2023

Nassau County, Florida

Single Audit Reports and Management Letter September 30, 2023



SINGLE AUDIT REPORTS AND MANAGEMENT LETTER

NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

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SINGLE AUDIT REPORTS AND MANAGEMENT LETTER

NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners and Constitutional Officers Nassau County, Florida

We have audited the financial statements of Nassau County, Florida as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated March 15, 2024, which contained an unmodified opinion on those financial statements. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole.

The schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state financial assistance is presented for the purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

March 15, 2024

JEVIS CHEQU

Gainesville, Florida

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NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS AND STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Grant Agency/Grant Title	Assistance Listing Number	Contract/Grant Number	Ехре	enditures
United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service				
African American Civil Rights of the 20th Century	15.904	P20AP00040	\$	2,749
United States Department of Justice				
Direct:				
Nassau County Adult Drug Court Implementation Project	16.585	2019-DC-BX-0022		71,697
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services	16.710	2020-UM-WX-0225		35,249
Indirect:				
Passed Through Office of the Attorney General of Florida:				
Victims of Crimes Act (VOCA)	16.575	VOCA-2020-Nassau County-744		47,756
Passed Through Florida Department of Law Enforcement:				
2021 Drug Eradication and Special Response Team	16.738	15PBJA-21-GG-00241-MUMU		48,471
Total United States Department of Justice				203,173
United States Department of Transportation Indirect:				
Passed Through Florida Department of Transportation:				
Highway Planning and Construction	20.205	439496-1-58-01 & 68-02		4,367,556
Highway Planning and Construction	20.205	437336-1-38-02		864
Highway Planning and Construction	20.205	437337-1-38-02		667
Highway Planning and Construction	20.205	437335-1-38-02		328
Highway Planning and Construction	20.205	437334-1-68-02		250,299
Highway Planning and Construction	20.205	441241-1-68-02		222,362
Highway Planning and Construction	20.205	441214-1-58-01	:	3,715,718
Subtotal Expenditures - AL No. 20.205				8,557,794
Total United States Department of Transportation				8,557,794
United States Department of the Treasury Indirect:				
Passed Through Florida Office of the Governor:				
Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (ARPA)	21.027	N/A	1	7,188,273
Total United States Department of the Treasury	21.027	.,,,,		7,188,273
Federal Communications Commission				
Passed Through Florida Communications Commission:				
Emergency Connectivity Fund	32.009	079-2020		1,761
United States Election Assistance Commission	32.003	073-2020		1,701
Indirect:				
Passed Through Florida Division of Elections 3/6/2023:				
Help America Vote Act	90.404	22.e.es.100.045		79,862
Total United States Election Assistance Commission	30.404	22.0.03.100.043		79,862
Total Office States Election Assistance Commission				73,002

NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS AND STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Assistance Listing	Contract/Grant		
Grant Agency/Grant Title	Number	Number	Expenditures	
United States Department of Health and Human Services				
Indirect:				
Passed Through National Assoc. of County and City				
Health Officials:				
Medical Reserves Corps	93.008	5 HITEP 200045-02-00	\$	7,346
Passed Through Florida Department of Revenue:				
Child Support Enforcement	93.563	CSOC45		122,780
Total United States Department of Health and Human Services				130,126
United States Department of Homeland Security Indirect:				
Passed Through Florida Division of Emergency Management:				
Disaster Grant - Public Assistance - FEMA	97.036	N/A		134,880
Disaster Grant - Public Assistance - FEMA	97.036	N/A		555,226
Subtotal Expenditures - AL No. 97.036				690,106
Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)	97.042	G0426		65,609
Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)	97.042	CM3290		10,000
Subtotal Expenditures - AL No. 97.042				75,609
Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER)	97.083	EMW-2019-FF-00837		596,421
Total United States Department of Homeland Security				1,362,136
United States Environmental Protection Agency				
Indirect:				
Passed Through Florida Department of Environmental Protection:				
Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation				
Small and Underserved Communities Grant Program	66.442	WIIN		1,284,866
Drinking Water State Revolving Fund	66.468	DSRF4		422,316
Total United States Environmental Protection Agency				1,707,182
Total Federal Awards			\$ 3	29,233,056

NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS AND STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	State CSFA	Contract/Grant	
Grant Agency/Grant Title	Number	Number	Expenditures
Florida Officer of the State Courts Administrator	- Italiine	Trainio Ci	Experiarea
Courtroom 3 Buildout	22.004	CM3068	\$ 473,186
Executive Office of the Governor			
Emergency Management Programs	31.063	A0291	97,066
Total Executive Office of the Governor			97,066
Florida Department of Environmental Protection			
Beach Management Funding Assistance Program	37.003	20NA1	65,631
Small County Consolidated Waste Grants	37.012	SC324	93,750
American Beach Well and Septic Phase Out	37.077	D0237	2,011
American Beach Well and Septic Phase Out	37.077	S0237	2,011
American Beach Well and Septic Phase Out	37.077	SSRF3	2,453,792
Subtotal Expenditures - CSFA 37.077			2,457,814
Spring Lake Estates Drainage Project	37.039	LPA0591	556
Total Department of Environmental Protection			2,617,751
Florida Housing Finance Corporation			
State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program	40.901	19/20	71,338
Total Florida Housing Finance Corporation			71,338
Florida Department of Transportation			
Small County Outreach Program (SCOP)	55.009	430691-2-58-01	13,264
Small County Outreach Program (SCOP)	55.009	438178-1-54-01	13,529
Small County Outreach Program (SCOP)	55.009	438204-1-54-01	53,161
Subtotal Expenditures - CSFA No. 55.009			79,954
Local Transportation Projects	55.039	443400-1-54-01	97,266
Local Transportation Projects	55.039	443400-2-54-01	501,927
Local Transportation Projects	55.039	449196-1-54-01	284,747
Subtotal Expenditures - CSFA No. 55.039			883,940
Total Florida Department of Transportation			963,894
Florida Department of Health			
Emergency Medical Services County Grant	64.005	C0045	6,101
Total Florida Department of Health			6,101
Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission			
Derelict Vessel Removal	77.005	21402	77,500
Total Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission			77,500
Florida Department of Juvenile Justice			
Sheriff Work Ethics and Training - Youth Intervention	80.029	10717	68,303
Total Florida Department of Juvenile Justice			68,303
Total State Financial Assistance			\$ 4,375,139
Total Federal Awards and State Financial Assistance			\$ 33,608,195

NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA NOTE TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS AND STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Note 1 - Basis of Presentation

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state financial assistance includes the state award activity of Nassau County, Florida, and is presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting.

During the year ended September 30, 2023, FEMA approved \$690,106 of eligible expenditures that were incurred in a prior year and are included in the accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state financial assistance.

Nassau County did not elect to use the 10% de minimis indirect cost rate in Section 200.44, Indirect (F&A) Costs, of the Uniform Guidance.

REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND STATE PROJECT AND REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE AND CHAPTER 10.550, RULES OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners and Constitutional Officers
Nassau County, Florida

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Award and State Project

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program and State Project

We have audited Nassau County, Florida's (the County) compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* and the requirements described in the Department of Financial Services' *State Projects Compliance Supplement*, that could have a direct and material effect on each of the County's major federal programs and state projects for the year ended September 30, 2023. The County's major federal programs and state projects are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, the County complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs and state projects for the year ended September 30, 2023.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program and State Project

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance), and Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General.* Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the County and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program and state project. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the County's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

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The Honorable Board of County Commissioners and Constitutional Officers
Nassau County, Florida

REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND STATE PROJECT AND REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE AND CHAPTER 10.550, RULES OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the County's federal programs and state projects.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material non-compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the County's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and, therefore, is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, Government Auditing Standards, the Uniform Guidance, and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General will always detect material non-compliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material non-compliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Non-compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the County's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program and state project as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, the Uniform Guidance and Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material non-compliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the County's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of the County's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners and Constitutional Officers
Nassau County, Florida

REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND STATE PROJECT AND REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE AND CHAPTER 10.550, RULES OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

Report on Internal Control over Compliance

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, we did identify certain deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, non-compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A material weakness in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material non-compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the deficiencies in internal control over compliance described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as item 2023-001, to be a significant deficiency.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

County's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the County's response to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. The County's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

Purpose

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance and Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

March 15, 2024 Gainesville, Florida

NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FEDERAL AWARDS AND STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Summary of Auditor's Results

- 1. The independent auditor's report expresses an unmodified opinion on the financial statements of Nassau County, Florida (the County).
- 2. The audit did report a significant deficiency on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters based on an audit of the financial statements in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. The finding 2023-002 is disclosed in the schedule of findings and questioned costs below.
- 3. There were no instances of non-compliance material to the financial statements identified during the audit of the financial statements required to be reported in the report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters based on an audit of financial statements performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.
- 4. The audit disclosed no material weaknesses but did disclose a significant deficiency in internal control over major federal programs or state projects that are required to be reported in the schedule of findings and questioned costs. Finding 2023-001.
- 5. The report on compliance for the major federal programs and state projects expresses an unmodified opinion.
- 6. The audit disclosed findings that are required to be reported in accordance with the *Uniform Guidance* and Chapter 10.557, *Rules of the Auditor General* as noted below.
- 7. The programs tested as major federal program and state financial assistance projects included:

Federal Programs	Assistance Listing No.
Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027
Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation	66.442
State Projects	CSFA No.
Wastewater Treatment Facility Construction	37.077
Local Transportation Projects	55.039

- 8. The threshold for distinguishing Type A and B programs was \$876,992 for federal programs and \$750,000 for state projects.
- 9. The County qualified as a low risk auditee for federal grant programs.

Financial Statement Findings

Financial statement findings, if any, are reported in the individual reports of the Board and the Constitutional Officers.

Findings and Questioned Costs for Major Federal Programs and State Projects

The audit disclosed a finding for a major federal program and a state project to be reported under the Uniform Guidance and Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*. Finding 2023-001.

Status of Prior Audit Findings

There were no prior year findings required to be reported in accordance with the *Uniform Guidance* and Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*.

MANAGEMENT LETTER

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners and Constitutional Officers
Nassau County, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of Nassau County, Florida (the County), as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated March 15, 2024.

Auditor's Responsibility

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance) and Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*.

Other Reporting Requirements

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program and State Project and Report on Internal Control Over Compliance; Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs; and Independent Accountant's Reports on an Examination Conducted in Accordance with American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Professional Standards, AT-C Section 315, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*. Disclosures in those reports, which are dated March 15, 2024, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

Prior Audit Findings

Section 10.554(1)(i)1., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report. All prior year findings and recommendations have been addressed.

Official Title and Legal Authority

■ Section 10.554(1)(i)4., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that the name or official title and legal authority for the primary government and each component unit of the reporting entity be disclosed in this management letter, unless disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. The County was established by the Constitution of the State of Florida, Article VIII, Section 1(d). The County includes component units as described in Note 1 of the financial statements.

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The Honorable Board of County Commissioners and Constitutional Officers
Nassau County, Florida

MANAGEMENT LETTER

Financial Condition and Management

- Sections 10.554(1)(i)5.a. and 10.556(7), *Rules of the Auditor General*, requires us to apply appropriate procedures and communicate the results of our determination as to whether or not the County met one or more of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes, and identification of the specific conditions met. In connection with our audit, we determined that the County did not meet any of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes.
- Pursuant to Sections 10.554(1)(i)5.b. and 10.556(8), Rules of the Auditor General, we applied financial condition assessment procedures for the County. It is management's responsibility to monitor the County's financial condition, and our financial condition assessment was based in part on representations made by management and the review of financial information provided by the same.
- Section 10.554(1)(i)(2)., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we communicate any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.

Special District Component Units

■ Section 10.554(1)(i)5.c., *Rules of the Auditor General*, requires, if appropriate, that we communicate the failure of a special district that is a component unit of a county, municipality, or special district, to provide the financial information necessary for proper reporting of the component unit within the audited financial statement of the county, municipality, or special district in accordance with Section 218.39(3)(b), Florida Statutes. In connection with our audit, we did not note any special district component units that failed to provide the necessary information for proper reporting in accordance with Section 218.39(3)(b), Florida Statutes. Specific information for the American Beach Water and Sewer District is disclosed in the individual management letter of the Board of County Commissioners.

Additional Matters

Section 10.554(1)(i)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we address non-compliance with provisions of contract or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but which warrants the attention of those charged with governance. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such findings.

Purpose of the Letter

Our management letter is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, federal and other granting agencies, the Board of County Commissioners, and applicable management, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

March 15, 2024 Gainesville, Florida

NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Single Audit Findings

2023-001 - Significant Deficiency - Period of Performance Monitoring

Criteria—Grants typically include a period of performance requirement to complete a grant funded project. Costs incurred outside the period of performance may not be reimbursable.

Condition—During our testing of AL: 66.442 – Small and Underserved Communities Grant Program and CSFA: 37.077 Wastewater Treatment Facility Construction, we noted that the period of performance ended on July 31, 2023, and April 15, 2023 for the programs, respectively. The County submitted invoices for work performed outside of the period of performance in the amounts of \$514,912 (AL: 66.442) and \$1,307,192 (CSFA: 37.077). In addition, there is additional work to be performed on the projects.

Effect—The County has requested an extension of time in order for these costs to be reimbursed. Although it is likely the grantor will extend the period of performance, as of audit issuance date the extension has not been approved and these costs are considered questioned costs.

Recommendation—We recommend management review current policies and practices for tracking period of performance grant requirements to ensure grant funded projects are completed within permitted time frames or extensions obtained from grantor agencies.

Financial Statement Findings

2023-002 - Significant Deficiency - Tracking of Open Accounts Payable Invoices

Criteria—The proper tracking and recording of open invoices at year-end is essential to ensuring that all expenditures incurred during the fiscal year are properly accounted for.

Condition—After final fieldwork was completed, it was determined by management that collectively over 2.2 million of invoices for work performed prior to year-end had not been accrued. This was not identified as part of normal auditing procedures as there was a significant delay from the time the invoices were received, approved, and recorded to the accounting records.

Effect—Had these invoices not been identified prior to completion of the audit, expenditures and liabilities would have been misstated at the fund level, and capital assets and liabilities would have been misstated at the government-wide level. In addition, since these costs were grant funded, an additional major federal program was identified which otherwise would have been omitted from required testing under the federal single audit.

Recommendation—We recommend management review current policies and practices for identifying and recording significant payables that have been incurred at year-end but remain unpaid several months later.



John F. Martin Jeff Grav Alyson R. McCullough Klynt A. Farmer

Dist. No. 1 Fernandina Beach A.M. "Hupp" Huppmann Dist. No. 2 Amelia Island/Fernandina Beach Dist. No. 3 Yulee Dist. No. 4 Bryceville/Hilliard Dist. No. 5 Callahan/West Yulee

> TACO E. POPE, AICP County Manager

JOHN A. CRAWFORD Ex-Officio Clerk

DENISE C. MAY County Attorney

March 15, 2024

Honorable Sherrill F. Norman, CPA Auditor General, State of Florida Local Government Audits/342 Claude Pepper Building, Room 401 111 West Madison Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-1450

Dear Ms. Norman,

This letter is in response to the Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Control related to Grants received and the tracking of open accounts payable invoices for the Nassau-Amelia Utilities (NAU) for the year ended September 30, 2023.

2023-001 - Significant Deficiency - Period of Performance Monitoring

Criteria: Grants typically include a period of performance requirement to complete a grant funded project. Costs incurred outside the period of performance may not be reimbursable.

Condition: During our testing of AL: 66.442 - Small and Underserved Communities Grant Program and CSFA: 37.077 Wastewater Treatment Facility Construction we noted that the period of performance ended on July 31, 2023. The County submitted invoices for work performed outside of the period of performance in the amounts of 488k (AL: 66.442) and 65k (CSFA: 37.077). In addition, there is additional work to be performed on the projects.

Effect: The County has requested an extension of time in order for these costs to be reimbursed. Although it is likely the grantor will extend the period of performance, as of audit issuance date the extension has not been approved and these costs are considered questioned costs.

Recommendation: We recommend management review current policies and practices for tracking period of performance grant requirements to ensure grant funded projects are completed within permitted time frames or extensions obtained from grantor agencies.

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Views of Responsible Officials and Planned Corrective Actions

As noted in the Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards, a deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Additionally, as noted in the *Independent Accountant's Report on Compliance with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes*, it is stated that in the opinion of the Auditor, the Board complied, in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements for the year ended September 30, 2023.

As further noted in the Management Letter, it notes that Section 10.554(1)(i)2., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that the Auditor communicate any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with the audit, the Auditor did not have any such recommendations.

As noted by the Auditor, they recommend the Board review current policies and practices for tracking period of performance grant requirements to ensure grant funded projects are completed within time frames or extensions obtained from grantor agencies.

The Board currently contracts with a firm to provide services to the County for Water and Wastewater Utility Capital Project and related grant/loan administration and monitoring. As part of the review of the grant agreement, the Date of Expiration of the grant Agreement is September 30, 2024. Attachment 1, Section 3 of the Agreement states, "The Grantee shall be eligible for reimbursement for work performed on or after the date of execution through the expiration date of this Agreement, unless otherwise specified in Attachment 2, Special Terms and Conditions." Article 1, Section 8, paragraph g. further states "A final payment request should be submitted to Department no later than sixty (60) days following the expiration date of the Agreement..." and "all work performed pursuant to the Grant Work Plan must be performed on or before the expiration date of the Agreement." Attachment 2 of the Agreement notes these Special Terms and Conditions shall be read together with general terms outlined in the Standard Terms and Conditions, Attachment 1. Where in conflict, these more specific terms (of Attachment 2) shall apply. Attachment 2 further notes, the reimbursement period for this Agreement begins on October 1, 2021 and ends at the expiration of the Agreement. Attachment 3 of the Agreement notes alternate language that the tasks must be completed by, and all documentation received by, the corresponding task end date. As the review of the Agreement appears to show conflicts in language in the document, the County has submitted a request for amendment to clarify the expectation that all costs will be reimbursed for work performed prior to the expiration of the Agreement. The County shall continue its prior and ongoing efforts to enhance its internal controls over our contractor's tracking and monitoring of grants. The County will also continue to provide additional monitoring oversight to ensure projects are completed within the permitted time frames or extensions obtained from grantor agencies as needed.

Nassau County BOCC Page 2 of 4

Financial Statement Findings:

2023-002 - Significant Deficiency - Tracking of Open Accounts Payable Invoices

Criteria: The proper tracking and recording of open invoices at year end is essential to ensuring that all expenditures incurred during the fiscal year are properly accounted for.

Condition: After final fieldwork was completed, it was determined by management that collectively over 3.1 million of invoices for work performed prior to year-end had not been accrued. This was not identified as part of normal auditing procedures as there was a significant delay from the time the invoices were received, approved, and recorded to the accounting records.

Effect: Had these invoices not been identified prior to completion of the audit, expenditures and liabilities would have been misstated at the fund level, and capital assets and liabilities would have been misstated at the government-wide level. In addition, since these costs were grant funded, an additional major federal program was identified which otherwise would have been omitted from required testing under the federal single audit.

Recommendation: We recommend management review current policies and practices for identifying and recording significant payables that have been incurred at year-end but remain unpaid several months later.

Views of Responsible Officials and Planned Corrective Actions

As noted in the Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards, a deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Additionally, as noted in the *Independent Accountant's Report on Compliance with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes*, it is stated that in the opinion of the Auditor, the Board complied, in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements for the year ended September 30, 2023.

As further noted in the Management Letter, it notes that Section 10.554(1)(i)2., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that the Auditor communicate any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with the audit, the Auditor did not have any such recommendations.

As noted by the Auditor, they recommend management review current policies and practices for identifying and recording significant payables that have been incurred at year-end but remain unpaid several months later.

Nassau County BOCC Page 3 of 4

In reviewing the process for the invoices, it was noted that work performed by the vendor through September 30, 2023, was received by the Office of Management and Budget on November 9, 2023. Invoices were subsequently routed to and received in the Clerk of the Court and Comptroller's office on December 22, 2023. The payment was processed timely after receipt of the invoice and made within 90 days of work completion. As the County's fiscal year ended on September 30, 2023, and the payment was made in the following fiscal year for work completed in the prior fiscal year, the expenses were required to be accrued back in the prior fiscal year for reporting purposes.

The County continues to recognize the need for proper reporting and has taken additional steps to identify and record significant payables incurred at fiscal year-end but may be not have been invoiced or paid until the following fiscal year. The County has recently established a Capital Projects Department with an internal Capital Projects Manager for the oversight of projects. Additionally, the County has evaluated and is in the process of acquiring capital project management software to actively manage projects, which includes administration, monitoring, and invoicing.

Sincerely

Chris Lacambra

Office of Management & Budget Director, Nassau County

Cc: Nassau County Board of County Commissioners

Nassau County Clerk of the Court and Comptroller

Taco E. Pope, AICP, County Manager

Marshall Eyerman, Assistant County Manager Robert Companion, Deputy County Manager

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners Nassau County, Florida

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Nassau County Board of County Commissioners, Nassau County, Florida (the Board) as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 15, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Board's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board's internal controls. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Board's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. We identified certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as item 2023-002 that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

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The Honorable Board of County Commissioners Nassau County, Florida

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Board's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, non-compliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of non-compliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

County's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Board's response to the findings identified in our audit and described in the County-wide financial statement's accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. The County's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Board's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

March 15, 2024 Gainesville, Florida

MANAGEMENT LETTER

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners Nassau County, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the Nassau County Board of County Commissioners, Nassau County, Florida (the Board) as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated March 15, 2024.

Auditor's Responsibility

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*.

Other Reporting Requirements

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*; and Independent Accountant's Report on an examination conducted in accordance with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants *Professional Standards*, AT-C Section 315, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*. Disclosures in those reports, which are dated March 15, 2024, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

Prior Audit Findings

Section 10.554(1)(i)1., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report. Corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report.

Official Title and Legal Authority

Section 10.554(1)(i)4., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that the name or official title and legal authority for the primary government and each component unit of the reporting entity be disclosed in this management letter, unless disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. The Board was established by the Constitution of the State of Florida, Article VIII, Section 1(d). The Board includes component units as described in Note 1 of the financial statements.

Financial Management

■ Section 10.554(1)(i)2., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we communicate any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.

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MANAGEMENT LETTER

Special District Component Units

Section 10.554(1)(i)5.c., Rules of the Auditor General, requires, if appropriate, that we communicate the failure of a special district that is a component unit of a county, municipality, or special district, to provide the financial information necessary for proper reporting of the component unit within the audited financial statements of the county, municipality, or special district in accordance with Section 218.39(3)(b), Florida Statutes. In connection with our audit, we did not note any special district component units that failed to provide the necessary information for proper reporting in accordance with Section 218.39(3)(b), Florida Statutes.

Specific Information

The specific information below has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it. As required by Section 218.39(3)(c), Florida Statutes, and Section 10.554(1)(i)6, Rules of the Auditor General, the American Beach Water and Sewer District reported:

- a. The total number of Board employees compensated in the last pay period of the Board's fiscal year as 0.
- b. The total number of independent contractors to whom non-employee compensation was paid in the last month of the Board's fiscal year as 0.
- c. All compensation earned by or awarded to employees, whether paid or accrued, regardless of contingency as \$0.
- d. All compensation earned by or awarded to non-employee independent contractors, whether paid or accrued, regardless of contingency as \$0.
- e. Each construction project with a total cost of at least \$65,000 approved by the Board that is scheduled to begin on or after October 1 of the fiscal year being reported, together with the total expenditures for such project as:

Main Improvement Project \$ 418,313 Sewer Improvement Project \$ 774,455

f. A budget variance based on the budget adopted under Section 189.016(4), Florida Statutes, before the beginning of the fiscal year being reported if the Board amends a final adopted budget under Section 189.016(6), Florida Statutes is \$2,395,470.

The Nassau County Housing Finance Authority and the Recreation and Water Conservation and Control District No. 1 had no employees or financial activity.

Additional Matters

■ Section 10.554(1)(i)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires us to communicate non-compliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but more than inconsequential. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such findings.

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners Nassau County, Florida

MANAGEMENT LETTER

Purpose of this Letter

Our management letter is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, federal, state or other granting agencies, the Board of County Commissioners and management, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank you and your staff for the cooperation and courtesies extended to us during the course of our audit. Please let us know if you have any questions or comments concerning this letter, our accompanying reports, or other matters.

March 15, 2024

Gainesville, Florida

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

The Honorable John A. Crawford Nassau County Clerk of the Circuit Court Nassau County, Florida

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Nassau County, Florida Clerk of the Circuit Court (the Clerk), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Clerk's financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 12, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Clerk's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Clerk's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Clerk's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Clerk's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

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The Honorable John A. Crawford Nassau County Clerk of the Circuit Court Nassau County, Florida

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Clerk's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, non-compliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of non-compliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Clerk's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Clerk's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

March 12, 2024 Gainesville, Florida

MANAGEMENT LETTER

The Honorable John A. Crawford Nassau County Clerk of the Circuit Court Nassau County, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Nassau County, Florida, Clerk of the Circuit Court (the Clerk) as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated March 12, 2024.

Auditor's Responsibility

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Florida Auditor General*.

Other Reporting Requirements

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*; and Independent Accountant's Reports on our examinations conducted in accordance with AICPA *Professional Standards*, AT-C Section 315, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*. Disclosures in those reports, which are dated March 12, 2024, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

Prior Audit Findings

Section 10.554(1)(i)1., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address significant findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report. There were no such recommendations made in the preceding annual financial report.

Official Title and Legal Authority

Section 10.554(1)(i)4., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that the name or official title and legal authority for the primary government and each component unit of the reporting entity be disclosed in this management letter, unless disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. The Clerk was established by the Constitution of the State of Florida, Article VIII, Section 1(d). There were no component units related to the Clerk.

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The Honorable John A. Crawford Nassau County Clerk of the Circuit Court Nassau County, Florida

MANAGEMENT LETTER

Financial Condition and Management

Section 10.554(1)(i)2., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we communicate any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.

Additional Matters

Section 10.554(1)(i)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires us to communicate non-compliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the determination of financial statements that is less than material but which warrants that attention of those charged with governance. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such findings.

Purpose of this Letter

Our management letter is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, Federal and other granting agencies, the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, the Clerk and applicable management, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank you and your staff for the cooperation and courtesies extended to us during the course of our audit. Please let us know if you have any questions or comments concerning this letter, our accompanying reports, or other matters.

March 12, 2024 Gainesville, Florida

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

The Honorable Bill Leeper Nassau County Sheriff Nassau County, Florida

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to the financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Nassau County, Florida, Sheriff (the Sheriff) as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Sheriff's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 6, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Sheriff's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Sheriff's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

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The Honorable Bill Leeper Nassau County Sheriff Nassau County, Florida

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Sheriff's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, non-compliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of non-compliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Sheriff's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Sheriff's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

March 6, 2024 Gainesville, Florida

MANAGEMENT LETTER

The Honorable Bill Leeper Nassau County Sheriff Nassau County, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the Nassau County, Florida, Sheriff (the Sheriff) as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated March 6, 2024.

Auditor's Responsibility

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*.

Other Reporting Requirements

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*; and Independent Accountant's Report on an examination conducted in accordance with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants *Professional Standards*, AT-C Section 315, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*. Disclosures in those reports, which are dated March 6, 2024, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

Prior Audit Findings

Section 10.554(1)(i)1., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report. There were no such findings or recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report.

Official Title and Legal Authority

Section 10.554(1)(i)4., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that the name or official title and legal authority for the primary government and each component unit of the reporting entity be disclosed in this management letter, unless disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. The Sheriff was established by the Constitution of the State of Florida, Article VIII, Section 1(d). There were no component units related to the Sheriff.

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The Honorable Bill Leeper Nassau County Sheriff Nassau County, Florida

MANAGEMENT LETTER

Financial Management

Section 10.554(1)(i)2., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we communicate any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.

Additional Matters

Section 10.554(1)(i)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires us to communicate non-compliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the financial statements that is less than material, but which warrants the attention of those charged with governance. In connection with our audit, we did not note any such findings.

Purpose of this Letter

Our management letter is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, federal and other granting agencies, the Sheriff, and applicable management, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank you and your staff for the cooperation and courtesies extended to us during the course of our audit. Please let us know if you have any questions or comments concerning this letter, our accompanying reports, or other matters.

March 6, 2024 Gainesville, Florida

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

The Honorable John Drew Nassau County Tax Collector Nassau County, Florida

We have audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the general fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Nassau County, Florida Tax Collector (the Tax Collector), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Tax Collector's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 7, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Tax Collector's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Tax Collector's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Tax Collector's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Tax Collector's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

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The Honorable John Drew Nassau County Tax Collector Nassau County, Florida

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Tax Collector's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, non-compliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of non-compliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Tax Collector's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Tax Collector's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

March 7, 2024 Gainesville, Florida

MANAGEMENT LETTER

The Honorable John Drew Nassau County Tax Collector Nassau County, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the general fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Nassau County, Florida Tax Collector (the Tax Collector) as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Tax Collector's financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 7, 2024.

Auditor's Responsibility

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*.

Other Reporting Requirements

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*; and Independent Accountant's Report on an examination conducted in accordance with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants *Professional Standards*, AT-C Section 315, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*. Disclosures in those reports, which are dated March 7, 2024, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

Prior Audit Findings

Section 10.554(1)(i)1., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report. There were no findings or recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report.

Official Title and Legal Authority

Section 10.554(1)(i)4., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that the name or official title and legal authority for the primary government and each component unit of the reporting entity be disclosed in this management letter, unless disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. The Tax Collector was established by the Constitution of the State of Florida, Article VIII, Section 1(d). There were no component units related to the Tax Collector.

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The Honorable John Drew Nassau County Tax Collector Nassau County, Florida

MANAGEMENT LETTER

Financial Management

Section 10.554(1)(i)2., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we communicate any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.

Additional Matters

Section 10.554(1)(i)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires us to communicate non-compliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the financial statements that is less than material, but which warrants the attention of those charged with governance. In connection with our audit, we did not note any such findings.

Purpose of this Letter

Our management letter is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, the Tax Collector, its management, and the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank you and your staff for the cooperation and courtesies extended to us during the course of our audit. Please let us know if you have any questions or comments concerning this letter, our accompanying reports, or other matters.

March 7, 2024

Gainesville, Florida

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

The Honorable A. Michael Hickox Nassau County Property Appraiser Nassau County, Florida

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the general fund of the Nassau County, Florida Property Appraiser (the Property Appraiser) as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Property Appraiser's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 12, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Property Appraiser's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Property Appraiser's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Property Appraiser's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Property Appraiser's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

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The Honorable A. Michael Hickox Nassau County Property Appraiser Nassau County, Florida

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Property Appraiser's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, non-compliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of non-compliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Property Appraiser's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Property Appraiser's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

March 12, 2024 Gainesville, Florida

MANAGEMENT LETTER

The Honorable A. Michael Hickox Nassau County Property Appraiser Nassau County, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the general fund of the Nassau County, Florida Property Appraiser (the Property Appraiser) as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated March 12, 2024.

Auditor's Responsibility

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*.

Other Reporting Requirements

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and Independent Accountant's Report on an examination conducted in accordance with AICPA *Professional Standards*, AT-C Section 315, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*. Disclosures in those reports and schedule, which are dated March 12, 2024, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

Prior Audit Findings

Section 10.554(1)(i)1., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report. There were no findings or recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report.

Official Title and Legal Authority

Section 10.554(1)(i)4., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that the name or official title and legal authority for the primary government and each component unit of the reporting entity be disclosed in this management letter, unless disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. The Property Appraiser was established by the Constitution of the State of Florida, Article VIII, Section 1(d). There were no component units related to the Property Appraiser.

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The Honorable A. Michael Hickox Nassau County Property Appraiser Nassau County, Florida

MANAGEMENT LETTER

Financial Condition and Management

Section 10.554(1)(i)2., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we communicate any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.

Additional Matters

Section 10.554(1)(i)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires us to communicate non-compliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but which warrants the attention of those charged with governance. In connection with our audit, we did not note any such findings.

Purpose of this Letter

Our management letter is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, the Property Appraiser, its management, and the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank you and your staff for the cooperation and courtesies extended to us during the course of our audit. Please let us know if you have any questions or comments concerning this letter, our accompanying reports, or other matters.

March 12, 2024 Gainesville, Florida

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

The Honorable Janet H. Adkins Nassau County Supervisor of Elections Nassau County, Florida

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the general fund of the Nassau County, Florida Supervisor of Elections (the Supervisor of Elections) as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Supervisor of Elections' basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 12, 2024.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Supervisor of Elections' internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Supervisor of Elections' internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Supervisor of Elections' internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Supervisor of Elections' financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

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The Honorable Janet H. Adkins Nassau County Supervisor of Elections Nassau County, Florida

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Supervisor of Elections' financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, non-compliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of non-compliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Supervisor of Elections' internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Supervisor of Elections' internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

March 12, 2024 Gainesville, Florida

MANAGEMENT LETTER

The Honorable Janet H. Adkins Nassau County Supervisor of Elections Nassau County, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the general fund of the Nassau County, Florida Supervisor of Elections (the Supervisor of Elections) as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated March 12, 2024.

Auditor's Responsibility

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*.

Other Reporting Requirements

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and Independent Accountant's Report on an examination conducted in accordance with AICPA *Professional Standards*, AT-C Section 315, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*. Disclosures in those reports and schedule, which are dated March 12, 2024, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

Prior Audit Findings

Section 10.554(1)(i)1., *Rules of the Auditor General*, requires that we determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report. There were no findings or recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report.

Official Title and Legal Authority

Section 10.554(1)(i)4., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that the name or official title and legal authority for the primary government and each component unit of the reporting entity be disclosed in this management letter, unless disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. The Supervisor of Elections was established by the Constitution of the State of Florida, Article VIII, Section 1(d). There were no component units related to the Supervisor of Elections.

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The Honorable Janet H. Adkins Nassau County Supervisor of Elections Nassau County, Florida

MANAGEMENT LETTER

Financial Condition and Management

Section 10.554(1)(i)2., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we communicate any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.

Additional Matters

Section 10.554(1)(i)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires us to communicate non-compliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but warrants the attention of those charged with governance. In connection with our audit, we did not note any such findings.

Purpose of this Letter

Our management letter is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, the Supervisor of Elections, its management, and the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank you and your staff for the cooperation and courtesies extended to us during the course of our audit. Please let us know if you have any questions or comments concerning this letter, our accompanying reports, or other matters.

March 12, 2024 Gainesville, Florida

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