

CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

COMPLIANCE REPORTS

September 30, 2021

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 218.415, *FLORIDA STATUTES*..... 1

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*..... 2

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT LETTER..... 5

**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH
SECTION 218.415, FLORIDA STATUTES**

To the Honorable Mayor,
City Commission and City Manager
City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

We have examined the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida (the "City") compliance with Section 218.415, *Florida Statutes*, concerning the investment of public funds during the year ended September 30, 2021. Management of the City is responsible for the City's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the City's compliance with the specified requirements based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the City complied, in all material respects with the specified requirements referenced above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the City complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

We are required to be independent and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to the engagement.

Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the City's compliance with specified requirements.

In our opinion, the City complied, in all material respects, with the requirements contained in Section 218.415, *Florida Statutes* for the year ended September 30, 2021.

The purpose of this report is solely to comply with Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Florida Auditor General*. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.


Crowe LLP

Fort Lauderdale, Florida
June 21, 2022

**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**

To the Honorable Mayor,
City Commission and City Manager
City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Fort Lauderdale, 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 governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida (the "City") as of and for the year ended September 30, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated June 21, 2022. Our report includes a reference to other auditors who audited the financial statements of the City of Fort Lauderdale Police and Fire Retirement System (the "System"), as described in our report on the City's financial statements. This report does not include the results of the other auditors' testing of internal control over financial reporting or compliance and other matters that are reported on separately by those other auditors.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the City'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 City's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the City'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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We did identify a deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as item 2021-001 that we consider to be a material weakness.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the City's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance 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 noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

City's Response to Finding

The City's response to the finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. The City's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

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 entity'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 entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Crowe LLP

Fort Lauderdale, Florida
June 21, 2022

City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Schedule of Findings and Responses
September 30, 2021

Finding 2021-001 – Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards and State Financial Assistance

Criteria or specific requirement: Internal control should be in place to ensure the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards and State Financial Assistance (“SEFA”) is prepared correctly including identification of the proper Assistance Listing Number (“ALN”).

Condition: The City inappropriately listed a grant under the incorrect ALN.

Context: The City recorded approximately \$8.6 million in grant revenue under ALN 97.036 when it should have been reported under ALN 21.019.

Effect: The grant expenditures were not classified properly on the SEFA. Classification under the wrong ALN resulted in a material misstatement of the SEFA.

Cause: The SEFA is prepared by staff in the Treasury Division by reviewing the grant agreements, revenues and expenditures in the City’s accounting system. The SEFA is then submitted to grant coordinators for review. Once the SEFA has been reviewed by grant coordinators, supervisory personnel in the Treasury Division reviews and provides final approval. The grant in question was filed incorrectly as a disaster assistance grant. During multiple reviews, the grant agreement was inadvertently overlooked causing the wrong classification.

Recommendation: Crowe recommends the City implement effective internal control to ensure the SEFA is prepared in accordance with appropriate standards.

Views of responsible officials and planned corrective actions: Staff preparing the SEFA will submit copies of the grant agreements along with the SEFA for review and approval.

To the Honorable Mayor,
City Commission and City Manager
City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida (the “City”), as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021, and have issued our report thereon dated June 21, 2022. Our report includes a reference to other auditors who audited the financial statements of the City of Fort Lauderdale Police and Fire Retirement System (the “Systems”), as described in our report on the City’s financial statements. This report does not include our consideration of the other auditor’s management letter that is reported on separately by those other auditors.

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 Reports 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, 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.

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. Such information is disclosed in Note 1 to the financial statements.

Financial Condition

Section 10.554(1)(i)5.a. and 10.556(7), *Rules of the Auditor General*, requires that we apply appropriate procedures and report the results of our determination as to whether or not the City has met one or more of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), *Florida Statutes*, and identification of the specific condition(s) met. In connection with our audit, we determined that the City 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. It is management's responsibility to monitor the City'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 same.

Special District Component Units

Section 10.554(1)(i)5.d, *Rules of the Auditor General*, requires that we determine whether or not a special district that is a component unit of a county, municipality, or special district, provided 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 determined that all special district component units provided the necessary information for proper reporting in accordance with Section 218.39(3)(b), *Florida Statutes*.

The required information for a dependent special district is fulfilled by inclusion in the Fort Lauderdale Community Redevelopment Agency's (a component unit of the City of Fort Lauderdale) management letter separately issued pursuant to the Rules of the Auditor General.

Other Matters Section

Section 10.554(1)(i)2., *Rules of the Auditor General*, requires that we address in the management letter any recommendations to improve financial management, accounting procedures, and internal controls. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.

Section 10.554(1)(i)3., *Rules of the Auditor General*, requires that we address noncompliance with provisions of contracts, or abuses 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 this Report

This 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 City Commissioners, and applicable management, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.


Crowe LLP

Fort Lauderdale, Florida
June 21, 2022