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State Auditor Tim Keller Announces Latest List of “At Risk” Agencies

SANTA FE, NM – State Auditor Tim Keller announced the annual list of New Mexico’s state and local governments that are considered “At Risk” based on the latest audit cycle. Since 2009, government agencies have been placed on the list if they fail to submit their annual audits. This year, entities will also be placed on the list if they receive audit opinions that indicate significant problems with their financial statements. If public funds are not audited, the risks of fraud, waste and abuse increase.

“Our tax dollars are best protected when our state and local governments submit timely and accurate audits,” said State Auditor Tim Keller. “Audits are the most standardized and useful tool we have to reduce the chances that our public funds are misused. The ‘At Risk List’ helps policymakers and the public easily identify which entities are behind schedule or reporting financial information that isn’t cutting it.”

The FY15 “At Risk List” contains 56 entities that have not submitted their audits by the deadline, including the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, the Department of Public Safety, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission, the cities of Carlsbad and Española, and the counties of Cibola and Harding. The Town of Estancia and Lordsburg Municipal Schools are on the “At Risk List” for receiving “Disclaimer” audit opinions, meaning that possible financial misstatements could be both material and pervasive.

The Office of the State Auditor compiles the list each January and updates it on a weekly basis, removing entities when they achieve compliance.

Please see more information about the “At Risk List” here:
http://osanm.org/government_score_card

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