



MONTHLY REPORT FEBRUARY 2026

The Office of Governmental Accountability (OGA)-State Contracting Standards Board (SCSB) Staff provides the information shared in this monthly report for the convenience of SCSB members and the public.

A. Administration, Legislation, Legal and Miscellaneous:

1. Administrative:

a. Board Meetings:

- 1) The regular Board meeting scheduled for February 13, 2026, was cancelled due to a lack of quorum.
- 2) The next regular Board meeting is scheduled to take place on March 13, 2026.

b. 2025 Annual Report:

On January 2, 2026, Executive Director Daniels shared the draft 2025 Annual Agency Report with the Board members. No questions or comments were offered at the January 9, 2026, Board meeting. Per Chair Palache, the 2026 Annual Report will be presented to the Board for a vote of acceptance at the next regular Board meeting on March 13, 2026.

c. State Agency Chief Procurement Officer (CPO) List: Effective January 1, 2026, SCSB staff completed a verification and update of the CPO or equivalent positions list and reconciled it with agency changes.

2. Legislation:

a. FY2027 Budget Process: On February 10, 2026, Executive Director Daniels testified to the legislative Appropriations Committee during the General Government-A Agency Budget Presentations.

b. In response to that testimony, Executive Director Daniels, Research Analyst Anderson, and Administrative Assistant Hall met with our agency's DAS Budget liaisons to gather the information required.

c. On February 11, 2026, Research Analyst Samson submitted the requested information to the Appropriations Committee as requested.

d. On February 24, 2026, Executive Director Daniels participated in the Appropriations General Government - Group A Work Session on behalf of the SCSB, during which Executive Director Daniels answered questions and provided FY2027 detailed budgetary information. Staff Attorney Felman, Research Analyst Anderson, and Administrative Assistant Hall were also in attendance to assist.

e. Members of the Appropriations General Government – Group A Subcommittee asked for an example of an audit completed by SCSB staff and approved by SCSB board members. As such, on February 24, 2026, Research Analyst Anderson emailed their committee assistant a copy of the OPM Audit issued by the Board on November 14, 2025.

- f. 2026 Legislative Package: On February 4, 2026, Research Analyst Anderson submitted the SCSB Legislative Proposals for 2026 to the Chairs of the Government Administration and Elections Committee.
 - 1) On February 17, 2026, Research Analyst Anderson, Staff Attorney Felman, and Administrative Assistant Hall met with Senator Blumenthal, Chair of the GAE Committee, to present SCSB’s legislative agenda for the 2026 legislative session.
 - 2) Since February 4, 2026, Research Analyst Anderson has been in touch with Chair Flexer’s office to schedule a meeting regarding SCSB legislation and legislative proposals.
- g. 2026 Bill Tracking: As of February 28, 2026, Research Analyst Anderson has identified three bills to track through this session. Please note that no legislative initiatives regarding the SCSB have been introduced at this time. The Government Administration and Elections Committee voted on February 11, 2026, to raise a bill concerning the SCSB, but it has not yet been introduced.
 - 1) SB 81: An Act Concerning the Privatization of the Department of Motor Vehicles has been referred to the Joint Committee on Transportation.
 - 2) SB 247: An Act Implementing the Recommendations of the Auditors of Public Accounts has been referred to the Joint Committee on Government Oversight. A public hearing is scheduled for March 3, 2026.
 - 3) SB 324: An Act Concerning Government Oversight Over Fraud and Waste and Establishing the Office of Government Oversight and Efficiency has been referred to the Joint Committee on Government Oversight. A public hearing is scheduled for March 3, 2026.

3. Legal:

- a. Media Inquiries Regarding Office of Correctional Ombud Matter: Following information presented at the Board’s January 9, 2026, regular meeting concerning the Office of the Correctional Ombud, Executive Director Daniels and Staff Attorney Felman received and responded to related media inquiries.
- b. Status of § 4e-34 Project: Staff Attorney Felman, with assistance from Executive Director Daniels, finalized a preliminary draft manual of the C.G.S. § 4e-34 disqualification procedures and will circulate the draft to members of the Statutes, Regulations, Policies, and Procedures (SRPP) Work Group for review and feedback in advance of their next meeting. The draft procedures are intended to promote consistent, transparent, and legally defensible disqualification proceedings while ensuring appropriate due process protections.
- c. Status of Personal Data Protection Regulations: Staff Attorney Felman finalized a preliminary draft of the Board’s personal data protection regulations, which was transmitted to the SRPP Work Group for consideration on February 6, 2026. The work group will review the draft in preparation for discussion and further refinement at its next meeting on March 10, 2026.
- d. Triennial Audit Policies, Procedures & Regulations Development Project: In furtherance of action item(s) assigned at the January 2026 Audit & Data Analysis Work Group Meeting, Staff Attorney Felman and Accounts Examiner Maritza Lopez prepared a draft timeline for developing and implementing comprehensive policies,

procedures, and regulations pertaining to the SCSB's triennial audit statutory mandate found in C.G.S. § 4e-6. Staff Attorney Felman and Accounts Examiner Lopez met on February 17, 2026, and finalized a proposed timeline for the initial development phase of the project's policies and procedures. This timeline and related discussion topics will be presented and discussed at the next Audit & Data Analysis Work Group Meeting on March 18, 2026. Staff Attorney Felman and Accounts Examiner Lopez plan to meet weekly in furtherance of completing this project according to the proposed timeline (subject to the Audit & Data Analysis Work Group's directives).

B. Compliance Audits:

1. Audit-Data Analysis Work Group Meeting:

- a. Throughout 2026, virtual Audit-Data Analysis Work Group meetings are scheduled to take place on the third Wednesday of each month at 11:00 a.m.
- b. The Audit-Data Analysis Work Group did not meet as scheduled on February 18, 2026.
- c. The next Audit-Data Analysis Work Group meeting is scheduled to take place on March 18, 2026.
- d. The following audit-related documents were distributed to Work Group members for review in January and February. Discussion on these items will take place at the next meeting of this Work Group on March 18, 2026:
 - 1) **Self-Audit Questionnaire:** Originally developed prior to staff review and formally approved by the Audit Work Group.
 - 2) **Procurement Audit Engagement Letter:** Standard engagement letter issued to agencies selected for procurement audit activities.
 - 3) **Exhibit A Questionnaire:** Updated agency questionnaire accompanying the Procurement Audit Engagement Letter.
 - 4) **Compliance Testing Checklist:** The current checklist is distributed to agencies as part of the audit review process.
 - 5) **Procurement Audit Engagement Document:** Accounts Examiner Lopez and Trainer Specialist Hufcut developed a new interactive electronic engagement document that consolidates audit materials, improves clarity, and streamlines agency submissions to reduce paperwork and audit delays, given limited staffing. The document includes detailed instructions, dropdown menus, and links, and was shared with the Work Group for feedback. Suggestions included adding qualitative and privatization questions and updating procurement thresholds. Additional time was provided for review, and recommendations were requested prior to the next meeting for inclusion in meeting materials.

2. Audit and Legal:

- a. Beginning in January 2026, Accounts Examiner Lopez and Attorney Felman have continued meeting to review and discuss the development of audit policies and procedures. These discussions focus on clarifying audit standards, strengthening compliance review processes, and ensuring that audit practices align with applicable statutes, regulations, and agency guidelines. The meetings also include evaluating current procedures, identifying areas for improvement, and determining whether

additional documentation or guidance is needed to support consistent and effective audit implementation.

3. Audit and Training:

- a. Accounts Examiner Lopez and Training Specialist Hufcut continue to work collaboratively on enhancing and expanding the agency’s audit training program.
- b. The Audit Course has been completed and is ready for the Audit Work Group to review.

4. Annual Report:

- a. A draft of the Annual Audit Report was presented at the January 21, 2026, Audit and Data Analysis Work Group meeting, and work group members requested that additional qualitative data be included and that the report be updated before February 9, 2026. The feedback provided by Board Members was taken into consideration and incorporated into the report.

5. Future Audits:

- a. The Chair of the Audit Work Group has recommended delaying the audits until further notice.

Year 2 Contracting Agency Selection					
<u>Agency</u>	<u># of contracts</u>	<u>Total (\$)</u>	<u># of samples audited</u>	<u># of findings</u>	<u>Audit Status</u>
Dept of Administrative Services (DAS)	543	\$1,817,965,406.27	4		The agency has confirmed receipt of this audit request on 10/31/2025.
Department of Development Services (DDS)	434	\$7,324,399,958.35	4		The agency has submitted the requested documentation received on 7/28/2025.
Mental Health & Addiction Services (MHA)	1206	\$2,886,446,958.11	4		Discussed with the agency what documentation is needed for the audit and provided some documents. 7/30/2025.
State Dept of Education (SDE)	398	\$167,852,974.70	4		Documentation Received 4/4/2025.

C. Training:

- 1. Training Work Group (TWG):** Throughout 2026, hybrid Training Work Group meetings are scheduled to take place on the second Friday of each month from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m., following the regular Board meetings on site at 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut, and virtually.

- a. The next meeting of the Training Work Group is scheduled to take place on March 13, 2026.
- b. The December 2025, January 2026 and February 2026 meetings were cancelled.

2. Training Regulations:

- a. Trainer Specialist Hufcut reminded the work group that much of this Training Handbook was created to ensure that SCSB would meet accreditation standards. Many of the policies in the Training Handbook were integrated from existing State policies.
- b. Per Training work group Chair Ahneman, these regulations will be tabled until after finalization of the Training Handbook.

3. Training and education courses to be developed in cooperation with (Training and Interagency Collaborations):

- a. State Elections Enforcement Commission
- b. Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities
- c. Office of the Attorney General
- d. Any other state agency that the board determines is necessary in carrying out statutes and regulations concerning procurement.

4. Training and Audit:

- a. Trainer Specialist Hufcut continues to work with Accounts Examiner Lopez regarding Audit procedures and the development of an Audit training program.
- b. Audit course has been completed, waiting for committee review.

5. Compliance with the Federal Accessibility Mandate:

SCSB is awaiting the results of the audit.

6. Annual Reports:

- a. Course Content Review Analysis
Completed and ready for TWG distribution

7. Supplemental Items:

- a. Reviewed and edited, TWG Chair SCSB Training Handbook – Student (Participant) Version.

D. Committee, Subcommittee and Work Group Reports:

1. Audit/Data Analysis Work Group:

- a. The last meeting of this work group was held on January 21, 2026. The meeting scheduled for February 18, 2026, was cancelled by work group Chair Fernandez. The next meeting is scheduled for March 18, 2026.
- b. Summary of Action Items for Audit-Data Analysis Work Group:

Action Items	Description	By whom	Accomplished	Completed date	Note
Procurement Audit Engagement Letter	Review the draft engagement letter and submit feedback.	Work Group Members	<input type="checkbox"/>	Click or tap to enter a date.	
Procurement Audit Engagement Document	Review the draft engagement document and provide feedback.	Work Group Members	<input type="checkbox"/>	Click or tap to enter a date.	
Compliance Testing	Review proposed compliance testing and provide feedback.	Work Group Members	<input type="checkbox"/>	Click or tap to enter a date.	
Annual Report	Review the annual report draft and provide feedback.	Work Group Members and Accounts Examiner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2/9/2026	The Account Examiner provided additional information requested by the work group members.
Requested list of 33 agencies	Compile and submit the requested list of agencies.	Accounts Examiner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2/9/2026	The requested information was provided to work group members.
Policies and Procedures	Provide an update and timeline at this meeting.	Executive Director and Attorney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2/18/2026	

2. Budget Sub-Work Group:

This sub-work group did not meet in February 2026.

3. Privatization Contract Committee:

This Committee did not meet in February 2026.

4. C.G.S. § 4e-36 Contested Solicitation and Awards Subcommittee:

This Subcommittee did not meet in February 2026.

5. Statutes, Regulations, Policies and Procedures (“SRPP”) Work Group:

- a. This Work Group met on February 3, 2026.
- b. In accordance with the action item(s) established at the SRPP Work Group meeting on February 3, 2026, Attorney Felman finalized a preliminary draft of the SCSB’s personal data protection regulations and distributed it to the work group on February 6, 2026.
- c. Staff Attorney Felman also: (a) revised the 2026 mandated regulations reporting table in accordance with the work group’s directive; (b) collaboratively created and refined a regulations promulgation flowchart with the legal team to be distributed and discussed at the next work group meeting; and finalized a preliminary draft 4e-34 Procedural Manual.
- d. Staff Attorney Felman sent the approved SCSB Rules of Practice regulations to the Office of the Attorney General for pre-review and will report on its status at the next SRPP Work Group meeting on March 10, 2026.
- e. The next SRPP Work Group meeting is scheduled to take place virtually on March 10, 2026.

6. Statutes, Regulations, Policies and Procedures (“SRPP”) Work Group Personnel Review Sub-Work Group:

This sub-work group did not meet in February 2026.

7. Statutes, Regulations, Policies and Procedures (“SRPP”) Work Group Chief Procurement Officer Section Committee:

This group did not meet in February 2026.

8. Training Work Group:

- a. This Subcommittee last met on November 14, 2025. The next meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2026.
- b. Review of Action Items for Training Work Group:

Action Items	Description	By whom	Accomplished	Next Due Date	Note
Internal Policies & Progress Policies Review	Review Internal and Progress Policies in the Training Handbook and prepare a discussion draft.	Mr. Ahneman and Attorney Felman	<input type="checkbox"/>	3/13/2026	Last meeting November 2025
Participant Grievance Procedure	Review the Participant Grievance Procedure portion of the handbook.	Mr. Fernandez	<input type="checkbox"/>	3/13/2026	Last meeting November 2025
Handbook Review	Review the Training Handbook and prepare discussion notes, with a focus on grievance procedures.	TWG Members	<input type="checkbox"/>	3/13/2026	Last meeting November 2025
FOIA Course Material	Course review with findings and recommendations.	Mr. Marpe	<input type="checkbox"/>	3/13/2026	Last meeting November 2025

If you have any questions regarding the information contained in this report, please direct your inquiries to Greg.Daniels@ct.gov.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory F. Daniels, Esq.

Executive Director
Office of Governmental Accountability
State Contracting Standards Board