



CALER, DONTEN, LEVINE,  
COHEN, PORTER & VEIL, P.A.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

WILLIAM K. CALER, JR., CPA  
LOUIS M. COHEN, CPA  
JOHN C. COURTNEY, CPA, JD  
DAVID S. DONTEN, CPA  
JAMES B. HUTCHISON, CPA  
JOEL H. LEVINE, CPA  
JAMES F. MULLEN, IV, CPA  
MICHAEL J. NALEZYTY, CPA  
THOMAS A. PENCE, JR., CPA  
SCOTT L. PORTER, CPA  
MARK D. VEIL, CPA

505 SOUTH FLAGLER DRIVE, SUITE 900  
WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33401-5948  
TELEPHONE: (561) 832-9292

850 NW FEDERAL HIGHWAY, SUITE 121  
STUART, FL 34994-1019  
TELEPHONE: (772) 872-2123

info@cdlcpa.com

MEMBERS  
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

FLORIDA INSTITUTE OF  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Communication with Those Charged with Governance

To the Honorable Chair and Members of the Board  
Housing Finance Authority of Palm Beach County  
West Palm Beach, Florida

We have audited the financial statements of the Housing Finance Authority of Palm Beach County, Florida (the "Authority"), for the year ended September 30, 2017. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our engagement letter to you dated July 9, 2015. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you 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 the Authority are described in Note A to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 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 as follows:

- Management's estimate of the fair value of its cash equivalents and investments at September 30, 2017. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to estimate the fair value of cash, cash equivalents and investments and related investment earnings in determining the amounts are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.
- Management estimated that all second mortgage down payment assistance loans receivable (the "loans") should be fully reserved. No reserves were required relative to the collection of notes receivable. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to determine the allowance for the collectability of the loans and notes receivable and determined management's assumptions are reasonable.

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Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The most sensitive disclosure affecting the financial statements was:

- The disclosures related to cash equivalents and investments in Note B to the financial statements.
- The disclosures related to unrestricted net position in Note G to the financial statements.

The disclosures in the financial statements 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 clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to each opinion unit's financial statements taken as a whole.

#### *Disagreements with Management*

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, 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 February 9, 2018.

#### *Management Consultations with other Independent Accountants*

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 the application of an accounting principle to the Authority's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our 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 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.

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### **Other Matters**

#### *Internal Control Related Matters*

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the internal control over financial reporting (internal control) of the Authority as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control. Accordingly, we did not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control.

Our consideration of the Authority's internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses.

#### *Compliance Related Matters*

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Authority's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we did not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

#### *Other Information Included in Documents Containing Audited Financial Statements*

We applied certain limited procedures to management's discussion and analysis, which is required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquires of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquires, 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.

### **Restriction on Use**

This information is intended solely for the information and use of the Chair, Members of the Board and Audit Committee, and management of the Authority and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

*Caleb, Dauten, Levine,  
Cohen, Porter & Veil, P.A.*

West Palm Beach, Florida  
February 9, 2018