MUNICIPALITY OF LARES

MANAGEMENT LETTER
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
JUNE 30, 2017

March 27, 2018

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, 2017, 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, 2017 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, interest, and charges for services by $525,889, 556,977, $250,368, $94,380, and $838,134, 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 the Municipality to revise and make the appropriate changes to the budget taking into account revenues from current information.

B. CASH

The Municipality maintained inactive bank accounts during fiscal year 2016-2017. Those were:

ACCOUNT NAME	ACCOUNT NUMBER
Piscina Olímpica	156-05-9606
Lluvias de mayo	156-05-9320
Parque de Bombas Castañer	156-05-9657
Plaza Mercado	156-05-9614
Em Bono RC 116 y 117	156-224429
Resolución 244-12	156-321319
Resolución 082-2010	156-269597
ARRA Cancha La Matilde	156-274264

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.

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