



Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

Charlie Crist
Governor

Jeff Kottkamp
Lt. Governor

Michael W. Sole
Secretary

May 29, 2008

Mr. Terry Shoffstall, Staff Director
Joint Legislative Auditing Committee
Room 876
Claude Pepper Building
111 West Madison Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400

Dear Mr. Shoffstall:

Enclosed is the Department's written explanation of the status of recommendations contained in Auditor General's audit; Department of Environmental Protection; Law Enforcement Employment and Disposition of Motor Vehicles (2008-47). If you have any questions in this regard, please call Joe Aita, Director of Auditing, at 245-3151.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Pinky G. Hall'.

Pinky G. Hall
Inspector General

Enclosure

PGH/ ksr

cc: Henry Barnet, Director of Law Enforcement

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
AUDIT FINDINGS TRACKING REPORT
Law Enforcement Employment and Disposition of Motor Vehicles
Auditor General Report (2008-47)
IA-17-8-2008-100

FINDING NUMBER 1:

Employment decisions were not always adequately documented in personnel files, and where required, employment and separation documents were not always signed, notarized, or timely processed.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Auditor General recommended that the Department ensure law enforcement officer files contain appropriate documentation of appointment decisions and reviews and approvals of variances, as appropriate, when minimum Department qualifications are not met. The Department should also ensure that Commission employment forms are properly completed and that required information is timely input into the Automated Training Management System (ATMS).

DIVISION:

Law Enforcement

CURRENT STATUS:

The Division of Law Enforcement has corrected the documentation deficiencies noted by the Auditor General and is more closely monitoring the workload of staff responsible for entries into the Automated Training Management System (ATMS) to ensure that the input is timely. Any variances granted during the assessment process are now documented in writing.

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FINDING NUMBER 2:

Department did not always provide the required timely notification of excess motor vehicles to the Department of Management Services.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Auditor General recommended that Department management monitor compliance with established procedures relating to the identification and reporting of excess motor vehicles.

DIVISION:

Law Enforcement

CURRENT STATUS:

The next replacement cycle subsequent to the release of the Auditor General's Report has not yet transpired. However, the Division of Law Enforcement has already shared its list of potential trade vehicles with other divisions in the agency who may be in need of decent, operating vehicles in advance of the receipt of its replacement acquisitions. When the Division's replacement vehicles have been received and are outfitted with the requisite law enforcement equipment, the trade vehicles will be decommissioned (i.e. stripped of markings and equipment) and made ready to either transfer to another division or surrendered for surplus. The Division of Law Enforcement will submit a "Request for Disposal of Mobile Equipment" form to the Bureau of General Services at that time in accordance with the agency's guidelines.