#### ARKANSAS AUDITOR OF STATE DENNIS MILLIGAN

Josh Wood, Assistant Chief of Staff



# 2 Property UNCLAIMED N Holder Seminar

**Audit Process** 



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#### **Audit Process**



- Examination Types
- Notification
- Opening Conference
- Requests
- Data Analysis
- Unclaimed Property Identification
- Due Diligence and Remediation
- Final Reports



#### **Examination Types**



#### Desk Audit

- -Holder self review
- -Expedited timeline
- -State oversight and review

#### •State Full Audit

- -State auditors complete audit
- –Data information requests
- -Review of audit documentation

#### Third Party Audit

- -Third party auditors complete audit
- –Data information requests
- -Review of audit documentation



#### **Notification**



- Initiation Letter
  - -Entities included in the examination
  - Description of included types of unclaimed property
  - Description of time period covered by the examination
  - -Identification of contacts
    - State
    - Third party auditor
- Opening Conference



#### **Opening Conference**



- Audit Scope
  - —Participating states (for multistate examinations)
  - –Property types
  - –Company subsidiaries
  - –Look-back period





- Examination Contacts
  - –Audit manager
  - –Legal contact
  - -State contact





- Description of Auditing Procedures
  - –Expected data requirements
  - -On-site vs. off-site
- Nondisclosure Agreement (For Third Party Audits)





- Document and Information Requests
  - —Issue and review
  - —Proposed response dates
- Security
  - –Encryption of PII
  - -Secure FTP
  - –Company website





- Reporting of Property During Examination
  - –Past due requirements
  - —Pre-reporting requirements





- Conclusion of Examination
  - Draft report provided listing all identified unreported property
  - -Holder review and reconciliation
  - Delivery instructions
- Follow-Up Letter
  - Memorializing opening conference
  - Includes applicable state attachments



#### Requests



- Policies and Procedures
- Administrative Data
- Prompt Production of Necessary Information
  - -Allows the audit to proceed efficiently
- •Examples of Initial Requests
  - –Unclaimed property policies and procedures
  - -Other relevant policies and procedures (uncashed checks)
  - —Prior reported unclaimed property
    - From administrative system (HRS Pro)
    - Text or Excel
  - –Administrative systems breakdown



#### **Data Analysis**



- Process to Identify Unreported Unclaimed Property
  - Data requests
    - Owner information
    - Property information
    - Industry-specific data
  - Records maintained by the holder are available.



#### Data Analysis (cont)



- Data Intake
  - Completeness, accuracy, and integrity of received data sets
- Data Normalization
  - Common formatting
  - Identify unique account identifiers



#### Data Analysis (cont)



#### Thorough Review

- For accuracy and completeness
- Data updates when necessary
- Escheatability Processing
  - State-specific dormancy periods for property types
- Reporting
  - Provided to the holder for review and reconciliation



#### Due Diligence and Remediation



#### Holder Review of Report

- Supplemental data and information
- Auditor re-review of the triggering event

#### Due Diligence of Unclaimed Property

- Statutory requirements and timing
- Reunite the property with the owner or report to the state



#### Due Diligence and Remediation (cont)



#### Escheat Process

- Auditor informs holder
- In conformance with normal state requirements and NAUPA formatting
- Continuing statutory obligations after audit conclusion



#### **Final Reports**



#### Provided to Holder at Audit Close

- Includes a summary of the audit processes performed
- Outlines the findings of the examination
- Details methodologies used to determine the amount of unclaimed property
- Documents any disputed issues or record deficiencies



#### **Takeaways**





**Learn the Rules** 



**Establish Policies & Procedures to Implement the Rules** 



**Check for Updates to the Rules** 



### **Questions?**





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