applicable laws and regulations, including the State uniform accounting system, in its financial and fiscal operations.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the Illinois State Auditing Act (Act), and the *Audit Guide*. Those standards, the Act, and the *Audit Guide* require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Commission complied with the specified requirements in all material respects. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the Commission complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgement, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance with the specified requirements, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

We are required to be independent and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to the engagement.

Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the Commission's compliance with the specified requirements.

In our opinion, the Commission complied with the specified requirements during the two years ended June 30, 2022, in all material respects.

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing and the results of that testing in accordance with the requirements of the *Audit Guide*. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Management of the Commission is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the specified requirements (internal control). In planning and performing our examination, we considered the Commission's internal control to determine the examination procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the Commission's compliance with the specified requirements and to test and report on the Commission's internal control in accordance with the *Audit Guide*, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission'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, noncompliance with the specified requirements on a timely basis. A material weakness in internal control is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with the specified requirements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency in internal control 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 examination we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified.

As required by the *Audit Guide*, immaterial findings excluded from this report have been reported in a separate letter.

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the *Audit Guide*. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

JANE CLARK, CPA
Director of Financial and Compliance Audits

Springfield, Illinois
September 29, 2023

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMISSION
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS – PRIOR FINDINGS NOT REPEATED
For the Two Years Ended June 30, 2022**

A. **FINDING** (Procedural Deficiencies)

During the prior examination, the Legislative Ethics Commission (Commission) did not comply with certain procedural requirements established by State laws and regulations. Specifically, the Commission did not publish on their website the harassment and discrimination prevention training activity reports received from applicable agencies, or retain a U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) I-9 Employment Eligibility Verification Form (Form I-9) on file for its employees. Additionally, the Commission did not file copies of their quarterly reports with the State Government Report Distribution Center at the State Library, and did not inform the Government Documents Section of the State Library in writing of its person(s) responsible for the distribution of documents annually and within two weeks after any changes.

During the current examination, our testing indicated the Commission published on their website the harassment and discrimination prevention training activity reports received from applicable agencies and retained a USCIS I-9 Form I-9 on file for the sample of employees tested. In addition, our testing indicated the Commission filed copies of their quarterly reports with the State Government Report Distribution Center at the State Library and informed the Government Documents Section of the State Library in writing of its person(s) responsible for the distribution of documents annually and within two weeks after any changes. (Finding Code No. 2020-001, 2018-001, 2016-001, 2014-001, 12-1, 10-1)

B. **FINDING** (Inadequate Segregation of Duties)

During the prior examination, the Legislative Ethics Commission (Commission) had an inadequate segregation of duties in the areas of expenditure control and State property. Specifically, one individual performed all parts of the transaction cycle in these two areas.

During the current examination, our testing indicated the Commission made improvements to its internal control structure and achieved an adequate segregation of duties in its operations. Specifically, the Commission implemented mitigating and compensating controls by involving the Commission's Chairperson in the transaction cycle. (Finding Code No. 2020-002, 2018-002, 2016-002, 2014-002, 12-2, 10-2, 08-2)