Management Letter

## **Department of Chamorro Affairs Non-Appropriated Funds** (A Component Unit of the Government of Guam)

Year ended September 30, 2016







Ernst & Young LLP 231 Ypao Road Suite 201 Ernst & Young Building Tamuning, Guam 96913 Tel: +1 671 649 3700 Fax: +1 671 649 3920 ey.com

May 8, 2017

### Management and the Board of Trustees Department of Chamorro Affairs – Non-Appropriated Funds

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the Department of Chamorro Affairs – Non-Appropriated Funds (DCANAF) as of and for the year ended September 30, 2016, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States, and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, we considered its internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing our auditing procedures 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 DCANAF'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 entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or 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.

During our audit, we noted the following deficiencies in internal control (as described above) and other matters:

## **Review and Monitor Prepaid Expenses**

#### **Condition**

We noted that payments for janitorial services during the year ended September 30, 2016 were recorded as prepaid expense which resulted in an understatement of expenses by \$61,000.

#### Recommendation

We recommend that management improve controls over review and monitoring to ensure expenses incurred during the year are properly recorded.

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# Account for Inventory and Cost of Sales

#### **Condition**

During our audit procedures on DCANAF's book inventory, we noted the following:

- The balance of inventory per general ledger did not agree with the inventories as per records maintained by the Administrative Assistant.
- The cost of books sold during the year ended September 30, 2016 was not recorded thereby understating the cost of sales for the year.
- The inventory balance of the Council of the Arts and Humanities had a negative \$6,341 balance.

#### Recommendation

We recommend that DCANAF improve controls over the issuance of or the sale of books. We also recommend that any differences identified between the general ledger and the records be investigated and adjusted, if necessary.

### **Improve Segregation of Duties**

#### **Observation**

Due to the small size of the entity, there is a lack of segregation of duties in the preparation and posting of journal entries and the preparation of the monthly bank reconciliations. The lack of segregation of duties increases the risk that errors will not be detected and provides the opportunity to misappropriate cash and record fictitious entries.

#### Recommendation

Where there is a limited number of accounting personnel, the lack of segregation of duties is compensated by the close review and supervision by management. Management should review the monthly financial statements closely to ensure that the information is consistent with their understanding of DCANAF's activities and investigate any results that differ from expectations.

Department of Chamorro Affairs – Non-Appropriated Funds Management Letter

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This communication is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Trustees and management of the DCANAF, others within the organization, and the Guam Office of Public Accountability, 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 information.

We would be pleased to discuss the above matters or to respond to any questions, at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Ernst + Young LLP