OFFICE OF THE
STATE AUDITOR

Questionnaire

Revised December 2020

Fraud Risk Assessment

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Reference the *Fraud Risk Assessment Implementation Guide* to determine which of the following recommended measures have been implemented.
- Indicate successful implementation by marking “Yes” on each of the questions in the table. Partial points may not be earned on any individual question.
- Total the points of the questions marked “Yes” and enter the total on the “Total Points Earned” line.
- Based on the points earned, circle/highlight the risk level on the “Risk Level” line.
- Enter on the lines indicated the entity name, fiscal year for which the Fraud Risk Assessment was completed, and date the Fraud Risk Assessment was completed.
- Print CAO and CFO names on the lines indicated, then have the CAO and CFO provide required signatures on the lines indicated.

Fraud Risk Assessment

Continued

*Total Points Earned: 355 /395 *Risk Level:

Very Low	Low	Moderate	High	Very High
> 355	316-355	276-315	200-275	< 200

	Yes	Pts
1. Does the entity have adequate basic separation of duties or mitigating controls as outlined in the attached Basic Separation of Duties Questionnaire?	X	200
2. Does the entity have governing body adopted written policies in the following areas:		
a. Conflict of interest?	X	5
b. Procurement?	X	5
c. Ethical behavior?	X	5
d. Reporting fraud and abuse?	X	5
e. Travel?	X	5
f. Credit/Purchasing cards (where applicable)?	X	5
g. Personal use of entity assets?	X	5
h. IT and computer security?	X	5
i. Cash receipting and deposits?	X	5
3. Does the entity have a licensed or certified (CPA, CGFM, CMA, CIA, CFE, CGAP, CPFO) expert as part of its management team?	X	20
a. Do any members of the management team have at least a bachelor's degree in accounting?	X	10
4. Are employees and elected officials required to annually commit in writing to abide by a statement of ethical behavior?	X	20
5. Have all governing body members completed entity specific (District Board Member Training for local/special service districts & interlocal entities, Introductory Training for Municipal Officials for cities & towns, etc.) online training (training.auditor.utah.gov) within four years of term appointment/election date?	X	20
6. Regardless of license or formal education, does at least one member of the management team receive at least 40 hours of formal training related to accounting, budgeting, or other financial areas each year?	X	20
7. Does the entity have or promote a fraud hotline?	X	20
8. Does the entity have a formal internal audit function?		20
9. Does the entity have a formal audit committee?		20

*Entity Name: Mountain Regional Water SSD

*Completed for Fiscal Year Ending: 2025 *Completion Date: 11/ 13 /2025

*CAO Name: Andy Garland *CFO Name: Steve Anderson

*CAO Signature: Andy Garland *CFO Signature: Steve Anderson

*Required

Basic Separation of Duties

See the following page for instructions and definitions.

	Yes	No	MC*	N/A
1. Does the entity have a board chair, clerk, and treasurer who are three separate people?	X			
2. Are all the people who are able to receive cash or check payments different from all of the people who are able to make general ledger entries?	X			
3. Are all the people who are able to collect cash or check payments different from all the people who are able to adjust customer accounts? If no customer accounts, check “N/A”.	X			
4. Are all the people who have access to blank checks different from those who are authorized signers?		X	X	
5. Does someone other than the clerk and treasurer reconcile all bank accounts OR are original bank statements reviewed by a person other than the clerk to detect unauthorized disbursements?	X			
6. Does someone other than the clerk review periodic reports of all general ledger accounts to identify unauthorized payments recorded in those accounts?	X			
7. Are original credit/purchase card statements received directly from the card company by someone other than the card holder? If no credit/purchase cards, check “N/A”.	X			
8. Does someone other than the credit/purchase card holder ensure that all card purchases are supported with receipts or other supporting documentation? If no credit/purchase cards, check “N/A”.	X			
9. Does someone who is not a subordinate of the credit/purchase card holder review all card purchases for appropriateness (including the chief administrative officer and board members if they have a card)? If no credit/purchase cards, check “N/A”.	X			
10. Does the person who authorizes payment for goods or services, who is not the clerk, verify the receipt of goods or services?	X			
11. Does someone authorize payroll payments who is separate from the person who prepares payroll payments? If no W-2 employees, check “N/A”.	X			
12. Does someone review all payroll payments who is separate from the person who prepares payroll payments? If no W-2 employees, check “N/A”.	X			

* MC = Mitigating Control

Basic Separation of Duties

Continued

Instructions: Answer questions 1-12 on the Basic Separation of Duties Questionnaire using the definitions provided below.

☺ If all of the questions were answered "Yes" or "No" with mitigating controls ("MC") in place, or "N/A," the entity has achieved adequate basic separation of duties. Question 1 of the Fraud Risk Assessment Questionnaire will be answered "Yes." 200 points will be awarded for question 1 of the Fraud Risk Assessment Questionnaire.

☹ If any of the questions were answered "No," and mitigating controls are not in place, the entity has not achieved adequate basic separation of duties. Question 1 of the Fraud Risk Assessment Questionnaire will remain blank. 0 points will be awarded for question 1 of the Fraud Risk Assessment Questionnaire.

Definitions:

Board Chair is the elected or appointed chairperson of an entity's governing body, e.g. Mayor, Commissioner, Councilmember or Trustee. The official title will vary depending on the entity type and form of government.

Clerk is the bookkeeper for the entity, e.g. Controller, Accountant, Auditor or Finance Director. Though the title for this position may vary, they validate payment requests, ensure compliance with policy and budgetary restrictions, prepare checks, and record all financial transactions.

Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) is the person who directs the day-to-day operations of the entity. The CAO of most cities and towns is the mayor, except where the city has a city manager. The CAO of most local and special districts is the board chair, except where the district has an appointed director. In school districts, the CAO is the superintendent. In counties, the CAO is the commission or council chair, except where there is an elected or appointed manager or executive.

General Ledger is a general term for accounting books. A general ledger contains all financial transactions of an organization and may include sub-ledgers that are more detailed. A general ledger may be electronic or paper based. Financial records such as invoices, purchase orders, or depreciation schedules are not part of the general ledger, but rather support the transaction in the general ledger.

Mitigating Controls are systems or procedures that effectively mitigate a risk in lieu of separation of duties.

Original Bank Statement means a document that has been received directly from the bank. Direct receipt of the document could mean having the statement 1) mailed to an address or PO Box separate from the entity's place of business, 2) remain in an unopened envelope at the entity offices, or 3) electronically downloaded from the bank website by the intended recipient. The key risk is that a treasurer or clerk who is intending to conceal an unauthorized transaction may be able to physically or electronically alter the statement before the independent reviewer sees it.

Treasurer is the custodian of all cash accounts and is responsible for overseeing the receipt of all payments made to the entity. A treasurer is always an authorized signer of all entity checks and is responsible for ensuring cash balances are adequate to cover all payments issued by the entity.

Mitigating Controls in Place for Basic Separation of Duties Questionnaire

Question #1 of the Assessment contains the most points available (200) and addresses basic separation of duties. As noted in the Basic Separation of Duties questions on page 2 of the Assessment, the District was able to answer "Yes" to all but one of the 12 basic separation of duties questions asked.

Question #4 asks, "Are all the people who have access to blank checks different from those who are authorized signers?" In addition to the Clerk (Sharon Kellner), the CFO (Steve Anderson) also has access to blank checks. With the limited number of staff in the Finance department, the District is not able to fully implement this control. However, there are two mitigating controls the District feels are appropriate to mitigate this risk:

1. Two signatures are required on all checks, no matter the dollar amount.
2. The Administrative Control Board is required, per Administrative Policies, to review and approve monthly check registers which include all checks regardless of the dollar amount.

With these two controls in place, District staff feels the risk of this lack of separation of duties is limited and accordingly has received the maximum points available for Questions #1 of 200 points.

2025 Fraud-Risk-Assessment-Questionnaire DRAFT

Final Audit Report 2025-11-13

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