



OFFICE OF THE
STATE AUDITOR

News Release

For Immediate Release

July 21, 2023

**Office of the State Auditor Releases Review of the
Department of Alcoholic Beverage Services for Fiscal Year 2023**

Salt Lake City, UTAH –

The Office of the State Auditor (Office) today releases its limited review of the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Services (DABS) for the period ended June 30, 2023. This is the second review by the Office of the recently reorganized and renamed Department. The Office identified ten findings and recommendations.

State Auditor John Dougall said, “I appreciate the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Services’ continued review of past practices and focus on improving operational and regulatory activities. We noted the need to properly charge markups and fees on products sold by Type 5 Package Agencies, those wineries, breweries, and distilleries that manufacture product in Utah. This report also highlights the importance of improved cross-agency communication and coordination, especially when deploying complex data systems.”

The news release and related information may be found on the Office’s website at auditor.utah.gov. The Review may be found directly at: <https://reporting.auditor.utah.gov/servlet/servlet.FileDownload?file=0151K000008EVk1QAG> .

About the Office of the State Auditor

The Office of the State Auditor provides Utah taxpayers and government officials with an independent assessment of financial operation, statutory compliance, and performance management for state and local government.

Specific activities of the Office include performing financial audits, conducting Federal funds compliance audits, providing local government oversight, conducting agency and program performance audits, performing fraud and compliance audits, and operating the State Auditor Hotline for citizens to report suspected financial issues or improprieties. These capabilities strengthen Utah State Government and help taxpayers have confidence in the integrity of Utah’s government agencies.

The Office also provides interactive graphical tools to help taxpayers and policymakers gain greater insight into governmental financial activities. These tools include the Transparent Utah Public Finance website (transparent.utah.gov) as well as the award-winning Project KIDS public

education analysis dashboards (auditor.utah.gov/kids) and the Utah Health Cost Compare project (healthcost.utah.gov) to assist consumers in understanding the cost of health procedures.

The State Auditor is a Constitutional Officer of the State of Utah, elected directly by the state's citizens every four years. The role of the State Auditor is authorized in Article VII, Section 15 of the Utah Constitution. For more information, see auditor.utah.gov.

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