

CITIZENS SUMMARY

Findings in the audit of the Bolivar Contract License Office

Background

The Department of Revenue (DOR) has appointed 178 contract agents to operate contract license offices. These offices issue driver licenses; titles for motor vehicles, trailers, and marine craft; and license plates. Contract agents are compensated through transaction-based processing fees. Under a state law, which became effective in 2009, the State Auditor may audit contract license offices.

Sales Tax Transactions

Contract license offices collect sales and use taxes based upon the purchase price of the vehicle being titled, less any applicable credits. DOR procedures require the offices to retain documentation to support the net purchase price and requires office staff to use a DOR approved source to determine the estimated fair market value if the documentation is not sufficient or the purchase price is questionably low. License office personnel did not retain sufficient documentation to support the purchase price for 2 of 47 (4%) transactions reviewed. For 2 of the 37 (5 percent) transactions reviewed that had addresses in the DOR computerized system, license office staff charged a lower (outside city limits) tax rate rather the city tax rate listed for the address in the system.

Prepayment Void Transactions

Prepayment void transactions occur when transactions are voided before payment is made, such as when the customer lacks sufficient funds or the entry has incorrect information. DOR procedures require a supervisory review of voided transactions and customer acknowledgement if a new transaction is not completed or is for a lesser amount. The license office manager did not document approval for 2 of 10 (20 percent) prepayment void transactions that occurred between January 7 and January 10, 2014, and license office personnel did not obtain a customer acknowledgement for 1 of these 2 transactions.

In the areas audited, the overall performance of this entity was Fair.*

Excellent: The audit results indicate this entity is very well managed. The report contains no findings. In addition, if

applicable, prior recommendations have been implemented.

Good: The audit results indicate this entity is well managed. The report contains few findings, and the entity has indicated

most or all recommendations have already been, or will be, implemented. In addition, if applicable, many of the

prior recommendations have been implemented.

Fair: The audit results indicate this entity needs to improve operations in several areas. The report contains several

findings, or one or more findings that require management's immediate attention, and/or the entity has indicated several recommendations will not be implemented. In addition, if applicable, several prior recommendations have

not been implemented.

Poor: The audit results indicate this entity needs to significantly improve operations. The report contains numerous

findings that require management's immediate attention, and/or the entity has indicated most recommendations will

not be implemented. In addition, if applicable, most prior recommendations have not been implemented.

^{*}The rating(s) cover only audited areas and do not reflect an opinion on the overall operation of the entity. Within that context, the rating scale indicates the following: