STATE OF CONNECTICUTAuditors of Public Accounts



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AUDIT SUMMARY

Office of Governmental Accountability

Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2022 and 2023

ABOUT THE AGENCY

Office of Governmental Accountability

The Office of Governmental Accountability (OGA) includes the Judicial Review Council, Judicial Selection Commission, Board of Firearms Permit Examiners, Office of the Child Advocate, Office of the Victim Advocate, State Contracting Standards Board, and Office of the Correction Ombuds. The Department of Administrative Services' Small Agency Resource Team provides OGA's human resources, administrative, business office, and information technology functions.

ABOUT THE AUDIT

We have audited certain operations of the Office of Governmental Accountability in fulfillment of our duties under Section 2-90 of the Connecticut General Statutes. The scope of our audit included, but was not necessarily limited to, the fiscal years ended June 30, 2022 and 2023. The objectives of our audit were to evaluate the:

- Office's internal controls over significant management and financial functions;
- Office's compliance with policies and procedures internal to the office or promulgated by other state agencies, as well as certain legal provisions; and
- Effectiveness, economy, and efficiency of certain management practices and operations, including certain financial transactions.

We conducted this performance audit in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives.

Link to full report





Our audit identified internal control deficiencies and instances of noncompliance with laws, regulations, or policies.

noteworthy findings



Findings



Recommendations

Our review of Board of Firearms Permit Examiners appeals found significant delays between appeal requests and scheduled hearings. As of March 13, 2024, 1203 cases remained unheard, with hearings scheduled through March 2026. The backlog included 590 denials and 613 revocations.

We reviewed all 22 statutorily required reports due during the audited period. We found:

The Board of Firearms Permit Examiners did not submit its annual administrative report for fiscal year 2022.

The Judicial Review Council submitted its annual administrative report 13 and 90 days late in fiscal years 2022 and 2023, respectively.

The Judicial Selection Commission submitted its annual report to the joint standing committee on the judiciary 43 and 17 days late in fiscal years 2022 and 2023, respectively. We were unable to determine if the commission promptly submitted its annual administrative report for fiscal year 2022.

The Office of the Victim Advocate submitted its annual administrative report 34 and 77 days late in fiscal years 2022 and 2023, respectively.

The State Contracting Standards Board submitted its annual administrative report 63 days late in fiscal year 2023. We were unable to determine if the board promptly submitted its report for fiscal year 2022.

The Office of the Child Advocate (OCA) did not submit the biennial report on the conditions of incarcerated youth. OCA last submitted this report on January 16, 2019. Subsequent reports were due March 1, 2021, and 2023, but neither were submitted. OCA submitted its annual administrative report 75 days late in fiscal year 2022

The Board of Firearms Permit Examiners should continue to work toward reducing its hearing backlog to ensure compliance with Section 29-32b of the General Statutes.

OGA's boards, councils, commissions, and offices should ensure they submit all required reports on time.