

Timothy M. Keller
State Auditor



Sanjay Bhakta, CPA, CGFM, CFE, CGMA
Deputy State Auditor

State of New Mexico
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

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Contact: Justine Freeman
justine.freeman@osa.state.nm.us
505-476-3819

Auditor Keller Releases Special Audit of City of Alamogordo's Utility Billing

SANTA FE – State Auditor Tim Keller released a special audit of the City of Alamogordo's Utility Billing Customer Service Department. The report uncovered a lack of internal controls that likely allowed at least one city employee to take advantage of the system for personal benefit.

“The citizens of Alamogordo deserve to be assured that their utility bills reflect fair practices and that they are not suffering the consequences of favoritism by those trusted to protect public dollars,” stated Auditor Keller.

The special audit, conducted by the CPA firm Hinkle & Landers, examined how a city employee misused software in the City's utility billing department, leading to lost revenue to the City and probable violations of the City's Code of Ordinance, 2-13-280. Additional concerns regarding the tampering of city meters and possible fraudulent billing for specific known customers and properties were identified in the report.

The audit was supervised by the Office of the State Auditor and done at the request of the City of Alamogordo. The findings from the report have been referred to the State Police for investigation.

The special audit is available here: [http://www.saonm.org/media/audits/6002 -
_City_of_Alamogordo_Special_Audit_FY2014.pdf](http://www.saonm.org/media/audits/6002_-_City_of_Alamogordo_Special_Audit_FY2014.pdf)

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