

Arizona State Boxing and Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) Commission

Performance Audit and Sunset Review

Boxing and MMA Commission did not comply with some State conflict-of-interest requirements, issued licenses to individuals who did not demonstrate they met all requirements, and did not have a process for handling complaints

Audit purpose

To determine whether the Boxing and MMA Commission complied with State conflict-of-interest requirements and recommended practices, issued licenses to qualified individuals, and timely handled complaints; and to respond to the 10 statutory sunset factors.¹

Key findings

- ▶ Boxing and MMA Commission is responsible for regulating boxing, kickboxing, and mixed martial arts events in Arizona, including issuing licenses to participants.
- ▶ Boxing and MMA Commission complied with public records law and recommended practices from the Arizona Ombudsman-Citizens' Aide Office and the Arizona Agency Handbook for public records requests we reviewed.
- ▶ Boxing and MMA Commission did not comply with some State conflict-of-interest requirements or follow some recommended practices, increasing the risk that commissioners did not disclose interests that might influence their official conduct.
- ▶ Boxing and MMA Commission issued licenses to some applicants who did not demonstrate they met all statutory and rule requirements in calendar year 2023, including not signing a code of conduct or submitting fingerprints for a background check, but revised its processes to help ensure it does not do so in the future.
- ▶ Boxing and MMA Commission did not have a process for handling complaints.

Key recommendations to the Boxing and MMA Commission

- ▶ Implement conflict-of-interest policies and procedures to help ensure compliance with State requirements and alignment with recommended practices.
- ▶ Ensure that boxing and MMA licensing applicants meet all licensing requirements.
- ▶ Develop and implement a process for receiving and handling complaints.

¹ The Arizona Auditor General conducted this performance audit and sunset review of the Boxing and MMA Commission pursuant to a September 18, 2024, resolution of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee. This audit was conducted as part of the sunset review process prescribed in Arizona Revised Statutes §41-2951 et seq.