

**State Internal Audit Advisory Board (SIAAB)**  
**Peer Review Statement of Independence**

TO: SIAAB Chair

RE: Auditor Independence

The professional standards and the code of ethics promulgated by the State Internal Audit Advisory Board established by the Fiscal Control and Internal Auditing Act of the State of Illinois requires that all peer review team members or external validators be independent in performing peer review and self-assessment validations.

The State Internal Audit Advisory Board's Bylaws ([Article III – Section 1.2](#)) defines Peer Review as an independent, external assessment of the quality and performance of an Audit Organization's compliance with professional standards and applicable provisions of the Fiscal Control and Internal Auditing Act.

Examples of personal impairments include, but are not limited to the following:

- a. Immediate family or a close family member who is a director or officer of the peer review/self assessment entity or is in a position to exert direct and significant influence over the entity. Immediate family member is a spouse, spouse equivalent, or dependent (whether or not related). A close family member is a parent, sibling, or nondependent child;
- b. Financial interest that is direct, or is significant/material though indirect, in the peer review/self-assessment entity;
- c. Responsibility for providing consulting and/or internal/external assurance services of the entity, or decision-making that could affect operations of the entity within the previous year. For example, past or concurrent services performed in performing internal/external audit services, maintaining official accounting records when such services involved preparing source documents or originating data, in electronic or other form; posting transactions, authorizing, executing, or consummating transactions, maintaining an entity's bank account or otherwise having custody of the entity's funds; or otherwise exercising authority on behalf of the entity, or having authority to do so. Peer reviewers, external validators, and/or SIAAB Executive and Performance Committee members should refrain from conducting peer reviews/external validations over an entity or program for which they were previously responsible. Objectivity is presumed to be impaired if a peer reviewer, external validator and/or SIAAB Executive and Performance Committee member provides peer review services for an activity for which they had responsibility within the previous year;
- d. Preconceived ideas toward individuals, groups, organizations, or objectives of a particular program that could bias the peer review;
- e. Biases, including those induced by political, ideological, or social convictions that result from employment in, or loyalty to, a particular type of policy, group, organization, or level of government; and,
- f. Seeking employment with the entity during the conduct of the peer review.

**Affirmation**

In accordance with the above, I disclose the following, which may impair, or give the appearance of impairing, my independence and objectivity:

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Peer Reviewer/External Validator Signature

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Date

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Approval by Executive Committee Chair

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Date