

County of Ventura
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER
MEMORANDUM

To: Barbara Beatty, Deputy Director Auditor-Controller

Date: October 29, 2013

From: Hortensia Robles, Internal Auditor *HR*

Subject: FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2012-13 INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE REVIEW

I have completed the Internal Quality Assurance Review of the Ventura County Internal Audit Division (IAD) for the period July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2013. The results of my review are summarized below.

BACKGROUND

The IAD, through cooperation with County management, accomplishes timely audits that foster positive change to reduce risk and enhance the economy, efficiency, and effectiveness of Ventura County departments and agencies. During FY 2012-13, the IAD was allocated 8 budgeted positions and issued 18 reports.

In accordance with Government Code Section 1236, the IAD conducts audits in conformance with the *International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing (IIA Standards)*, promulgated by The Institute of Internal Auditors, or where appropriate, *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. These standards provide a framework for conducting high quality audits with competence, integrity, objectivity, and independence. To this end, a quality assurance program has been established to provide reasonable assurance of the IAD's conformance/compliance with the standards. The IAD's quality assurance program includes both internal and external assessments.

SCOPE

The overall objective was to determine whether the IAD's internal quality control system was in place and operating effectively to provide reasonable assurance that established policies and procedures and applicable auditing standards were followed. Specifically, the review determined whether:

- the IAD established and implemented appropriate methods, policies, and procedures to comply with *IIA Standards* and *Government Auditing Standards*;
- the IAD's methods, policies, and procedures were operating effectively for auditors, during the performance of an audit, to comply with auditing standards; and
- corrective action was taken to address findings noted in the most recent internal quality assurance review dated November 13, 2012.

The review included the evaluation of reports and work papers from three judgmentally selected engagements (two performance audits and one financial audit). The review also included evaluation of annual conflict of interest statements, continuing professional education documents, IAD desk procedures,

and applicable auditing standards. The review covered audit reports issued from July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2013.

FINDINGS

Overall, the IAD followed established policies and procedures and applicable auditing standards required by the *IIA Standards* and *Government Auditing Standards*. In addition, appropriate action had been taken to address issues from the prior internal quality assurance report. Such action included updating written policies as required.

This report does not contain findings requiring corrective action by IAD management.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance during this review.

cc: Jeffery S. Burgh, Assistant Auditor-Controller
Honorable Peter C. Foy, Chair, Board of Supervisors
Honorable Steve Bennett, Vice Chair, Board of Supervisors
Honorable Linda Parks, Board of Supervisors
Honorable Kathy Long, Board of Supervisors
Honorable John C. Zaragoza, Board of Supervisors
Michael Powers, County Executive Officer