

2012-119 AUDIT SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES— California Department of Veterans Affairs— Veterans' Home System

The audit by the California State Auditor will provide independently developed and verified information related to the California Department of Veterans Affairs' (CDVA) management of the veterans' homes system of care and will include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Review and evaluate the laws, rules, and regulations significant to the audit objectives.
2. Determine how the system of care for veterans' homes is funded, including the extent to which private and federal Department of Veterans Affairs' payments and fees cover costs.
3. Assess the levels of care (residential, assisted living, skilled nursing) provided by each home and the staffing standards used by the homes. Determine whether these staffing standards affect the cost-efficiency and occupancy goals and objectives of the homes.
4. Determine whether CDVA leases property or its facilities to other entities and whether opportunities exist to generate additional revenue from unused capacity.
5. Identify any legal restrictions that may prevent the CDVA from partnering with third parties to fully utilize property and the unused capacity of the homes.
6. Determine whether the veterans' home system's purchasing and procurement decisions are centralized or made by individual homes. Review and assess the veterans' homes' procurement policies and procedures for efficiency and cost-effectiveness.
7. For veterans that CDVA determines need long-term care, assess the processes CDVA uses to decide whether some veterans could be served in other facilities, such as nursing homes that receive funding from the federal Department of Veterans Affairs.
8. Evaluate the CDVA's planning process for the veterans' homes, including its projections of the California veteran population, and determine whether it has a long-term strategy to fully fund and operate the veterans' homes at full capacity.
9. Review and assess any other issues that are significant to CDVA's management of the veterans' homes system of care and meeting the needs of returning veterans.