



Auditor of Public Accounts
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Auditor Edelen Announces Plans to Audit Quality and Charity Care Trust

FRANKFORT, Ky. (January 26, 2012) – Auditor of Public Accounts Adam Edelen on Thursday announced his plans to conduct a financial review and management audit of the Quality and Charity Care Trust, which is responsible for disbursing more than \$30 million in state and local indigent care money to University Hospital in Louisville.

“Money for treating poor and uninsured individuals in the Commonwealth is scarce,” Edelen said. “It is my mission to make sure those dollars are being spent in a way that ensures adequate services for indigents.”

Edelen said he hopes the audit will shed light on whether there are adequate resources to treat indigents in the Louisville area and whether the current governance structure provides sufficient oversight of the disbursement of state and local indigent care dollars.

Professional auditors in the office have begun preliminary work. It is not yet known how long it will take to complete.

Jefferson County Attorney Mike O’Connell recently raised questions in the media about the trust’s board, which has not been conducting regular meetings as required by its by-laws.

The trust collects about \$25 million a year from the state and \$7 million a year from Louisville Metro Government and uses it to help cover University Hospital’s cost of treating indigents.

Edelen said he is concerned that questions about how the money is being spent could jeopardize the commitment to indigent care by the city and state.

“In these tough economic times, it is crucial that Kentucky’s most vulnerable citizens have a reliable safety net,” he said.

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The Auditor of Public Accounts ensures that public resources are protected, accurately valued, properly accounted for, and effectively employed to raise the quality of life of Kentuckians.

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