

## **Authorities Budget Office Directory of Public Authorities**

### **General Description**

The Authorities Budget Office (ABO) was created as an independent office pursuant to Chapter 506 of the Laws of 2009 (“The 2009 Public Authorities Reform Act”). The independent Authorities Budget Office (ABO) was created pursuant to the 2009 Public Authorities Reform Act (PARA). The ABO and the Act took effect on March 1, 2010. Prior to this date, the ABO existed for four years as the Authority Budget Office pursuant to the Public Authorities Accountability Act of 2005 (PAAA). The mission of the ABO is to make public authorities more accountable and transparent, and to act in the public interest consistent with their intended purpose. The ABO carries out its mission by: collecting, analyzing and disseminating to the public information on the finances and operations of state and local public authorities; conducting reviews to assess the operating and governance practices of public authorities and compliance with state laws; exercising its enforcement powers; promoting good governance principles through training, policy guidance, the issuance of best practice recommendations and staff assistance; and investigating complaints made against public authorities for non-compliance or inappropriate conduct.

The ABO is required by Section 6 (b) of Public Authorities Law (PAL) to maintain a comprehensive inventory of authorities, which are grouped into one of the following four categories:

**State Authority:** A public authority or public benefit corporation with one or more of its members appointed by the governor or who serve as members by virtue of holding a civil office of the state, other than an interstate or international authority or public benefit corporation, including subsidiaries of such public authority or public benefit corporation.

**Local Authority:** A public authority or public benefit corporation whose members do not hold a civil office of the state, are not appointed by the governor or are appointed by the governor specifically upon the recommendation of the local government or governments.

**Industrial Development Agency (IDA):** A public authority or public benefit corporation established pursuant to the authority of Article 18-A of the General Municipal Law or Title 11 or 15 of Article 8 of the Public Authorities Law. They are established by a special act of the Legislature for a municipality.

**Local Development Corporation (LDC):** A not-for-profit corporation affiliated with, sponsored by, or created by a county, city, town or village government is type of “local authority” defined under Public Authorities Law. The most common type of not-for-profit corporations that meet this definition are local development corporations (LDCs), formed pursuant to Section 1411 of the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law. Unlike other authorities, LDCs are not authorized by special acts of the Legislature, but incorporated through the filing of certificates of incorporation with the Department of State. The ABO also uses “LDC” as a generic term to include not-for-profit corporations not incorporated under Section 1411, but which were formed to perform a mission and purpose similar to those corporations formed pursuant to Section 1411. The term “LDC” includes land banks established pursuant to Section 1600 of Not-for-Profit Corporation Law.

## **Data Collection Methodology**

The dataset is compiled annually from information submitted by public authorities to the Authorities Budget Office via the Public Authorities Reporting Information System (PARIS). It is each public authority's responsibility to maintain accurate contact information at all times in PARIS.