National State Auditors Association

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Office of the Auditor General

External Peer Review
for the period
July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012

OPINION REPORT

449 Lewis Hargett Circle ▪ Suite 290 ▪ Lexington, KY 40503 ▪ (859) 276-1147 ▪ www.nasact.org

National State Auditors Association

October 19, 2012

The Honorable Jack Wagner, Auditor General
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of the Auditor General
229 Finance Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0018

Dear Mr. Wagner:

We have reviewed the system of quality control of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General (the office) in effect for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. A system of quality control encompasses the office's organizational structure and the policies adopted and procedures established to provide it with reasonable assurance of conforming with government auditing standards. The design of the system and compliance with it are the responsibility of the office. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the design of the system, and the office's compliance with the system based on our review.

We conducted our review in accordance with the policies and procedures for external peer reviews established by the National State Auditors Association (NSAA). In performing our review, we obtained an understanding of the office's system of quality control for engagements conducted in accordance with government auditing standards. In addition, we tested compliance with the office's quality control policies and procedures to the extent we considered appropriate. These tests covered the application of the office's policies and procedures on selected engagements. The engagements selected represented a reasonable cross-section of the office's engagements conducted in accordance with government auditing standards. We believe that the procedures we performed provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Our review was based on selective tests; therefore it would not necessarily disclose all weaknesses in the system of quality control or all instances of lack of compliance with it. Also, there are inherent limitations in the effectiveness of any system of quality control; therefore, noncompliance with the system of quality control may occur and not be detected. Projection of any evaluation of a system of quality control to future periods is subject to the risk that the system of quality control may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or because the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, the system of quality control of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General in effect for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 has been suitably designed and was complied with during the period to provide reasonable assurance of conforming with government auditing standards.

As is customary in a peer review, we have issued a letter under this date that sets forth a comment that was not considered to be of sufficient significance to affect the opinion expressed in this report.

Stephen Pease

Stephen Pease, Team Leader
National State Auditors Association
External Peer Review Team

Pam Bormann

Pam Bormann, Concurring Reviewer
National State Auditors Association
External Peer Review Team

449 Lewis Hargett Circle, Suite 290, Lexington, Kentucky 40503-3590, Telephone (859) 276-1147, Fax (859) 278-0507
444 N. Capitol Street, NW, Suite 234, Washington, DC 20001, Telephone (202) 624-5451, Fax (202) 624-5473
www.nasact.org