

AUDITOR'S REPORT

REVIEW OF EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICTS ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE 12 MONTH PERIOD ENDED JULY 31, 2015



August 14, 2015

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BARBARA J. SCHOTT, C.P.A.
HARRIS COUNTY AUDITOR

August 14, 2015

Mike Post
Chief Assistant County Auditor
1001 Preston, Suite 800
Houston, TX 77002

RE: Review of Harris County Emergency Services Districts (partially located in Harris County) audited Annual Financial Reports for the 12 month period ended July 31, 2015

The Audit Services Department performed procedures relative to Emergency Services Districts (Districts) partially located in Harris County regarding review of their audited Annual Financial Reports provided by Independent Certified Public Accountants. The objective of the engagement was to review the Districts' compliance with Texas Health & Safety Code §775.082 as applicable. Our procedures included the following:

- Received the audited Annual Financial Reports that were submitted to Commissioners Court
- Determined whether the Annual Financial Reports were prepared by an Independent Certified Public Accountant or firm of Certified Public Accountants licensed in this state
- Maintained a log of reports received

The enclosed Auditor's Report presents that there were no material issues identified during our procedures. We appreciate the time and attention provided by you and your staff during this engagement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Barbara J. Schott".

Barbara J. Schott
County Auditor

cc: District Judges
County Judge Ed Emmett
Commissioners:
R. Jack Cagle
El Franco Lee
Jack Morman
Steve Radack
Devon Anderson
Vince Ryan
William J. Jackson

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OVERVIEW

According to the Harris County Fire Marshal's Office, Harris County has 33 Emergency Services Districts. Thirty-one of the Districts are located wholly within Harris County and 2 Districts are located partially in Harris County and partially in another county.

Texas Health & Safety Code §775.082 governs the audits of the Districts of less populous counties. (a) The county auditor of a county that contains any part of the district shall have access to the books, records, officials, and assets of the district.

(b) A district shall prepare and file with the commissioners court of each county that contains any part of the district on or before June 1 of each year an audit report of the district's fiscal accounts and records. The audit shall be performed and the report shall be prepared at the expense of the district. The county auditor, with the approval of the commissioners court, shall adopt rules relating to the format of the audit and report. If a district is located in more than one county, the county auditors, with the approval of the commissioners court of each county in which the district is located, shall adopt uniform rules relating to the format of the audit and report.

(c) The person who performs the audit and issues the report must be an independent certified public accountant or firm of certified public accountants licensed in this state, unless the commissioners court by order requires the audit to be performed by the county auditor at least 120 days before the end of the district's fiscal year.

(d) The commissioners court, on application made to the commissioners court by the district, may extend up to an additional 30 days the deadline for filing the audit report.

(e) If the district fails to complete and file the audit report within the time provided by Subsection (b) or (d), the commissioners court may order the county auditor to perform the audit and issue the report. If a district is located in more than one county, the commissioners court of each county in which the district is located shall designate by joint order a county auditor of one of the counties to perform the audit and issue the report.

(f) The district shall pay all costs incurred by the county auditor to perform an audit and issue the report required by this section, unless otherwise ordered by the commissioners court or by joint order of the commissioners court, if the district is located in more than one county.

As sections (e-1), and (g) of Texas Health & Safety Code §775.082 do not relate to Districts partially located in Harris County and appear not to apply, the sections are not presented.

As such, only the two Districts that overlap a county line are subject to county audit provisions pursuant to Texas Health & Safety Code §775.082. For the other Districts wholly located within Harris County, neither the County nor the auditor has any responsibility. A district is its own "political subdivision of the state" and not part of the County, as stated in Texas Health & Safety Code §775.031.

RESULTS

Based upon the procedures performed, the Districts (partially located in Harris County) materially complied with Texas Health & Safety Code §775.082 for the 12 month period ended July 31, 2015.