BONDS, CRIME, & PROPERTY PROGRAM

LOSS PREVENTION UNIT OFFICE OF RISK MANAGEMENT DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION

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BONDS, CRIME, AND PROPERTY PROGRAM

<u>Introduction</u>

The Bonds, Crime, & Property Program is intended to protect the State from financial and/or property losses resulting from any act and/or omission by any state public officials, appointees and employees in the performance of their respective duties.

The ORM policy guidelines outlined in this document are not a substitute for the accounting control guidelines established by the Office of Statewide Reporting and Accounting Policy (OSRAP), found here: http://www.doa.louisiana.gov/OSRAP/PPM.html. Conformance by an Agency with all relevant OSRAP policies regarding fiscal controls and safeguards shall satisfy ORM's requirements. The Agency shall be responsible for complying with any other ORM requirement or exception not specifically addressed by OSRAP policy, as relates to this program.

The purpose of the Bonds, Crime, & Property Program is to:

- A. Assign responsibility for developing and managing fiscal controls in state Agencies.
- B. Establish each individual's accountability for the performance of his/her duties in compliance with the Agency's fiscal control program.
- C. Reduce the State's exposure and losses and to safeguard state assets against theft, robbery, abuse, etc.
- D. Maintain the public's confidence in the ability of state officials, appointees, and employees to conduct the State's business in an honest and professional manner.

Components of Louisiana Bonds, Crime, and Property Program

- 1. Agency Policy and Procedures:
 - A. Responsibilities

Each Agency is responsible for developing and implementing a written Bonds, Crime & Property Loss Control Program that shall include:

B. Procedures (for managing assets and the fiscal internal control system to minimize potential losses and damages)

These procedures shall address, at a minimum:

- 1. Handling/processing negotiable items such as: cash, checks, and postage stamps.
- 2. Controlling inventories, including disposal thereof.
- 3. Employee accountability for equipment assigned to them.
- 4. The securing of vaults and safes.
- 5. Purchasing procedures.

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- C. Implementation of training programs for employees. Training may include formal and on-the-job training. All training shall be documented.
- D. Investigation/reporting procedures for incidents involving losses/damages to assets (e.g., property, negotiable items) that include corrective action to prevent recurrence. There must be a method for reporting discrepancies or problems to supervisors and/or management, as well as timely submission of the claim to the Third-Party Administrator (TPA).
- E. The responsibilities and accountability for managers, supervisors, and employees who have duties requiring Bonds, Crime, & Property coverage.

These policies/procedures shall be given to employees involved in the fiscal control program and form the basis of the Bonds, Crime, & Property Program. Only those individuals authorized and trained to manage or handle cash, property, stamps, fees, licenses, permits, securities and other State assets shall be assigned to those duties. "Manage" is defined as including "approval of transactions and/or directing the approval of transactions."

The TPA will, upon request, assist Agencies in organizing, directing, implementing, and controlling a Bonds, Crime, & Property internal control program that minimizes the potential for financial and/or property losses.

Department and Agency heads

These individuals are responsible for the implementation of an internal fiscal control program that includes operating guidelines and the specific duties of all employees involved in the program. Department heads or their designees are responsible for reviewing the fiscal control program regularly for efficiency and effectiveness. Recommendations contained in internal control audits should be implemented promptly.

Supervisors or program designee

Supervisors must ensure that employees are properly trained in the program's policies, procedures and guidelines so that all safeguards are followed at all times. Supervisors should review the program's internal controls to ensure protection of the State's assets and property from losses. No safeguard of the internal control plan is to be eliminated or bypassed.

Employees

Employees are expected to follow the program fiscal controls and to report any deviations. Deviations include but are not limited to:

- deliberate recording of a transaction with inadequate documentation, inadequate information, and/or approval
- deliberate omission of information in a financial/statistical report
- failure to safeguard an asset (e.g., equipment: left in an insecure environment [such as a laptop with no lock], left on a desk, or in an unlocked room)
- unauthorized use (e.g., personal use of a computer and/or use of unauthorized/unlicensed programs on a computer)

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- failure to safeguard fiscal/personal information (e.g., computer left unattended with 'desktop' open)
- failure to secure files with confidential information (should use encryption and/or password protection)

The employees shall report the deviation in accordance with Agency policies/procedures. The specified individual should forward the deviation to the appropriate person at the Office of Risk Management (ORM).

2. Bonds, Crime, & Property Coverage

Fidelity Bonds: The Employees Faithful Performance Blanket Bond covers loss sustained by insured because of dishonest or fraudulent acts of employees or by failure of employees to faithfully perform duties. The following mandatory areas are covered:

- A. Property Manager Bond: This bond covers dishonest or fraudulent acts or failure to faithfully perform duties in connection with the handling and control of state property, resulting in loss to insured.
- B. Notary Bond: This bond guarantees that a notary public will comply with applicable laws and regulations.
- C. Postal Bond: This bond guarantees that a post office contract, branch, or station located at such places as a university or college shall faithfully discharge all duties required under rules and regulations of the U.S. Postal Service. It must account for, deliver, and pay over monies, mail matters, and other properties that come in its possession to the proper post office official.
- D. Public Official Bond: This bond is required for state elected or appointed officials to fill positions of trust. It protects against dishonest and fraudulent acts as well as a person's failure to perform duties required.
- E. Crime (Inside/Outside Premises): Money and Securities; Depositors Forgery (usually secured by Combination Crime Policy): This policy should cover all perils except those that are excluded by the policy on money and securities including outside premises while conveyed by messenger. Property other than money and securities is insured against robbery or burglary. Coverage is provided against loss through forgery or alteration of checks drawn by insured. The Crime Policy shall also provide coverage for property damage to a safe during an attempted or actual robbery.

Cyber events where the insured receives and acts upon a fraudulent instruction that is allegedly coming to them from a vendor, client, or management instructing them to transfer funds, money or securities are covered under the crime policy. Cyber events involving attacks that re-route state funds are also covered by this policy as well.

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3. Guidelines for Developing a Bonds, Crime, and Property Program

Each Agency shall establish a system of internal accounting and administrative controls in accordance with applicable Federal and Louisiana State Statutes and regulations utilizing the following guidelines:

- A. <u>Reasonable Assurance</u> Internal control systems relative to fiscal matters shall provide reasonable assurance that the objectives of the system will be accomplished. This standard recognizes that the cost of internal control should not exceed the benefits derived.
- B. <u>Competent Personnel</u> Employees exercising oversight and control shall achieve (unless already possessing) adequate education, experience, and/or training as soon as possible upon hire to accomplish their assigned duties.
- C. <u>Internal Control Guidelines</u> Specific internal control guidelines on fiscal matters shall be developed for each applicable Agency function. Each goal must be complete, logical, and applicable to the specific activity and are to be consistent with the accomplishment of the overall objectives of internal controls, including but not limited to:
 - 1. Obligations and costs are in compliance with applicable law.
 - 2. Funds, property, and other assets are safeguarded against waste, loss, fraud, unauthorized use, or misappropriation.
 - Revenues and expenditures applicable to Agency operations are to be properly recorded and accounted for. This will permit the preparation of reliable financial and statistical reports required to maintain accountability over the assets.
- D. <u>Documentation</u> Internal control systems, (i.e., control objectives, internal control techniques, accountability for resources) and all transactions and events shall be clearly documented. Documentation shall be readily available, including for all damages/losses. Transactions shall be classified properly upon recording and execution.
- E. <u>Separation of Duties</u> Key duties (e.g., authorizing, approving, and recording transactions; issuing or receiving assets; making payments; reviewing or auditing) shall be assigned to separate individuals to minimize the risk of loss to the State. Internal control depends largely on the elimination of opportunities to conceal errors or fraud. Internal fiscal control requires the assignment of work in such a manner that no one individual controls all phases of an activity or transaction, thereby minimizing the possibility that errors or irregularities will go undetected.
- F. <u>Supervision</u> Proper supervision shall be provided to assure that approved procedures are followed. Lines of personal responsibility and accountability shall be clearly defined.
- G. <u>Access to Resources</u> Access to resources shall be limited to authorized personnel. Access includes both direct physical access and indirect access through the

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preparation or processing of documents that authorize the use or disposition of resources. Periodic internal audits shall be made comparing the physical resources with the recorded accountability to determine whether the two agree (e.g., petty cash; physical inventories – supplies, food; check stock). The frequency of the audit shall be determined by the vulnerability of the asset.

H. <u>Addressing Audit Findings</u> - Managers should promptly evaluate findings and recommendations reported by auditors; determine proper action and, within established time frames, implement actions that correct the findings.

4. Security

The goal of a successful security plan is to ensure the safety and security of each state employee and visitor/client while also securing state property and its contents (regardless of current value). Each Agency is responsible for implementing a documented site-specific security plan, which includes property control procedures. The security plan must provide a means of controlling access to state agency buildings for state employees as well as clients/visitors, and vendors. Means for access control may include but are not limited to:

- Door locks
- Alarm systems (regardless of contents or their value)
- Lighting
- Surveillance cameras
- Security guards
- Entrance phones
- ID cards
- Electronic swipe cards
- Keypads
- Locked desks, cabinets, and doors

The security plan should include assignment of responsibilities as well as employee accountability and lockdown procedures. Other points to consider while developing a security plan are:

- Parking lot security
- Campus/Grounds security
- Cyber/Data security
- Alternative entrances (i.e. loading docks)
- Past incidents in the building or the vicinity of the building
- Hours of operation
- Nature of the business the Agency conducts

The security plan should be re-evaluated at least annually and as the situation necessitates.

5. Key Control

All state Agencies shall have site-specific policies and procedures in place for key control. Key control shall include responsibility for keys, security badges, access cards,

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security systems, etc. These procedures are for security of the Agency's physical plant, property, and most importantly, employees. The policy and procedures shall cover, at a minimum:

- 1. Issuance and return of keys/cards,
- 2. Reporting lost or stolen key(s),
- 3. Changing locks/codes (when applicable), and
- 4. Employee responsibility for handling keys.

Agencies should maintain an inventory log that indicates employees issued keys, the date the key(s) were issued (and returned), what areas the key(s) access.

See attachment for sample policy/procedure and forms.

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Sample Security Planning Template Yes (If Yes, insert date below) FINAL VERSION No Date: **Location Information:** Health Unit Name Address City Zip Primary Contact Phone Number: Services Provided at this Unit (Check all that apply): Vital Records STD/HIV Children's Special Health Services TΒ Family Planning OTHER Food and Drinking Water Protection OTHER Hearing and Vision Screening OTHER HIV/AIDS Service OTHER Immunizations OTHER Lead Screening OTHER Maternity Services OTHER WIC/Nutrition Services Prenatal Care Lease/Ownership: Describe the ownership/lease status of the property. Be sure to include the contact name and number. **Security System:** No Yes (If Yes, complete information below) Security Company Name No Yes 24 Hour Monitoring? Where is the system monitored? Online Offsite Not Monitored Address City Zip Primary Contact Name Contact Number Secondary Contact Name Secondary Contact Number What surveillance resources are present? (Check all that apply) Security Cameras Security Guards Lighting Mirrors Sensors Perimeter Alarms Intercoms Access Cards & Readers

Fire Alarm					
Is there a fire system and/or fire suppression system? No Yes					
If yes, check all that apply: Smoke/heat detectors Sprinklers					
Where is the system monitored? Online Offsite Not Monitored Provide phone number of monitoring office: If offsite monitoring, provide vendor name: Are there fire extinguishers on each floor? No Yes If yes, how many on each floor?					
Building Access:					
Is 24 hour access to the building allowed? No Yes (If Yes, complete information below)					
List everyone who has 24 hour access to facility:					
·					
NAME TITLE					
<u> </u>					
How many doors are at the facility?					
How many doors are kept unlock during business hours?					
How many doors are emergency exits?					
Is the unit handicapped accessible? No Yes					
Opening/Closing of Unit:					
List everyone who has opening/closing responsibilities:					
NAME TITLE					
					
 -					
					
L. d					
Is there a Standard Operating Procedure for Opening/Closing of the unit?					
No (Request template and complete SOP)					
Yes (Submit with this report)					

Visitors:					
Do visitors have to sign in? No Yes					
Describe your Visitor procedure:					
Petty Cash/WIC Vouchers					
Where are petty cash and WIC vouchers kept?					
Who has access to notte each and WIC yearshors?					
Who has access to petty cash and WIC vouchers?					
NAME TITLE					
_					
					
<u> </u>					
Janitorial Staff: No Yes (If Yes, complete information below)					
Janitorial Company Name					
Frequency Daily Weekly Monthly Other					
Address					
City Zip					
Primary Contact Name					
Contact Number					
Secondary Contact Name					
Secondary Contact Number					
Power Source:					
Identify the primary power source:					
Identify the back-up power source:					
Is the system designed to automatically switch over to back-up power source upon primary power					
failure? No Yes					
Will this back power source operate lights, refrigeration and communication system? No Yes					
INO LITES					
Water Sources:					
Identify water source: City Well Other, please specify:					
If Well, please specify size of pump and capacity:					
Please specify power source to pump: Electric Gas					
Does the facility have a hot water heater? No Yes					
If yes, please indicate: Gas Electric					
Please specify location of hot water heater:					
Type of sewerage: City Sewer Septic Tank Other, please specify:					

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oes the Unit have an area for storing medical or other hazardous waste?	OTHER	
		ea for storing medical or other hazardous waste?
If Yes, where is the location?	If Yes, where is the lo	ocation?
Who is in charge of ensuring proper disposal?		
Sumber of public restrooms in the unit: Male Female		
Sumber of handicapped accessible restrooms in the unit: Male Female		
there a break room for staff in the unit? No Yes		
oes the break room have an oven? No Yes N/A	Does the break room have	e an oven? No Yes N/A
oes this unit have AED's (Automatic External Defibrillators No Yes	Does this unit have AED	's (Automatic External Defibrillators No Yes
oes this unit have a first aid kit? No Yes		

SAMPLE AUTHORIZATION FORM

Authorization for Building Access Card and/or Building Office Key

Specify Option:	Building/Office Key	Building Access Card
Employee Name:		
Agency Name:		
Classification:		
Justification:		
	_	office key be issued to the above named (specify dates or separation).
Supervisor		Date
Approved by:		Date
I acknowledge red	ceipt of Building Access Ca	ard number:
I acknowledge red	ceipt of Building/Office Key	to room number:
card/key without tost or stolen, I w	he consent of the director vill report it to the director pon separation from empl	d will not allow another person use of the and/or building manager. If the card/key is rand the building manager immediately. I loyment, the card must be returned no later
Employee Signatu	ıre	Date
I acknowledge the card/key.	at the above named empl	oyee returned the assigned building access
Supervisor/Manag	ner	Date

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