



## Association of Pacific Islands Public Auditors

February 15, 2018

Michael Pai, CPA  
CNMI Public Auditor  
Office of the Public Auditor  
P.O. Box 501399  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Northern Mariana Islands

Dear Mr. Pai:

We have completed a peer review of the Office of the Public Auditor for the period October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2017. In conducting our review, we followed the standards and guidelines contained in the *Peer Review Guide* published by the Association of Pacific Islands Public Auditors (APIPA).

We reviewed the internal quality control system of your audit organization and conducted tests in order to determine whether your internal quality control system operated to provide reasonable assurance of compliance with *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our procedures included:

- Reviewing the audit organization's written policies and procedures.
- Reviewing internal monitoring procedures.
- Reviewing a sample of audit and attestation engagements and working papers.
- Reviewing documents related to independence, training, and development of auditing staff.
- Interviewing auditing staff, management, to assess their understanding of, and compliance with, relevant quality control policies and procedures.

Due to variances in individual performance and judgment, compliance does not imply adherence to standards in every case, but does imply adherence in most situations.

Based on the results of our review, it is our opinion that the Office of the Public Auditor's internal quality control system was suitably designed and operating effectively to provide reasonable assurance of compliance with *Government Auditing Standards* for audits and attestation engagements during the period of October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,



Atmita Jonathan  
Assistant Auditor-General  
RMI Office of the Auditor-General  
Team Leader



Alice Etse  
Audit Manager  
Pohnpei Office of the Public Auditor  
Team Member



## Association of Pacific Islands Public Auditors

February 15, 2018

The Honorable Ralph DLG. Torres, Governor  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Hon. Juan A. Sablan Memorial Bldg.  
Caller Box 10007  
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Governor:


Attached for your reference is the final report on the CNMI's Office of the Public Auditor pursuant to a Peer (Quality Control) Review done by our team of auditors from the Association of the Pacific Islands Public Auditors (APIPA). External quality control reviews of all audit offices issuing audit reports guided by *Government Auditing Standards* (GAS) are required at least every three years. Because of this requirement, your Public Auditor initiated and contracted with APIPA.


Your Public Auditor's office was determined to be in full compliance with GAS for the period reviewed. Full compliance is the highest of three possible ratings issued in an external control review. The report now becomes public information and may be made accessible to any interested person(s). The working papers and other supporting documentation accumulated during our review will be maintained by the Public Auditor's office.

For your information, the expenses of the Peer (Quality Control) Review were borne by the U.S. Department of Interior's Office of Insular Affairs.

It was a privilege working with the staff of the Office of the Public Auditor, most especially Mr. Pai, the Public Auditor. Each member of Mr. Pai's office was most cooperative and helpful to the team and exemplifies the highest standards of the auditing profession.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Atmita Jonathan  
Assistant Auditor-General  
RMI Office of the Auditor-General  
Team Leader

  
Alice Etse  
Audit Manager  
Pohnpei Office of the Public Auditor  
Team Member

Attachment



## Association of Pacific Islands Public Auditors

February 15, 2018

The Honorable Rafael S. Demapan, House Speaker  
20<sup>th</sup> Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature  
P.O. Box 500586  
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Speaker:

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Assistant Auditor-General  
Office of the Auditor-General, RMI  
Team Leader

Alice Etse  
Audit Manager  
Pohnpei Office of the Public Auditor  
Team Member

Attachment



## Association of Pacific Islands Public Auditors

February 15, 2018

The Honorable Arnold I. Palacios, Senate President  
20<sup>th</sup> Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature  
P.O. Box 500129  
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear President:

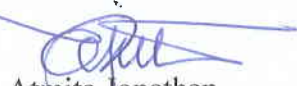
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