



CAN YOU PASS THE DATA ON E-911 FUNDS?

According to the Legislative Auditor Post Audit Division, \$323 million has gone to West Virginia counties through the Wireless Enhanced 911 Fee (E-911) to improve emergency services.¹

Auditors have found that there is little to no oversight to ensure that these funds are spent for their intended purpose.

There is no state agency that is vested with the responsibility to oversee E-911.

While they are included in annual audits of county commissions, the audits don't ensure that E-911 funds were used to follow state code.

The Public Service Commission (PSC) reported that 25 percent of counties didn't provide data on how these funds were used.

The report stated that because they didn't obtain data from all counties, "PSC was unable to provide an accurate total cost to operate the [E-911] system."²

Auditors have recommended that legislators consider requiring the PSC or another entity to conduct periodic reviews of the program expenses and report annual data. This will improve the system and limit wasted or abused amounts of funds.

¹ Joint Committee on Government and Finance West Virginia Office of the Legislative Auditor Post Audit Division. "Legislative Audit Report: West Virginia Public Service Commission Wireless Enhanced 911 Fees." Available at http://www.wvlegislature.gov/legisdocs/reports/agency/PA/PA_2019_669.pdf. Accessed January 26, 2019.

² Ibid.