Scott Fitzpatrick Missouri State Auditor

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INSURANCE

Insurance

Report No. 2023-080

November 2023

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Findings in the audit of the Department of Commerce and Insurance - Insurance

Background	The Department of Commerce and Insurance - Insurance regulates the insurance industry in the state through enforcement of Chapters 325, 354, and 374 through 385, RSMo. The department regulates and licenses the insurance industry in the state; ensures the insurance industry is financially sound, trustworthy, competent, and responsive to the insurance-buying public; and ensures the insurance industry complies with the laws of the state.
Findings	The audit identified no significant deficiencies in internal controls, no

The audit identified no significant deficiencies in internal controls, no significant noncompliance with legal provisions, and no significant deficiencies in management practices and procedures. No findings resulted from this 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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Honorable Michael L. Parson, Governor and Chlora Lindley-Myers, Director Department of Commerce and Insurance Jefferson City, Missouri

We have audited certain operations of the Department of Commerce and Insurance - Insurance, as required by Section 374.250.2, RSMo, and in fulfillment of our duties under Chapter 29, RSMo. The scope of our audit included, but was not necessarily limited to, the year ended June 30, 2022. The objectives of our audit were to:

- 1. Evaluate the department's internal controls over significant management and financial functions of the Insurance Dedicated Fund, the Insurance Examiners' Fund, and taxes certified or collected under Sections 148.310 to 148.461, RSMo (foreign and domestic insurance premium taxes), and Sections 384.011 to 384.071, RSMo (surplus lines premium taxes).
- 2. Evaluate the department's compliance with certain legal provisions.
- 3. Evaluate the economy and efficiency of certain management practices and procedures, including certain financial transactions of the Insurance Dedicated Fund and Insurance Examiners' Fund.

Our methodology included reviewing written policies and procedures, financial records, and other pertinent documents; interviewing various personnel of the department, as well as certain external parties; and performing sample testing using haphazard and judgmental selection, as appropriate. The results of our sample testing cannot be projected to the entire populations from which the test items were selected. We obtained an understanding of internal control that is significant to the audit objectives and planned and performed procedures to assess internal control to the extent necessary to address our audit objectives. 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 applicable contract, grant agreement, 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 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's management and was not subjected to the procedures applied in our audit of the department.

For the areas audited, we identified (1) no significant deficiencies in internal controls, (2) no significant noncompliance with legal provisions, and (3) no significant deficiencies in management practices and procedures. No findings resulted from our audit of the Department of Commerce and Insurance - Insurance.

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The Missouri Division of Insurance was created by an act of the Missouri legislature in 1869. With the enactment of the state Omnibus Reorganization Act of 1974, the agency was transferred to the Department of Consumer Affairs, Regulation and Licensing. Constitutional Amendment No. 6, passed in August 1984, amended Missouri Constitution, Article IV, Section 36(a) to change the name of the Department of Consumer Affairs, Regulation and Licensing, to the Department of Economic Development, effective September 7, 1984. Constitutional Amendment No. 4, passed in August 1990, created a new Department of Insurance, effective July 1, 1991. Executive Order 06-04 consolidated the former Department of Insurance, the Division of Finance, the State Banking Board, the Division of Credit Unions, and the Division of Professional Registration into one department and changed the name of the department to the Missouri Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions, and Professional Registration (DIFP), effective August 28, 2006. Executive Order 19-02 transferred the Office of Public Counsel and the Public Service Commission to the DIFP and changed the name to the Department of Commerce and Insurance (DCI), effective August 28, 2019.

The DCI-Insurance operates under the authority of Chapter 374, RSMo. The management and control of the DCI is vested in a director who is nominated by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. Chlora Lindley-Myers was appointed Director on March 6, 2017, and continues to serve in that capacity.

As of June 30, 2022, there were 559 domestic, 2,958 foreign, and 510 alien companies licensed and/or regulated by the DCI-Insurance in Missouri. Insurers with primary corporate headquarters located in a particular state are called domestic insurers. Foreign and alien insurers are those that are allowed to sell insurance in a state but have a primary legal residence in another state or country.

The DCI-Insurance regulates the insurance industry in the state through enforcement of Chapters 325, 354, and 374 through 385, RSMo. The department regulates and licenses the insurance industry in the state; ensures the insurance industry is financially sound, trustworthy, competent, and responsive to the insurance-buying public; and ensures the insurance industry complies with the laws of the state.

To fulfill these responsibilities, the department maintains a central office in Jefferson City and branch offices in St. Louis and Kansas City. The DCI-Insurance is organized into the following divisions: Insurance Consumer Affairs, Insurance Market Regulation, Insurance Company Regulation, and Administration. The DCI-Insurance had 179 employees as of June 30, 2022.



The following table provides a breakdown of the type of companies licensed and/or regulated by DCI-Insurance in the state.

	Missouri		
Type of Company	Domicile	Foreign	Alien
Advisory Organization	2	11	0
Captive Insurance	49	0	2
Certified Reinsurer	0	0	13
Discount Medical Plan	0	29	0
Domestic Surplus Lines Insurer	3	0	0
Excess/Surplus Lines	0	196	169
Fraternal Benefit	1	29	0
Health Maintenance Organization	18	18	0
Health Services Corporation	1	0	0
Life Care Facility	8	1	0
Life and Health	28	442	2
Motor Vehicle Service Contract Provider	40	148	0
Multiple Employer Self-Insured Health Plan	1	0	0
Mutual Property Insurance Company	76	0	0
Pharmacy Benefits Manager	1	31	0
Prepaid Dental	5	9	0
Product Service Contract Provider	8	82	0
Professional Malpractice Assessable	5	0	0
Property and Casualty	43	932	0
Purchasing Group	9	265	0
Rating Organization	3	23	0
Reciprocal Reinsurer	0	0	5
Reinsurance Intermediary	9	10	5
Reinsurer	0	43	300
Risk Management Association	0	1	0
Risk Retention Group	0	114	0
Self-Insured Political Subdivision Assessable	14	0	0
Statutorily Created Entity	7	1	0
Third Party Administrator	36	434	14
Title	1	24	0
Vehicle Protection Product Provider	3	67	0
Worker's Compensation	188	48	0
Total	559	2,958	510

The DCI-Insurance administers transactions in the following funds:

The Insurance Examiner's Fund is authorized by Sections 374.160 and 374.162, RSMo, to receive all payments to the state by insurance companies for the costs incurred by the department in conducting examinations, valuations, or proceedings against such companies. Expenditures, authorized



by appropriations, are to be used for the purpose of paying the compensation of insurance examiners and expenses directly related to examinations. Any unexpended balances in this fund are perpetually maintained for the purposes of this fund.

The Insurance Dedicated Fund is authorized by Section 374.150, RSMo, to receive all fees due to the state under the provisions of the insurance laws. Appropriations from this fund are to be used solely for payment of expenditures incurred by the department in performing the duties required by law that are not paid for by another source of funds. Any unexpended balance in this fund is perpetually maintained for the purposes of this fund unless, and then only to the extent to which, the unencumbered balance at the close of the biennium year exceeds two times the total amount appropriated, paid, or transferred to the fund during such fiscal year. Any balance exceeding these limits would be transferred to the General Revenue Fund.

The DCI-Insurance administers programs financed partially by federal funding placed in the Federal Missouri Department of Commerce and Insurance Fund. The department receives appropriations from this fund.

The DCI-Administrative Fund is used to account for department-wide expenditures for budget, legislative coordination, public information, accounting, human resources, and department management. The fund receives monies through a cost allocation to the divisions within the DCI.

The DCI-Insurance does not receive any appropriations from the General Revenue Fund and does not maintain any proprietary interest in that fund. Receipts collected by the Department of Revenue (DOR) on behalf of the department include the following:

Premium Taxes (foreign and domestic): In accordance with various provisions of Chapter 148, RSMo, insurance companies licensed in the state are required to pay a 2 percent tax on direct premiums received during the calendar year. The department certifies to the DOR the amount of premium taxes due together with the amount of quarterly installments to be paid by the insurance companies. The DOR collects the premium taxes and deposits them into the General Revenue Fund. Some premium taxes deposited into the General Revenue Fund are not available for general revenue purposes. The provisions of Chapter 148, RSMo, restrict about 50 percent of such premium taxes for distribution to the various school districts in the state. In addition, beginning January 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020, Section 192.385.2, RSMo, further restricted 2.5 percent of domestic premium taxes deposited into the General Revenue Fund for distribution to the Senior Services Growth and Development Program Fund. Beginning January 1, 2021, Section 192.385.2, RSMo, provided for 5 percent of those taxes to be distributed to the fund.



- Domestic Stock Company Premium Taxes: In accordance with various provisions of Chapter 148, RSMo, every stock insurance company organized under the provisions of Sections 379.010 to 379.203, RSMo, is required to pay a 2 percent tax on direct premiums received during the year. The department certifies to the DOR the amount of premium taxes due together with the amount of quarterly installments to be paid by the domestic stock insurance companies. The DOR collects the domestic stock company premium taxes and deposits them into the Financial Institutions Tax Fund as county stock insurance taxes. In accordance with Section 148.330.4, RSMo, domestic stock premium taxes credited to the County Stock Insurance Fund are to be apportioned to the General Revenue Fund of the state, to the county treasurer and to the treasurer of the school district in which the principal office of the company paying the same is located. Apportionments are made based on the ratio of taxes levied by each respective entity. In addition, from January 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020, Section 192.385.2, RSMo, further restricted 2.5 percent of domestic stock company premium taxes deposited into the Financial Institutions Tax Fund for distribution to the Senior Services Growth and Development Program Fund. Beginning January 1, 2021, Section 192.385.2 RSMo, provided for 5 percent of those taxes to be distributed to the Senior Services Growth and Development Program Fund.
- Captive Insurance Premium Taxes: In accordance with Section 379.1326, RSMo, captive insurance companies licensed in the state are required to pay a premium tax at the rate of thirty-eight-hundredths of 1 percent on the first \$20 million and two hundred eighty-five-thousandths of 1 percent on the next \$20 million, and nineteen-hundredths of 1 percent on the next \$20 million dollars, and seventy-two-thousandths of 1 percent on each dollar thereafter on the direct premiums received during the calendar year. The department certifies to the DOR the amount of premium taxes due to be paid annually by the captive insurance companies. The DOR collects the captive insurance premium taxes and deposits them into the General Revenue Fund. Some captive insurance premium taxes initially deposited into the General Revenue Fund are not available for general revenue purposes. The provisions of Chapter 379, RSMo, require 10 percent of these premium tax collections be deposited to the Insurance Dedicated Fund annually.
- Special Purpose Life Insurance Captive (SPLRC) Premium Taxes: In accordance with Section 379.1412, RSMo, each SPLRC is required to pay a premium tax at the rate of two hundred fourteen-thousandths of 1 percent on the first \$20 million of assumed reinsurance premium, and one hundred forty-three-thousandths of 1 percent on the next \$20 million, and forty-eight-thousandths of 1 percent on the next \$20 million, and twenty-four-thousandths of 1 percent of each dollar thereafter of assumed



reinsurance premiums during the calendar year. The department certifies to the DOR the amount of premium taxes due to be paid annually by the SPLRC insurance companies. The DOR collects the SPLRC premium taxes and deposits them into the General Revenue Fund. Some SPLRC premium taxes initially deposited into the General Revenue Fund are not available for general revenue purposes. The provisions of Chapter 379, RSMo, require 10 percent of these premium tax collections be deposited to the Insurance Dedicated Fund annually.

• Surplus Lines Premium Taxes: In accordance with the various provisions of Chapter 384, RSMo, surplus lines brokers are required to pay a 5 percent tax on net premiums for specialized insurance that is underwritten. The DOR collects the surplus lines premium taxes, interest, and penalties. The DOR deposits surplus lines premium taxes and interest into the General Revenue Fund and surplus lines penalties into the State School Moneys Fund.

Fines and forfeitures imposed and collected by the department under the Missouri Insurance Code are deposited into the State School Moneys Fund.

The DCI-Insurance is authorized to administer Missouri chartered insurance companies requiring rehabilitation or liquidation, commonly referred to as receiverships. Eight insurance companies were in receivership during the year ended June 30, 2022. Companies placed into receivership are under circuit court supervision with the judge appointing the Director as receiver. The Director may appoint a special deputy receiver or agent. Four of the companies did not have a special deputy receiver assigned to them. The department handled the day-to-day operations for one of these companies and contracted with vendors to act as agents for the other three. Four of the companies had a court-assigned special deputy receiver that directly supervised them. The contracted vendors and the special deputy receivers submit disbursements to DCI-Insurance for approval.

According to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC), for calendar year 2021 Missouri ranked ninth nationally in the number of insurance companies incorporated in the state. The department's budget for fiscal year 2022 ranks thirtieth nationally.

Appendix A

Department of Commerce and Insurance - Insurance

Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Cash and Investments Year Ended June 30, 2022

		Insurance	Insurance	DCI	Total
	Federal DCI	Examiners	Dedicated	Administrative	(Memorandum
	Fund	Fund	Fund	Fund	Only)
\$	1,420,000	4,054,998	19,994,381	17	25,469,396
	1,400,000	2,829,681	11,590,095	161,858	15,981,634
_	20,000	1,225,317	8,404,286	(161,841)	9,487,762
	0	0	0	257,797	257,797
_	0	(1,347,673)	(5,099,884)	(72,600)	(6,520,158)
_	20,000	(122,357)	3,304,402	23,355	3,225,401
	30,000	777,509	10,964,444	0	11,771,953
\$	50,000	655,152	14,268,846	23,355	14,997,354
	\$ - - \$	Fund \$ 1,420,000 1,400,000 20,000 0 0 20,000 30,000	$\begin{tabular}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$	$\begin{tabular}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$	$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $

¹ Transfers In to the DCI Administrative Fund include transfers from divisions within the DCI for department administration.

² Transfers Out generally include payments for fringe benefits and the state's cost allocation plan.

Appendix B

Department of Commerce and Insurance - Insurance Statement of Receipts Year Ended June 30, 2022

		General	Insurance	State School	Financial	Total
		Revenue	Dedicated	Moneys	Institutions Tax	(Memorandum
RECEIPTS	_	Fund	Fund	Fund	Fund	Only)
Premium taxes (foreign and domestic)	\$	299,429,864	0	0	0	299,429,864
Domestic stock company premium taxes		0	0	0	16,527,312	16,527,312
Captive insurance premium taxes		1,351,356	146,698	0	0	1,498,054
Special purpose life insurance premium taxes		556,895	61,877	0	0	618,772
Surplus lines premium taxes		58,842,298	0	0	0	58,842,298
Surplus lines penalties		0	0	94,782	0	94,782
Fines and forfeitures	_	0	0	1,333,600	0	1,333,600
Total Receipts	\$	360,180,413	208,575	1,428,382	16,527,312	378,344,682

Appendix C

Department of Commerce and Insurance - Insurance Comparative Statement of Appropriations and Expenditures 2 Years Ended June 30, 2022

	Year Ended June 30,							
			2022		2021			
		Appropriation		Lapsed	Appropriation		Lapsed	
		Authority	Expenditures	Balances	Authority	Expenditures	Balances	
FEDERAL - DCI FUND								
Health Insurance Counseling	\$	1,400,000	1,400,000	0	1,400,000	1,400,000	0	
Total Federal - DCI Fund		1,400,000	1,400,000	0	1,400,000	1,400,000	0	
INSURANCE EXAMINERS FUND								
Personal Service		3,622,347	2,641,994	980,353	3,586,482	2,719,310	867,172	
Expense and Equipment		715,802	33,170	682,632	711,625	26,939	684,686	
Insurance Leasing		6,249	4,754	1,495	7,515	5,437	2,078	
IT Consolidation Expense and Equipment		121,328	44,374	76,954	124,116	124,103	13	
Refunds		60,000	0	60,000	60,000	37,124	22,876	
State Office Building, Rent, Maintenance, and Repair		105,637	105,305	332	99,915	97,899	2,016	
Total Insurance Examiners Fund		4,631,363	2,829,597	1,801,766	4,589,653	3,010,812	1,578,841	
INSURANCE DEDICATED FUND								
Personal Service		9,272,428	8,932,450	339,978	9,180,623	8,866,282	314,341	
Expense and Equipment		1,921,904	877,215	1,044,689	1,919,657	706,995	1,212,662	
Governor's Office Personal Service ¹		11,804	0	11,804	11,687	9,781	1,906	
IT Consolidation Personal Service		558,093	249,094	308,999	563,870	254,271	309,599	
IT Consolidation Expense and Equipment		412,459	405,129	7,330	401,043	262,984	138,059	
IT Consolidation Cost of Living Adjustment		5,299	0	5,299	0	0	0	
Unemployment Benefits		20,000	1,676	18,324	12,440	6,080	6,360	
Insurance Leasing		8,318	6,108	2,210	4,947	4,947	0	
Refunds		75,000	33,887	41,113	75,000	27,485	47,515	
Health Insurance Counseling		200,000	200,000	0	200,000	200,000	0	
State Office Building, Rent, Maintenance, and Repair		390,400	384,620	5,780	355,608	355,607	1	
Poison Control Hotline ²		500,000	500,000	0	500,000	500,000	0	
Total Insurance Dedicated Fund		13,375,705	11,590,179	1,785,526	13,224,875	11,194,432	2,030,443	
Total All Funds	\$	19,407,068	15,819,776	3,587,292	19,214,528	15,605,244	3,609,284	

¹ The Governor's office has spending authority for this appropriation.
² The Department of Health and Senior Services has spending authority for this appropriation.

Appendix D

Department of Commerce and Insurance - Insurance Comparative Statement of Expenditures (From Appropriations)

5 Years Ended June 30, 2022

		Year Ended June 30,						
		2022	2021	2020	2019	2018		
Salaries and wages	\$	11,823,538	11,849,644	11,786,723	11,398,749	11,105,824		
Travel, in-state		45,481	4,379	59,836	133,135	136,446		
Travel, out-of-state		13,314	0	115,726	174,221	147,363		
Fuel and utilities		17	0	0	0	0		
Supplies		203,224	149,362	158,375	158,837	162,029		
Professional development		106,599	124,277	100,240	114,233	99,787		
Communication services and supplies		128,717	134,976	117,313	105,878	95,668		
Services:								
Professional		546,789	506,313	707,865	596,351	443,603		
Housekeeping and janitorial		467	131	226	200	413		
Maintenance and repair		149,151	77,797	120,568	64,271	86,784		
Equipment:								
Computer		118,741	98,712	107,318	29,087	170,794		
Office		20,341	3,192	36,145	53,791	11,647		
Other		4,226	18,909	33,495	10,321	13,301		
Property and improvements		2,878	2,745	16,224	29,448	0		
Debt service		927	927	758	0	0		
Building lease payments		513,428	463,042	467,689	476,874	457,804		
Equipment rental and leases		5,678	0	0	228	456		
Miscellaneous expenses		697	149	6,930	1,474	4,658		
Refunds		33,887	64,609	34,478	12,328	13,965		
Program distributions	_	2,101,676	2,106,080	1,950,000	1,919,840	1,869,462		
Total Expenditures	\$	15,819,776	15,605,244	15,819,908	15,279,266	14,820,005		