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March 30, 2016

Mayor Doris F. Lujan
Municipality of Inarajan

Dear Mayor Lujan:

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statement of the Mayors' Council of Guam for the year ended September 30, 2015 (on which we have issued our report dated March 30, 2016), 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, we considered the Mayors' Council of Guam's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Mayors' Council of Guam's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Mayors' Council of Guam's internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, in connection with our audit, we identified, and included in the attached Appendix I, deficiencies related to the Mayors' Council of Guam's Inarajan Mayor's Office internal control over financial reporting as of September 30, 2015 that we wish to bring to your attention.

The definition of a deficiency is also set forth in the attached Appendix I.

A description of the responsibility of management for establishing and maintaining internal control over financial reporting and of the objectives of and inherent limitations of internal control over financial reporting, is set forth in the attached Appendix II and should be read in conjunction with this report.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Mayors' Council of Guam, management, others within the organization and the Office of Public Accountability – Guam, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. However, this report is also a matter of public record.

We will be pleased to discuss the attached comments with you and, if desired, to assist you in implementing any of the suggestions.

We wish to thank the staff and management of the Inarajan Mayor's Office for their cooperation and assistance during the course of this engagement.

Very truly yours,

SECTION I –DEFICIENCIES

We identified, and have included below, deficiencies involving the Mayors' Council of Guam's Inarajan Mayor's Office internal control over financial reporting as of September 30, 2015 that we wish to bring to your attention:

1. Compliance with Applicable Procurement Rules and Regulations

Of twelve disbursements tested aggregating \$116,750, the following were noted:

- a. Three items (check #s 345 and 346 of the Host Community Benefit Program Fund, and check #132 of the Senior Center) totaling \$10,406 were not supported by comparative prices.
- b. Three disbursements (check #s 272, 278 and 307 of the Host Community Benefit Program Fund) totaling \$89,632 related to two contracts which were procured through the small purchase method. While the Inarajan Mayor's Office obtained quotes for the services, the contract amount for each service exceeded the \$15,000 threshold which would have required competitive procurement.

These instances occurred due to the absence of formal procurement rules and regulations governing Non-Appropriated Funds (NAF). The Mayors' Council of Guam had established a Task Force to research and clarify procurement regulations applicable to NAF. Currently, the Task Force is in the process of developing a uniform procurement policy.

We recommend the Inarajan Mayor's office continue to coordinate with the Mayors' Council of Guam in its initiative to develop a procurement policy governing NAF that will be consistently and uniformly used by all nineteen districts.

2. Receipts

A report or cash log was not available for one \$952 bingo fundraiser deposit.

We recommend that receipts be issued for all funds received, regardless of activity or amount. In the event that this process becomes impracticable, we recommend that a cash receipts log or an equivalent record be maintained to keep track of funds received. The log/record should contain information as to source, nature and amount of funds received.

SECTION II – DEFINITIONS

The definition of a deficiency is as follows:

A *deficiency* in internal control over financial reporting 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 deficiency in design exists when (a) a control necessary to meet the control objective is missing or (b) an existing control is not properly designed so that, even if the control operates as designed, the control objective would not be met. A deficiency in operation exists when (a) a properly designed control does not operate as designed, or (b) the person performing the control does not possess the necessary authority or competence to perform the control effectively.

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR, AND THE OBJECTIVES AND LIMITATIONS OF, INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

The following comments concerning management's responsibility for internal control over financial reporting and the objectives and inherent limitations of internal control over financial reporting are adapted from auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America.

Management's Responsibility

Management is responsible for the overall accuracy of the financial statements and their conformity with accounting principles used to prepare the financial statements. In this regard, management is also responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting.

Objectives of Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Internal control over financial reporting is a process affected by those charged with governance, management, and other personnel and designed to provide reasonable assurance about the achievement of the entity's objectives with regard to reliability of financial reporting, effectiveness and efficiency of operations, and compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Internal control over the safeguarding of assets against unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition may include controls related to financial reporting and operations objectives. Generally, controls that are relevant to an audit of financial statements are those that pertain to the entity's objective of reliable financial reporting (i.e., the preparation of reliable financial statements that are fairly presented in conformity with accounting principles used to prepare the financial statements).

Inherent Limitations of Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Because of the inherent limitations of internal control over financial reporting, including the possibility of collusion or improper management override of controls, material misstatements due to error or fraud may not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. Also, projections of any evaluation of the effectiveness of the internal control over financial reporting to future periods are subject to the risk that the controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.