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**OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR**

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**State Auditor Tim Keller Issues Alert on Fraud Scheme**

SANTA FE, NM – Today, State Auditor Tim Keller issued an alert to government agencies being targeted by a fraud scheme. Agencies are being asked to change vendor payment information to divert funds to a different payee, bank or method of payment. The scam has already resulted in the loss of over \$200,000 from one public school.

“Unfortunately, we’re hearing about a scam that preys on government employees who are being tricked into diverting money to imposters posing as legitimate businesses,” stated State Auditor Tim Keller. “We’re reminding folks to use best practices to prevent this, such as always verifying requests prior to payment.”

The Office of the State Auditor issued an advisory to all government entities. It is available here: [https://www.saonm.org/media/uploads/Vendor\\_Fraud\\_Risk\\_Notice\\_4-3-17.pdf](https://www.saonm.org/media/uploads/Vendor_Fraud_Risk_Notice_4-3-17.pdf).

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