



# External Quality Control Review

of the  
City of El Paso Internal Audit Office

Conducted in accordance with guidelines of the  
**Association of Local Government Auditors**  
for the period September 1, 2016 through June 30, 2019



## Association of Local Government Auditors

January 30, 2020

Edmundo Calderon, Chief Internal Auditor  
218 N. Campbell St.  
El Paso, TX 79901

Dear Mr. Calderon,

We have completed a peer review of the City of El Paso Internal Audit Office for the period September 1, 2016 through June 30, 2019. In conducting our review, we followed the standards and guidelines contained in the *Peer Review Guide for Assessing Conformance with International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing* by the Association of Local Government Auditors (ALGA).

We reviewed the internal quality control system of your audit organization and conducted tests in order to determine if your internal quality control system operated to provide reasonable assurance of conformance with the *International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing (the Standards)* issued by the Institute of Internal Auditors as part of their *Professional Practices Framework*. Due to variances in individual performance and judgment, conformance 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 City of El Paso Internal Audit Office internal quality control system was suitably designed and operating effectively to provide reasonable assurance of conformance with *the Standards* for assurance and consulting engagements during the September 1, 2016 through June 30, 2019.

We have prepared a separate letter offering suggestions to further strengthen your internal quality control system.

D. Lamar Norwood  
Senior Internal Auditor  
City of Raleigh

Crystal Turner  
Senior Auditor  
Mecklenburg County

Yolanda Vanessa Lockett  
Deputy Chief Audit  
Executive  
DeKalb County



## Association of Local Government Auditors

January 30, 2020

Edmundo Calderon, Chief Internal Auditor  
218 N. Campbell St.  
El Paso, TX 79901

Dear Mr. Calderon,

We have completed a peer review of the City of El Paso Internal Audit Office (Office) for the period September 1, 2016 through June 30, 2019 and issued our report dated January 30, 2020. We are issuing this companion letter to offer certain observations and suggestions stemming from our peer review.

We would like to mention some of the areas in which we believe your office excels:

- Work papers are well documented, understandable, and consistent across all engagements reviewed.
- The Office has established a culture and expectation of independence and objectivity within the organization.
- The Internal Audit Office is highly regarded and considered a valuable resource by the organization.
- The Office staff contain highly qualified professionals holding a variety of certificates and licenses which increase the value of their work product.

We offer the following observations and suggestions to enhance your Office's demonstrated conformance to *International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing*:

- Observation 1: Standard 1320 requires the chief audit executive communicate the results of the quality assurance and improvement program (both internal and external) to senior management and the board.

The chief internal auditor communicates that the office has an internal quality assurance and improvement program along with the elements of the review to the governing board. However, this communication does not indicate review results.

Suggestion 1: We suggest the Office include the results of the quality assurance and improvement program in their annual communication to the governing board.

We extend our thanks to you, your staff, and the other city officials we met for the hospitality and cooperation extended to us during our review.

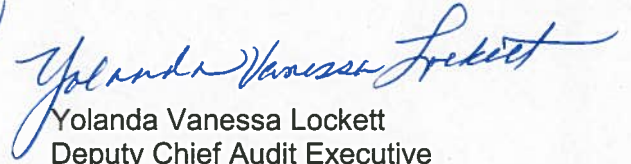
Sincerely,



D. Lamar Norwood  
Senior Internal Auditor  
City of Raleigh



Crystal Turner  
Senior Auditor  
Mecklenburg County



Yolanda Vanessa Lockett  
Deputy Chief Audit Executive  
DeKalb County



## Internal Audit Office

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**Mayor**  
Dee Margo

**City Council**

*District 1*  
Peter Svarzbein

*District 2*  
Alexandra Annelo

*District 3*  
Cassandra Hernandez

*District 4*  
Dr. Sam Morgan

*District 5*  
Isabel Salcido

*District 6*  
Claudia Ordaz Perez

*District 7*  
Henry Rivera

*District 8*  
Cissy Lizarraga

**City Manager**  
Tommy Gonzalez

January 30, 2020

D. Lamar Norwood  
Association of Local Government Auditors  
449 Lewis Hargett Circle, Suite 290  
Lexington, KY 40503

Dear Lamar,

Please accept my sincere thanks to you, Crystal, and Yolanda for all the hard work in completing the Peer Review of our office. I completely understand the time commitment made by you and the team in traveling to El Paso to complete the Peer Review. We also appreciate the positive comments made in your final report.

In response to Observation 1 made in the final report regarding the review of our operation under the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing. Our office will make the revision in our 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Update to the Annual Audit Plan to include a statement regarding the results of our annual internal assessment of our Quality Assurance and Improvement Review. The 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Update to the 2019-2020 Audit Plan will include this statement. Also going forward we include this statement in every 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Update to the Audit Plan.

Regarding the final report under the Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards, we appreciate your rating of pass.

Again, please accept my appreciation to you, Crystal, and Yolanda for traveling to El Paso, TX to complete our Peer Review. I hope you all had a great time and enjoyed your time in El Paso. Finally, special thanks to Paula Ward for coordinating the Peer Review. All of you are always welcome to visit our office and enjoy El Paso.

Very Truly Yours,

Edmundo S. Calderon, CIA, CGAP, CRMA  
Chief Internal Auditor  
City of El Paso, TX

Edmundo S. Calderon, CIA, CGAP, CRMA – Chief Internal Auditor  
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