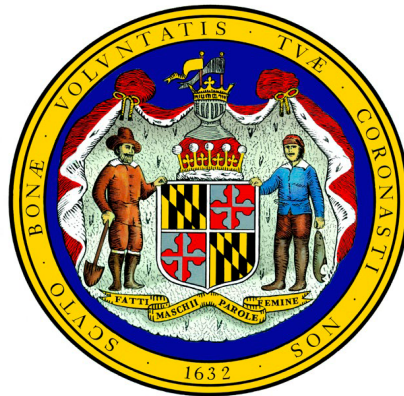


Audit Report

Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems

March 2023



OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITS
DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES
MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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Victoria L. Gruber
Executive Director

DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES
OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITS
MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Gregory A. Hook, CPA
Legislative Auditor

March 28, 2023

Senator Clarence K. Lam, M.D., Senate Chair, Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee
Delegate Jared Solomon, House Chair, Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee
Members of Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee
Annapolis, Maryland

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have conducted a fiscal compliance audit of the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) for the period beginning July 23, 2018 and ending September 15, 2022. MIEMSS is responsible for coordinating the delivery of statewide emergency medical services, licensing and certifying emergency medical service providers, providing emergency medical service research and education, maintaining a statewide communication system, and regulating and licensing commercial ambulances.

Our audit did not disclose any findings that warrant mention in this report.

We wish to acknowledge the cooperation extended to us during the audit by MIEMSS.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gregory A. Hook".

Gregory A. Hook, CPA
Legislative Auditor

Background Information

Agency Responsibilities

The Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) is governed by the Emergency Medical Services Board whose members are appointed by the Governor. MIEMSS is responsible for coordinating the delivery of statewide emergency medical services, licensing and certifying emergency medical service providers, providing emergency medical service research and education, maintaining a statewide communication system, and regulating and licensing commercial ambulances. According to the State's records, MIEMSS' expenditures totaled approximately \$21.5 million during fiscal year 2022.

Findings and Recommendations

Our audit did not disclose any significant deficiencies in the design or operation of MIEMSS' internal control. Our audit also did not disclose any significant instances of noncompliance with applicable laws, rules, or regulations. Findings that did not warrant inclusion in this report were separately communicated to MIEMSS.

A draft copy of this report was provided to MIEMSS. Since there are no recommendations in this report, a written response was not necessary.

Audit Scope, Objectives, and Methodology

We have conducted a fiscal compliance audit of the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) for the period beginning July 23, 2018 and ending September 15, 2022. The audit was conducted in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives.

As prescribed by the State Government Article, Section 2-1221 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the objectives of this audit were to examine MIEMSS' financial transactions, records, and internal control, and to evaluate its compliance with applicable State laws, rules, and regulations.

In planning and conducting our audit, we focused on the major financial-related areas of operations based on assessments of significance and risk. The areas addressed by the audit included cash receipts, commercial ambulance licensing, equipment, and procurements and disbursements.

Our assessment of internal controls was based on agency procedures and controls in place at the time of our fieldwork. Our tests of transactions and other auditing procedures were generally focused on the transactions occurring during our audit period of July 23, 2018 to September 15, 2022, but may include transactions before or after this period as we considered necessary to achieve our audit objectives.

To accomplish our audit objectives, our audit procedures included inquiries of appropriate personnel, inspections of documents and records, test of transactions, and to the extent practicable, observations of MIEMSS' operations. Generally, transactions were selected for testing based on auditor judgment, which primarily considers risk, the timing or dollar amount of the transaction, or the significance of the transaction to the area of operation reviewed. As a matter of course, we do not normally use sampling in our tests, so unless otherwise specifically indicated, neither statistical nor non-statistical audit sampling was used to select the transactions tested. Therefore, unless sampling is specifically indicated in a finding, the results from any tests conducted or disclosed by us cannot be used to project those results to the entire population from which the test items were selected.

We also performed various data extracts of pertinent information from the State's Financial Management Information System (such as revenue and expenditure data). The extracts are performed as part of ongoing internal processes established by the Office of Legislative Audits and were subject to various tests to determine data reliability. We determined that the data extracted from this source were sufficiently reliable for the purposes the data were used during this audit. We also extracted data from MIEMSS' automated system used to record information relating to equipment for the purpose of testing MIEMSS' procedures for ensuring compliance with certain requirements in the law. We performed various tests of the relevant data and determined that the data were sufficiently reliable for the purposes the data were used during the audit. Finally, we performed other auditing procedures that we considered necessary to achieve our audit objectives. The reliability of data used in this report for background or informational purposes was not assessed.

MIEMSS' management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control. Internal control is a process designed to provide reasonable

assurance that objectives pertaining to the reliability of financial records; effectiveness and efficiency of operations, including safeguarding of assets; and compliance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations are achieved. As provided in *Government Auditing Standards*, there are five components of internal control: control environment, risk assessment, control activities, information and communication, and monitoring. Each of the five components, when significant to the audit objectives, and as applicable to MIEMSS, were considered by us during the course of this audit.

Because of inherent limitations in internal control, errors or fraud may nevertheless occur and not be detected. Also, projections of any evaluation of internal control to future periods are subject to the risk that conditions may change or compliance with policies and procedures may deteriorate.

Our reports are designed to assist the Maryland General Assembly in exercising its legislative oversight function and to provide constructive recommendations for improving State operations. As a result, our reports generally do not address activities we reviewed that are functioning properly.

AUDIT TEAM

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