



# MONTANA LEGISLATIVE AUDIT DIVISION

## INFORMATION SYSTEMS AUDIT

# Computer Disposal Policy Compliance

Department of Administration

APRIL 2009

09DP-05

REPORT SUMMARY

According to the 2009 State Biennial Report for Information Technology, the State will need to replace nearly 7,000 computers in the next four years. These computers could potentially contain sensitive or personal information.

### Context

The Montana Constitution identifies the right of individual privacy and prohibits violating the privacy without a “compelling state interest”. Through statute and policy, the State is required to protect individual privacy and the privacy of the information contained within Information Technology (IT) systems.

We selected hard drives from computers disposed of by state agencies and used specialized software to examine the hard drives for data files and software. Our purpose was to determine if all data and software had been successfully removed prior to disposal.

### Results

We concluded the hard drives in computers we examined had all data and software removed in compliance with state disposal of computers policy. As a result, we made no recommendations to the department.

Recommendation Concurrence	
Concur	0
Partially Concur	0
Do Not Concur	0

Source: Agency audit response included in final report.

For a complete copy of the report or for further information, contact the Legislative Audit Division at 406-444-3122; e-mail to [lad@mt.gov](mailto:lad@mt.gov); or check the website at <http://leg.mt.gov/audit>. Report Fraud, Waste, and Abuse to the Legislative Auditor's FRAUD HOTLINE Call toll-free 1-800-222-4446, or e-mail [lad@mt.gov](mailto:lad@mt.gov).