



**Thomas A. Schweich**  
Missouri State Auditor

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## REVENUE

# Vienna Contract License Office



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November 2013  
Report No. 2013-126

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<http://auditor.mo.gov>



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# CITIZENS SUMMARY

## Findings in the audit of the Vienna Contract License Office

Background	The Department of Revenue has appointed 182 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.
Findings	The audit identified no significant deficiencies in internal controls and no significant noncompliance with contractual or statutory provisions. No findings resulted from our audit.

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

\*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:

- 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.

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Department of Revenue  
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# **THOMAS A. SCHWEICH**

## **Missouri State Auditor**

Honorable Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon, Governor

and

John R. Mollenkamp, Acting Director

Department of Revenue

Jefferson City, Missouri

and

County of Maries-Commission, Contract Agent

Vienna Contract License Office

Vienna, Missouri

We have audited certain operations maintained and established by the Vienna Contract License Office, as provided by Section 136.055, RSMo. The scope of our audit included, but was not necessarily limited to, the year ended June 30, 2013. The objectives of our audit were to:

1. Evaluate the office's internal controls related to the handling of various fee and tax transactions.
2. Evaluate the office's compliance with certain contractual and statutory provisions.

Our methodology included reviewing written policies and procedures, financial records, and other pertinent documents; interviewing various personnel of the office, as well as certain external parties; and testing selected transactions. We obtained an understanding of internal controls that are significant within the context of the audit objectives and assessed whether such controls have been properly designed and placed in operation. We tested certain of those controls to obtain evidence regarding the effectiveness of their design and operation. We also obtained an understanding of legal provisions that are significant within the context of the audit objectives, and we assessed the risk that illegal acts, including fraud, and violations of contract or other legal provisions could occur. Based on that risk assessment, we designed and performed procedures to provide reasonable assurance of detecting instances of noncompliance significant to those provisions.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards applicable to performance audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform our 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 such a basis.

The accompanying Organization and Statistical Information is presented for informational purposes. This information was obtained from the Department of Revenue's management and was not subjected to the procedures applied in our audit of the contract office.

For the areas audited, we identified (1) no significant deficiencies in internal controls, and (2) no significant noncompliance with contractual or statutory provisions.

No findings resulted from our audit of the Vienna Contract License Office.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Thomas A. Schweich". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Thomas" and last name "Schweich" clearly legible.

Thomas A. Schweich  
State Auditor

The following auditors participated in the preparation of this report:

Deputy State Auditor:	Harry J. Otto, CPA
Director of Audits:	John Luetkemeyer, CPA
Audit Manager:	Robyn Vogt, M.Acct., CPA
In-Charge Auditor:	Denise Huddleston, MBA
Audit Staff:	Nicholas Schafer
	Andrew Ferguson, M.Acct.

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# Department of Revenue

## Vienna Contract License Office

### Organization and Statistical Information

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Pursuant to Section 136.030(2), the Department of Revenue (DOR) has the authority and responsibility for the collection of motor vehicle registration fees, driver license fees, motor vehicle sales and use tax, and all other taxes. Pursuant to Section 136.055, RSMo, the director of the DOR has appointed 182 contract agents to operate contract license offices. This section also provides that the state auditor may audit the contract license offices. The DOR, License Office Bureau, under the management of the Motor Vehicle and Driver Licensing Division, is responsible for administering contract license offices throughout the state.

The contract license offices are awarded through a competitive bidding process, as required by Section 136.055.2, RSMo. This bidding process must give priority to organizations and entities that are exempt from taxation (not-for-profit) under the Internal Revenue Code, and political subdivisions such as municipalities, counties, and fire protection districts. Contracts for the license offices are typically for one year, with three one-year renewal periods. The contract may be canceled at the discretion of the DOR.

The contract license offices issue titles for all Missouri motor vehicles, trailers, and marine craft; and issue and sell a wide-range of standard, personalized, and specialty license plates that are classified into five major categories: passenger, truck, trailer, motorcycle, and bus. In addition, the contract license offices issue five basic types of driver licenses: Intermediate License (GDL); Class F (Operator); Class E (For-Hire); Class A, B, and C (Commercial); and Class M (Motorcycle). The licensing process also includes allowing customers to contribute to the organ donor program or blindness awareness fund, register with the selective services, and add endorsements or restrictions to licenses; and provides an opportunity to register to vote.

The contract agents do not receive compensation from the DOR, but receive the following fees, allowed by Section 136.055.1, RSMo, from customers for each type of transaction processed by the office.

#### Agent Fees

Transaction Type	Fee
License renewal	\$3.50 one year \$7.00 two years
Transfer of registration	\$3.50
Application or transfer of title	\$2.50
Driver, operator or chauffeur license	\$2.50 three years or less \$5.00 exceeding three years
Notice of lien	\$2.50



Department of Revenue  
Vienna Contract License Office  
Organization and Statistical Information

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In July 2009, the DOR solicited bids for the Vienna Contract License Office. The office was awarded to County of Maries-Commission, effective October 1, 2009.

For the year ended June 30, 2013, the office collected and remitted to the DOR \$1,007,975, and retained processing fees totaling \$58,448. Under the terms of the contract, the office was not required to return a percentage of its processing fees to the state.

## Personnel

At June 30, 2013, key office personnel were as follows:

Ray Schwartze, Contract Manager  
Stephanie Plassmeyer, Office Manager