



Report Highlights

Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) – Landlord No. 1

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Why We Conducted This Audit

We initiated this audit due to a notification from the Louisiana Division of Administration’s Office of Community Development (OCD) of a potential misappropriation of ERAP funds involving program participants.

What We Found

Misappropriation of Emergency Rental Assistance Program Funds by Program Participants

The Emergency Rental Assistance Program application submitted to OCD by a landlord and his tenants included false statements or misrepresentations of material facts. As a result, the landlord received \$79,818 in emergency rental assistance from OCD for four rental properties located in Lafourche and Terrebonne parishes. However, our investigative audit determined that the landlord was likely ineligible to receive \$78,018 of the \$79,818 rental assistance benefits (98%) due to the following issues in the applications: (1) inclusion of tenants who did not apply for rental assistance, (2) listing of tenants who did not reside at the claimed property addresses, (3) falsely asserting ownership of certain rental properties he allegedly rented to the tenant(s), and/or (4) overstating rental amounts on the applications. Because the landlord and one of the four tenants submitted applications that appear to contain false statements or material misrepresentations, and the landlord received funds based on these inaccuracies, the landlord and one tenant may have violated state and federal laws.

View the full report, including management’s response, at www.lla.la.gov.