Office of the State Auditor FY2013 JCA Questions

- What current activities are you going to <u>stop</u> doing?
 The Office of the State Auditor will continue to perform all necessary functions and duties of the office while continually striving to achieve maximum effectiveness and proficiency.
- 2. What activities are you going to <u>change</u>? How? If you have significantly redirected resources, please explain.
 Since the reduction in staff that occurred in January 2011, certain employees have seen a change in responsibilities and duties. We have shifted workforce to different departments dependent on workload, which is a change that will be continued moving forward.
- 3. What new activities are you going to initiate? Our office is beginning the process of updating our administrative rules to reflect current office practices. We are also seeking increased training opportunities for staff, such as webinars offered by our national association.
- 4. With regards to the budget adjustments that occurred last year, will your agency be able to sustain them on a long-term basis?
 I am proud of our staff's effort this past year to continue performing the duties of our office providing careful stewardship of South Dakotans' tax dollars. The 10% general fund reduction resulted in 2 FTE positions remaining unfilled. This workload was then distributed throughout the staff.
 You'll note that the Governor's FY13 Budget Request seeks an additional \$11,713 to allow for a permanent part-time Claims Auditor. The addition of this Claims Auditor would help reduce the turn-around time of incoming vouchers within our office. The requested dollar amount represents less than 1% of last year's 10% reduction. We are confident that this addition places our office in a sustainable position moving forward.
- 5. What initiatives for improving efficiency of operations are planned in FY13? Many of our employees have experience in different departments within the office. We will continue our practice of cross-training staff to utilize this experience by shifting resources to departments that experience increased workloads at different times of the year, such as increased audit workload at the end of Fiscal Year's. We will also continue the practice of outreach to other state agencies to increase their knowledge of the voucher process. These educational opportunities allow us to inform agencies on our policy, as well as any adjustments or revisions that may occur during the year.

- 6. What are standards of performance or metrics by which you judge the success and efficiencies of your agency's outcomes?
 Our agency is judged on its' ability to effectively and efficiently perform the necessary duties and functions of the office in a timely fashion. Feedback from state agencies, employees, and vendors contribute to this standard. Our performance indicators also provide tangible figures as to the workload our staff handles.
- 7. What funds from FY12 are planned to be applied to FY13 activities? Are these amounts contained in the Governor's FY13 budget?

 We have no current plans to use FY12 funds for FY13 expenditures.
- 8. What are your plans regarding amending the FY12 General Bill? We are not planning on amending the FY12 General Bill.
- 9. The federal Budget Control Act of 2011 (BCA, P.L. 112-25) includes automatic across-the-board spending reductions unless the congress and president enact legislation by January 15, 2012 reducing the federal deficit by \$1.2 trillion over 10 years. The recent failure of the Joint Select Committee of the congress to produce a deficit reduction proposal increases the likelihood these automatic reductions in federal programs may be triggered, absent further intervening congressional action. If so, South Dakota could be significantly impacted. Depending on the outlook at the federal level at the time of your hearing:
 - A. What reductions in federal programs administered by your agency, if any, could develop in FY13?
 The Office of the State Auditor receives no federal funding, as it is wholly funded through general fund dollars.
 - B. What amounts of General Funds and/or Other Funds have been proposed in the Governor's Budget to match any such federal funds at risk? \$0