

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' COMMUNICATION WITH
THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE

TAMPA PORT AUTHORITY

September 30, 2017



RIVERO, GORDIMER & COMPANY, P.A.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Member
American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants

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Cesar J. Rivero, in Memoriam (1942-2017)	

To the Board of Commissioners
Tampa Port Authority

We have audited the financial statements of the Tampa Port Authority, for the year ended September 30, 2017 and issued our report thereon dated March 20, 2018. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. Professional standards also require that we provide you with the following information related to our audit.

Significant Audit Findings

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by Tampa Port Authority are described in note B to the financial statements. We noted no transactions entered into by the Organization during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. No new significant policies were adopted and the application of the existing policies was not changed during the year ended September 30, 2017. We noted no transactions entered into by the Authority during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the financial statements were:

Management's estimate of the collectability of accounts and grants receivable is based on prior experience, historical collection trends and current and anticipated economic conditions. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the valuation estimate in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Management's estimate of the useful life of capital assets is based on historical experience, physical condition and external factors affecting future utility. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimated useful life in determining that the net book value of capital assets are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. Significant disclosures were included in Note H - Long-term Debt and loans payable. The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. None were noted during the audit process.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated March 20, 2018.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Auditors

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a second opinion on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the organization's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, the professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Tampa Port Authority's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Other Matters

We applied certain limited procedures to the Schedule of Tampa Port Authority's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability for the Florida Retirement System and Health Insurance Subsidy Program and the Schedule of Tampa Port Authority's Contributions for the Florida Retirement System and Health Insurance Subsidy Program, which are required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information

for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We were engaged to report on Schedule of Expenditures of State Financial Assistance, which accompany the financial statements but is not RSI. With respect to this supplementary information, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United State of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

This information is intended solely for the use of the Commissioners of the Authority and management of Tampa Port Authority and is not intended to be and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Benicio, Gordinier & Company, P.A." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tampa, Florida
March 20, 2018