

Report Highlights

Louisiana Workforce Commission

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Why We Conducted This Audit

The Louisiana Legislative Auditor (LLA) used Louisiana Workforce Commission (LWC) unemployment data to identify bank accounts used by multiple claimants and found that the bank account used by claimant A.B. and a member of his household received unemployment benefits for at least six other claimants. LLA initiated this investigative audit to determine if A.B. improperly received unemployment benefits on behalf of other claimants.

What We Found

Claimant Received Unemployment Benefits for Multiple Individuals

LWC and bank records show that A.B. received Pandemic unemployment benefits totaling \$87,380 on behalf of 10 claimants other than himself from April 2, 2020 to November 19, 2020. This amount includes \$52,901 in benefits for six in-state claimants that were either deposited into AB's bank account or issued on debit cards and benefits totaling \$34,479 issued on debit cards on behalf of four out-of-state claimants who do not appear to have applied for benefits in Louisiana. We found that seven of the 10 claimants' LWC accounts were accessed from the same Internet Protocol address used by A.B. to change their mailing addresses to A.B.'s mailing address before they received debit cards. In addition, records show that the debit cards issued to these seven claimants were used to withdraw cash at the same locations and times when A.B. withdrew his own cash. By receiving unemployment benefits payable to other individuals, A.B. may have violated state law.