SEPTEMBER 2006 REPORT NO. 2007-016



AUDITOR GENERAL

WILLIAM O. MONROE, CPA



DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS 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 one other position. The Inspector General provided the following information regarding activities performed by these audit positions during the review period:

The Office of Inspector General

Percentage of Work Effort (1)
64
6
30
100

- (1) Direct time charged to engagement activities.
- (2) Activities related to Performance Measures, Standards, and Procedures for the Evaluation of State Agency Programs.

The Director of Audit identified one assurance engagement that had been completed within the Office of Inspector General's quality assurance program. Our review included an evaluation of this engagement and the related working papers for compliance with applicable professional auditing standards. For this engagement 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 Legal Affairs 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.

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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 The IIA Standards also provide engagements. 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 Legal Affairs, 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

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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 E. Annette Green, CPA, and supervised by Michael E. McCloskey, CPA. Please address inquiries regarding this report to David R. Vick, CPA, Audit Manager, via e-mail at davidvick@aud.state.fl.us or by telephone at (850) 487-9100.

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