MUNICIPALITY OF LARES

MANAGEMENT LETTER
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
JUNE 30, 2016

March 20, 2017

To the Honorable Mayor and
Municipal Legislature
Municipality of Lares
Lares, Puerto Rico

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Municipality of Lares as of and for the year ended June 30, 2016, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered Municipality of Lares internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Municipality's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Municipality's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as discussed below, we identified certain matters involving the internal control and other operational matters that are presented for your consideration.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses.

A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the following deficiencies in internal control to be significant deficiencies:

A. GENERAL FUND DEFICIT

We observed that the Municipality closed its operations at June 30, 2016 with an accumulated deficit of $4.4 million. The Municipality did not meet the collection expectations for the construction excise taxes, miscellaneous income, property taxes, municipal taxes, and charges for services by $415,538, $352,180, $331,529, $208,422, and $185,518, respectively.

Recommendation

Based in the "Reglamento para la Administración Municipal" Chapter II, Section 3, the Municipality have to be careful when preparing the budget to not overestimate income because as the year end, they could or could not have complied with projected expectations, this practice could help to avoid ending in deficit. We recommended to the Municipality to revise and made the changes to the budget taking into account revenues current information.

B. CASH

The Municipality maintained inactive bank accounts during fiscal year 2015-2016. Those were:

ACCOUNT NAME	ACCOUNT NUMBER
Piscina Olímpica	156-059606
Lluvias de mayo	156-059320
Parque de Bombas Castañer	156-05-9657
Lluvias de mayo 2001	13700349
Fema-Lluvias Octubre	16130034
Fondo Repavimentación y Construcción	25489341
Plaza Mercado	156-05-9614
RC 206-09	156-26-5222
Mantenimiento de Carreteras	156-25-0063

Recommendation

The Finance Department should close inactive bank accounts in order to avoid this situation.

The information in this letter is intended solely for the use of those charged with governance of Municipality of Lares and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other these specified parties.

We sincerely appreciate the opportunity to provide services to Municipality of Lares and hope you find the information included in this correspondence useful and informative. If you have any questions or wish to discuss any of the items further, please let us know.

Cordially,

Ortiz, Rivera, Rivera & Co.