



AUDITOR GENERAL

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL/INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIVITY

Quality Assessment Review

SUMMARY

In our opinion, the quality assurance program related to the Office of Inspector General and the internal audit activity, as designed and implemented during the review period July 2005 through June 2006, provided reasonable assurance of conformance to applicable professional auditing standards. Also, the Office of Inspector General generally complied with those provisions of Section 20.055, Florida Statutes, governing the operation of State agencies' offices of inspectors general and internal audit activities.

THE OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Section 20.055, Florida Statutes, requires that each State agency as defined in Section 20.055(1)(a), Florida Statutes, establish an office of inspector general. Section 11.45(2)(k), Florida Statutes, requires that the Auditor General, once every three years, evaluate the extent of compliance by the office of inspector general with the current *International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing* or, if appropriate, *Government Auditing Standards*.

As authorized by statute, the Department's Inspector General delegated internal audit responsibilities to the Director of Auditing and four other positions. The Director of Auditing provided the following information regarding activities performed by these audit positions during the review period:

**The Office of Inspector General
Internal Audit Activity**

| Activity Performed | Percentage of Work Effort (1) |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Auditing Activities (2) | 79 |
| Other Accountability/Oversight Activities | 21 |
| | 100 |

- (1) Direct time charged to engagement activities.
- (2) Includes activities related to performance measures, standards, and procedures for the evaluation of State agency programs.

The Director of Auditing identified 38 assurance engagements and 11 consulting engagements that had been completed within the Office of Inspector General's internal audit activity. Our review included an evaluation of 2 of these engagements (1 audit report and 1 consulting report) and the related working papers for compliance with applicable professional auditing standards. For engagements completed during the review period, the internal audit activity had elected to follow the *International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing*.

REPORT ON QUALITY ASSESSMENT REVIEW

Pursuant to Sections 11.45(2)(k) and 20.055, Florida Statutes, we have reviewed the quality assurance program for the Office of Inspector General/internal audit activity of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in effect for the period July 2005 through June 2006. We also reviewed compliance with specific provisions of Section 20.055, Florida Statutes, governing the operation of State agencies' offices of inspectors general and internal audit activities.

A quality assurance program for the internal auditing activity encompasses the charter, organizational environment, and policies and procedures established to provide management with reasonable assurance that the internal audit activity operates in conformity with applicable auditing standards. Section 20.055(5)(a), Florida Statutes, requires that internal audits be conducted in accordance with the current *International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing (IIA Standards)* or, where appropriate, *Government Auditing Standards*. The *IIA Standards*, as promulgated by The Institute of Internal Auditors, and *Government Auditing Standards*, as promulgated by the Comptroller General of the United States, generally provide comparable guidance for the conduct of assurance engagements. The *IIA Standards* also provide supplemental guidance for the conduct of consulting engagements.

Our review was modeled primarily on the methodology presented in The Institute of Internal Auditors' *Quality Assessment Manual, Fourth Edition*. In conducting our review, we obtained an understanding of the quality assurance program and performed such tests and other review procedures as we considered necessary. Because of inherent limitations in any quality assurance program, departures from the program may occur and not be detected. Also,

projection of any evaluation of the quality assurance program to future periods is subject to the risk that the program may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that compliance with policies and procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, the quality assurance program related to the Office of Inspector General/internal audit activity of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, as designed and implemented during the review period, provided reasonable assurance of conformance to applicable professional auditing standards. Also, the Office of Inspector General generally complied with those provisions of Section 20.055, Florida Statutes, governing the operation of State agencies' offices of inspectors general and internal audit activities.

AUTHORITY

Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 11.45 and 20.055, Florida Statutes, I have directed that this report be prepared to present the results of our review.



William O. Monroe, CPA
Auditor General

This quality assessment review was made in accordance with applicable *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. This review was conducted by Stan Mitchell, CPA, and supervised by Sherrill F. Norman, CPA. Please address inquiries regarding this report to Dorothy R. Gilbert, CPA, Audit Manager, via e-mail at dorothygilbert@aud.state.fl.us or by telephone at (850) 488-5444.

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