



STATE OF ILLINOIS
OFFICE OF THE
AUDITOR GENERAL

Frank J. Mautino, Auditor General

SUMMARY REPORT DIGEST

ILLINOIS JOINING FORCES FOUNDATION

Compliance Examination
For the Two Years Ended June 30, 2024

Release Date: October 23, 2025

FINDINGS THIS AUDIT: 4				AGING SCHEDULE OF REPEATED FINDINGS			
	New	Repeat	Total	Repeated Since	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3
Category 1:	0	3	3	2019		3	
Category 2:	0	1	1	2018	1, 4		
Category 3:	0	0	0	2016	2		
TOTAL	0	4	4				
FINDINGS LAST AUDIT: 5							

INTRODUCTION

This digest covers the compliance examination of the Illinois Joining Forces Foundation (Foundation) for the two years ended June 30, 2024. The Foundation's financial audit covering the two years ended June 30, 2024, will be released under a separate cover. In total, this report includes four findings, two of which were reported in the financial audit.

SYNOPSIS

- (24-4) The Illinois Joining Forces Foundation (Foundation) did not comply with certain statutory requirements.

Category 1: Findings that are **material weaknesses** in internal control and/or a **qualification** on compliance with State laws and regulations (material noncompliance).

Category 2: Findings that are **significant deficiencies** in internal control and **noncompliance** with State laws and regulations.

Category 3: Findings that have **no internal control issues but are in noncompliance** with State laws and regulations.

FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

MANDATE NONCOMPLIANCE

The Illinois Joining Forces Foundation (Foundation) did not comply with certain statutory requirements.

During testing of statutory requirements, we noted the following issues:

- The Foundation was unable to provide a copy of the donation letter for 1 of 27 (4%) receipts tested, totaling \$2,500. As such, we were unable to determine whether the Foundation provided the letter in accordance with the Department of Veterans' Affairs Act or the Foundation's Financial Controls Policy, or whether the amount described in the letter agreed to the Foundation's general ledger. Additionally, we noted that for 2 of 27 (7%) receipts tested, totaling \$11,250, the amounts indicated on the donation letters were incorrect and did not trace to the Foundation's general ledger.
- The Foundation's treasurer did not obtain a fidelity or surety bond in accordance with the Department of Veterans' Affairs Act. Although the Foundation maintained liability insurance during the examination period, this policy did not include a fidelity or surety bond for the treasurer.
- The Foundation did not file its Calendar Year 2022 and Calendar Year 2023 General Not for Profit Corporation Act Annual Reports (reports) with the Office of the Secretary of State within 60 days immediately preceding the first day of the anniversary month of the Foundation. The Calendar Year 2022 report was filed 27 days late and the Calendar Year 2023 report was filed 1 day late. (Finding 4, pages 21-23) **This finding has been reported since 2018.**

No surety bond for Board treasurer

Reports filed late

We recommended the Foundation strengthen its controls over retention and maintenance of supporting documentation related to its statutorily-required donation letters. Additionally, we recommended the Foundation ensure its treasurer obtains a fidelity or surety bond in accordance with the Department of Veterans' Affairs Act. Finally, we recommended the Foundation timely file required reports with the Office of the Secretary of State.

Foundation agreed

Foundation management agreed with our recommendations.

OTHER FINDINGS

The remaining findings pertain to weaknesses in financial statements and notes, internal control structure weaknesses, and inadequate controls over Board membership. We will review the Foundation's progress towards the implementation of our recommendations in our next compliance examination.

AUDITOR'S OPINION

The financial audit was separately released. The auditors qualified their opinion on the Foundation's financial statements due to the issues noted in Finding 2024-001. Except for this matter, the auditors stated the financial statements of the Foundation as of and for the years ended June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2023, are fairly stated in all material respects.

ACCOUNTANT'S OPINION

The accountants conducted a compliance examination of the Foundation for the two years ended June 30, 2024, as required by the Illinois State Auditing Act. The accountants qualified their report on compliance for Findings 2024-001, 2024-002, and 2024-004. Except for the noncompliance described in these findings, the accountants stated the Foundation complied, in all material respects, with the requirements described in the report.

This compliance examination was conducted by the Office of the Auditor General's staff.

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

COURTNEY DZIERWA
Division Director

This report is transmitted in accordance with Section 3-14 of the Illinois State Auditing Act.

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

FRANK J. MAUTINO
Auditor General

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