From: SAODLTeamAuditSupport@sao.wa.gov
To: Cato, Carolyn (SAO)
Cc: Smith, Melissa (SAO)
Subject: Auditor Helpdesk Request 7863 Confirmation
Date: Monday, August 27, 2018 3:25:30 PM

Thank you for using the Auditor helpdesk. This is an automated E-mail to confirm our receipt of your request. Your question is #7863. Please do not reply to this message. If you have not received any communication within five business days, please contact Crystal Fenton at fentonc@sao.wa.gov or by phone at (509) 527-4175.

Your question was:
(Please read Background Information) Our county recently changed their financial software which includes payroll. As you may be aware, when you switch to new software often times you are at the company's mercy of setting it up without knowing the ramifications. The company they selected is also the company my department selected for our law enforcement computer. It wasn't until we were actually using the software we started finding "unique" issues. We have had to make numerous tweaks to make the software actually work correctly. Because I have no financial background and have never used payroll software, it is difficult for me to know if the way the system is set up is actually something that is normal in this type of software. It is just difficult to reconcile when you are working off of one set of numbers in actual dollars and cents vs a software program that only looks at numbers. I have provided an example of how our software looks at payroll below. Any help you can provide would be greatly appreciated without getting me into hot water with my Auditor. They are paid based on this: Annual Salary: 34049.00 Monthly Salary: 2837.416667 Hourly rate: 16.370046 Overtime rate: 24.555069 Paystub shows: Monthly: 2837.42 Hourly: 16.37 Overtime: 24.56 For example: If someone worked 4 hours of overtime, they expect to be paid 98.24, instead they are paid 98.22. I realize this is just pennies, but it could add up.

The background information you provided was:
The performance audit team is holding focus groups and met with various counties in the eastern portion of the state on emergency management last week. During our discussion, the Director of Columbia County Emergency Management, Lisa Caldwell, had a question concerning their new accounting system and wondered if other local governments had encountered this issue with the 6 decimal places. The text in "Specify a question" above is from the email that Lisa sent me with her example. Her information is the following: Lisa A. Caldwell (lisa_caldwell@co.columbia.wa.us) Director Columbia County Public Safety Communications Columbia County Emergency Management 509-382-3928 (direct) 509-240-4521 (cell) 509-382-2518 (24/7) 509-382-4765 (Fax) I let her know that someone would be following up with her that works with our local governments. Thank you for your help!!!!

We will do our best to respond to your inquiry as quickly and accurately as possible. Helpdesk responses are not legal or binding opinions and are based on the information provided.