



PRESS RELEASE

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Audit Concludes DHS “Effective” in Accuracy, Collection and Distribution of Child Support Payments

Lansing, Mich. October 18, 2012 – The Michigan Department of Human Services Office of Child Support has once again been found to be “effective” in the latest performance audit released today by the Office of Auditor General.

The audit, which encompassed reviewing the Michigan State Disbursement Unit (MiSDU), was focused on three key areas of measurement:

- To assess the effectiveness of MiSDU's efforts in monitoring its service providers collection and distribution of child support payments.
- Track the monitoring for accuracy and completeness of the bank accounts used for child support activities.
- Assess the effectiveness of MiSDU's effort to optimize electronic payment of child support withheld by employers for noncustodial parents.

In all three major areas of this audit, the OAG concluded that the Office of Child Support had operated in an effective manner. The audit did not identify any reportable conditions related to any of the audit objectives.

“The work done by our Office of Child Support has been outstanding,” said Maura Corrigan, DHS director. “This audit confirms we have the right systems in place to effectively collect and

distribute support dollars, and that's a direct benefit to the people who matter most -- the children of Michigan.”

The DHS Office of Child Support contracts with a service provider to operate the Michigan State Disbursement Unit. The service provider centrally collects and disburses child support remittances in accordance with federal child support enforcement program requirements.

The Auditor General's audit focused on all transactions and activities that occurred between June 1, 2010 and May 31, 2012. The audit itself was conducted from May-August 2012. The cost of the service provider for the time period being audited was \$15.1 million, while the MiSDU itself accounted for \$2.6 billion in child support disbursements during the same time frame.

A full copy of the final OAG report can be found at the following link:

http://www.audgen.michigan.gov/finalpdfs/12_13/r431014212.pdf

For more information on the Department of Human Services, please visit www.michigan.gov/dhs.

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