



The New Age of Increased Transparency (...and your Reputation)

DAN PETERSEN, FIRE CHIEF
UNIFIED FIRE AUTHORITY

Utah communications agency needs tighter financial controls, state audit shows

By [Dennis Romboy](#)  [@dennisromboy](#)

Published: Aug. 9, 2016 4:50 p.m.

Updated: Aug. 9, 2016 4:56 p.m.



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[pwconners](#) •

...I am also shocked why the 25 member board has not been given the boot for incompetence.

They should have had controls in place to insure this never took place to begin with...

Ex-Mapleton official sentenced for embezzlement

Courts • Sandee Loader took more than \$100,000.

1st edition Guest •

I'd say she did pretty well for herself, Interest-free \$100,000 loan and a slap on the wrist.

Think that would be her penalty if she'd robbed \$100,000 from a home safe and didn't hurt anybody in the process?

Jordanelle Special Service District ripe for misconduct, fraud, state audit says

By Dennis Romboy [@dennisromboy](#)

Published: April 20, 2015 3:55 p.m.

Updated: April 20, 2015 4:16 p.m.

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Impartial7-DRAPER, UT

And what will happen? Nothing. Utah- Best Managed State?



Small Cell, Desert News

Audit of Utah League of Cities and Towns to be turned over to prosecutors

Itswhatithink

I am also curious why individuals for work for government, or government funded, agencies AND are HIGHLY paid, feel it is ok to use their credit card for charges.



Audit: Ex-employee embezzled \$67K from Utah Schools for the Deaf and Blind

By [Morgan Jacobsen](#)

Published: July 19, 2016 6:35 p.m.

Updated: July 19, 2016 6:46 p.m.

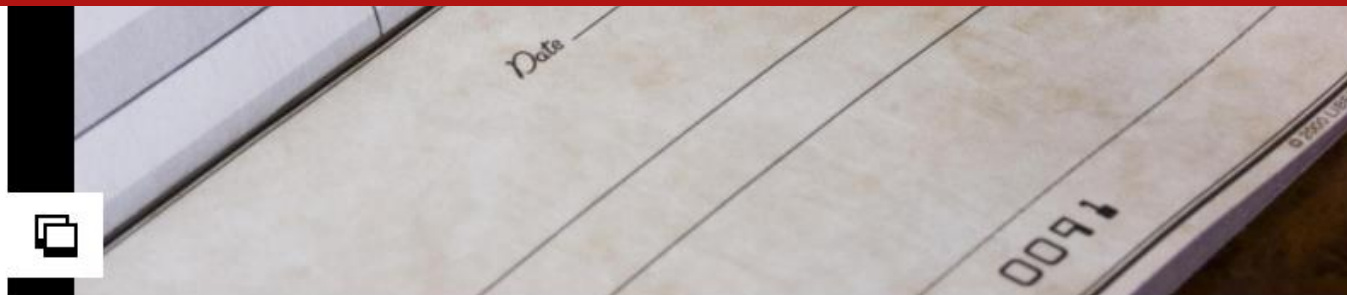
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1 of 2



[funny_guy - Vacaville, CA](#)

I guess no one could see this coming...



UTA board talks about rebuilding public trust after scandal

Transit • The scandal-plagued agency's board charts its course for 2040 — including gaining support to allow for future tax increases.

theshadow •

Tone deaf. The public wants the Board and upper management flushed out. Lower salaries. No more bonuses. That would help rebuild trust.

How many times can you say you're sorry? Not enough as long as it's the same people.

Portland fire chief explains why she put her hands on an employee, denies choking him



ViceroyGunray

... He's a typical City of Portland "it's only tax payer's money" arse, and she has no business being in a position of leadership...



Former Jackson County Fire District 3 Battalion Chief arrested again

Pete Clark ·

Where does one apply to run background checks for Rockbridge County. Apparently they have a vacancy



UNIFIED FIRE AUTHORITY

Findings and Recommendations
For the Period January 1, 2011 through July 31, 2016

Report No. SSVF-17-SPa

Xman:

I am so sick of these high ranking officials sticking it to the folks that do the real work, they always have an explanation or an excuse, and you know what they say about the latter.

OFFICE OF THE
STATE AUDITOR



City of Bell scandal

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

"Robert Rizzo" redirects here. For the German musician, see Robert Hur

The **City of Bell scandal** is a **scandal** involving misappropriation of public fu
Times reporters, Jeff Gottlieb and Ruben Vives, wrote an **investigative journa**
they revealed that the city officials of Bell (a small blue collar community) we
found atypically high **property tax** rates, allegations of **voter fraud** in municip
led to widespread criticism and a demand for city officials to resign.^{[3][4]}

In the end, seven Bell city officials, including the former mayor **Oscar Hernar**
administrator **Angela Spaccia** were convicted on graft and corruption charge

Contents [hide]

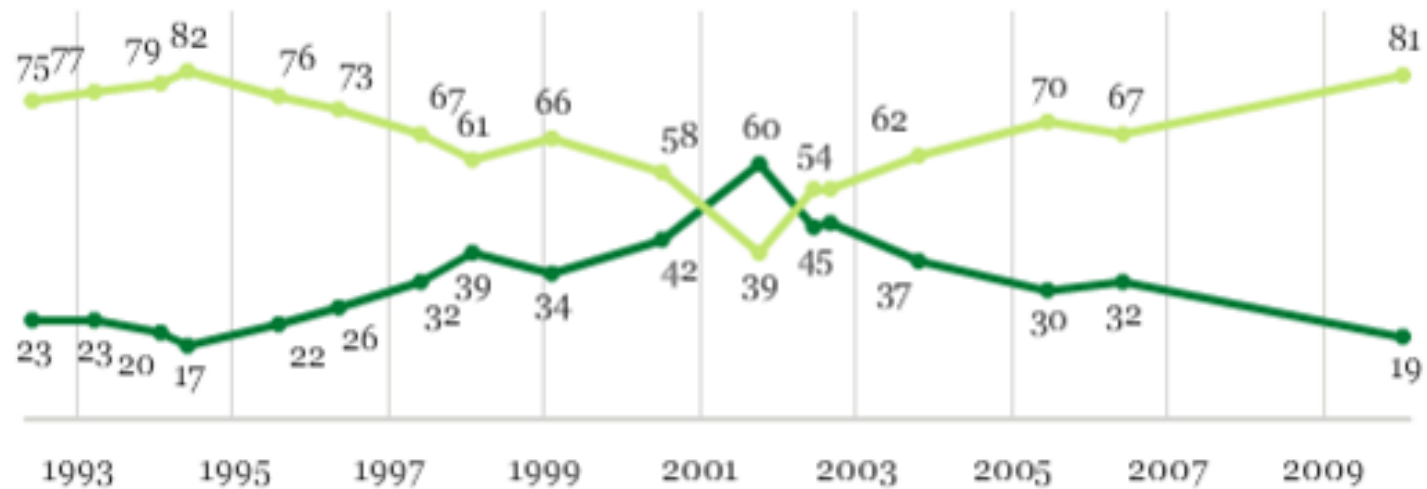
- 1 The community
 - 1.1 Charter votes and irregularities
 - 1.2 Voter fraud led to scandal
- 2 The scandal
- 3 "Special Election" 2011
- 4 Corruption hearings

You know you have reached the pinnacle of scandals when yours becomes a Wiki Page

Trust in Government

How much of the time do you think you can trust government in Washington to do what is right -- just about always, most of the time, or only some of the time?

■ % Just about always/Most of the time ■ % Only some of the time/Never (vol.)



(vol.) = Volunteered response

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State Integrity 2015

Utah gets D- grade in 2015 State Integrity Investigation

A slowly changing landscape

By [Joel Campbell](#)  12:01 am, November 9, 2015 Updated: 12:11 pm, November 12, 2015

“It is astonishing that our government still largely operates in the shadows. And things are only getting worse.”

“Utah is a state that shines in so many ways, why shouldn't information access be one of them?”


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BREAKING NEWS Plane carrying three Americans released by Iran has landed in Switzerland

Cash-strapped governments turn to special districts

Melissa Maynard, Stataline/Pew Writer 9:46 a.m. EDT October 2, 2013



(Photo: AP)

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Kentucky state Auditor [Adam Edelen](#) used a standard icebreaker when he met voters during his 2011 campaign: "Who's cheating you?"

A common theme quickly emerged. Voters were upset about how much so-called "special districts" were costing them. "People said, 'My sanitation district has raised my rates 60 percent,'" Edelen said. "When I went and asked the county executives about it, I got: 'They don't work for me.'"

According to the [Census of Governments](#), a tally of local governments by the [U.S. Census Bureau](#) every five years, 885 special districts have been

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

- The country's 38,266 special districts make up more than 40% of all local governments
- Special districts operate with significant autonomy

MORE STORIES

“City and County executives have no control, Special Districts operate with significant autonomy”

“The folks who do not welcome increased oversight are probably up to something they ought not to be”



Adam H. Edelen, Auditor of Public Accounts

GHOST GOVERNMENT

A Report on Special Districts in Kentucky

*“... Neglect in oversight
have created a system of
Ghost Government,*

*...Too little is known in the
way of its operations when
compared to traditional
local government.”*

“Bell Scandal undermined all of us”

“If financial data is not on line, perception is that something is hidden”

WESTERN City

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WESTERN CITY / DECEMBER 2010 / PROACTIVELY BUILDING PUBLIC TRUST IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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Proactively Building Public Trust in Local Government

BY JIM RIDENOUR



City officials throughout California are focusing on ways to increase transparency in local government. The scandal



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MEETING

Preserving the Integrity and Reputation of Your Local Government – Ethics and Third Parties

WHEN Dec 9 2008, 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM
WHERE Mason Hall, Edwin Meese Conference Room, 4400 University Dr.
Fairfax



George Mason University Department of Public and International Affairs and the Northern Virginia Public Fellows MPA Cohort #5 invites you to a panel discussion on Preserving the Integrity and Reputation of your Local Government.

"Reputation is EVERYTHING"

“Reputation is everything, Trust is crucial”

“Third party entities are an extension of your Board”



Special Districts: Improving Oversight & Transparency

Report #239, August 2017



“Celebrated as the best example of democracy”

“Cursed as the worst form of fragmented government”

“Generally misunderstood even by the experts”

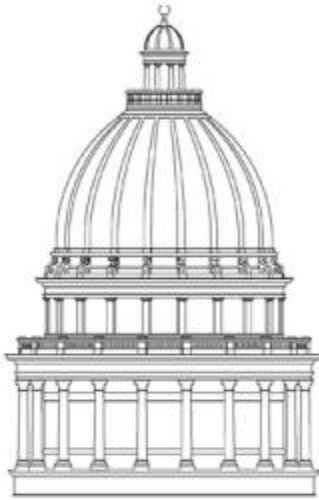
Web Site Components

- ▶ Name, location, contact information
- ▶ Services provided and geographic area served
- ▶ Governance – including information to run for board positions
- ▶ Compensation details – Including salary, pensions, and benefits
- ▶ Budget - including sources of revenue, bond debt, reserves, etc
- ▶ Reserve fund policy
- ▶ Most recent municipal service review
- ▶ Most recent annual financial report
- ▶ Link to any additional oversight of the agency

Little Hoover Commission, August 2017 report on Special Districts

REPORT TO THE
UTAH LEGISLATURE

Number 2017-05

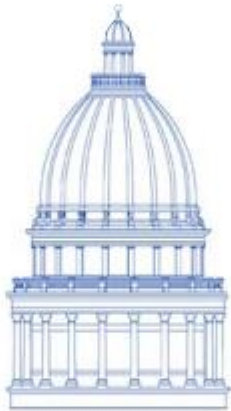


**A Review of
Best Practices for Internal Control
of Limited Purpose Entities**

June 2017

“Unless improvements are made, we believe many of Utah’s limited purpose entities will continue to face a high risk of fraud, waste, abuse and poor management.”

Best Practices for Good Management



prepared by the
Office of the Legislative Auditor General
John M. Schaff, CIA
State of Utah

“Define clear missions and desired outcomes”

“Measure performance to gauge progress”

“Use performance information as a basis for decision making”

LC



New Reputation Guide

www.lga.gov.uk/reputation

Three Big Issues

- ▶ Your leadership
- ▶ Your brand
- ▶ Your communications

Your Leadership



- ▶ We know what we stand for and can express it with clarity
- ▶ Committed to embedding vision and behaviors at all levels of the organization

Your Brand

- ▶ We know how to communicate
- ▶ We know what we want to be famous for
- ▶ Values are lived and breathed by all
- ▶ Our actions reinforce our values

Your Communication



- ▶ Strategic head of communications
- ▶ Communications plan linked to priorities
- ▶ Regular reports on your progress on reputation goals

Five rules of reputation

- ▶ Prove you provide value for money
- ▶ Always inform and engage residents and staff
- ▶ Build trust and confidence in what you do
- ▶ Improve key services and show you are doing so
- ▶ Focus on changing lives for the better



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