

## **Department of Health and Social Services**

Division of Public Health Director's Office

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February 20, 2020

The Honorable Josh Revak Alaska State Senate State Capitol, Room 125 Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Revak,

As follow up to the hearing on SB 173 *License Mobile Intensive Care Paramedics* in Senate Health and Social Services Committee on February 17, 2020, your office inquired if the State Office of Emergency Medical Services is audited, similar to the type of audit conducted on the State Medical Board.

The sunset audit conducted on the State Medical Board by the Division of Legislative Audit is required for boards, commissions, and agency programs subject to termination under AS 44.66. The State Office of Emergency Medical Services, as an executive branch agency, is not subject to termination and does not receive a sunset audit by the Division of Legislative Audit.

The State Office of Emergency Medical Services conducts internal audits for quality assurance. In August, 2019, the Office instituted a new quality assurance process for certifications involving random audits to accompany updated applications and streamlined application processes. As part of the application process, applicants must agree to be subject to a random audit process. The audit is carried out by the EMS Data Manager and requires applicants to submit proof of all requirements that were indicated being met on their application, including continuing medical education, a valid cardio-pulmonary resuscitation card, and a written evaluation of the applicant's skills by a certified EMS Instructor. If the applicant is unable to provide verification of all requirements on the application, the application is forwarded to the Manager of the State Office of Emergency Medical Services for further investigation and to work with the applicant to resolve deficiencies. If deficiencies are unable to be resolved in a timely manner the certification could be suspended or revoked.

Sincerely,

Jill Lewis

**Deputy Director** 

cc: Heidi Hedberg, Director

Anthony Newman, DHSS Legislative Liaison