## Certified Public Accountants A Professional Corporation

Management and The Honorable Mayor and the City Council of the City of Sedona, Arizona

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the City of Sedona, Arizona (City) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008 we considered the City's internal control in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing opinions on the financial statements and not to provide an opinion on internal control.

However, during our audit, we became aware of the following matters that are opportunities for strengthening internal controls and operating efficiency. This letter does not affect our report dated October 19, 2008 on the financial statements of the City of Sedona, Arizona.

We will review the status of these comments during our next audit engagement. We have already discussed many of these comments and suggestions with various City personnel, and we will be pleased to discuss these comments in further detail at your convenience, to perform any additional study of these matters, or to assist you in implementing the recommendations. Our comments are summarized as follows:

## COURT RECEIPTS

Condition Base fine and surcharge amounts were not always calculated correctly.

Context Two of twenty court receipts tested.

Criteria Minimum Accounting Standards for Arizona Courts (MAS) and

internal control procedures.

Effect Noncompliance with MAS and internal control weakness.

Cause Clerical error.

Recommendation In order to comply with MAS and strengthen internal controls, base

fines and surcharges should be calculated based on the rates set by

MAS.

## **COMPUTER CONTROLS**

Condition/ Back-up files were not required to be tested to ensure proper data

Context recovery and business continuity.

Criteria Internal control procedures.

Effect Internal control weakness.

Cause City oversight.

Recommendation In order to strengthen internal controls, back-up files should be tested

periodically to ensure proper data recovery and business continuity.

## ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

1. Condition The City has a policy regarding collection procedures for past due

accounts; however, it does not have a policy addressing bad debt write-

offs.

Context All bad debts of the City.

Criteria Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of

America (GAAP).

Effect An immaterial overstatement of accounts receivable.

Cause The City has not established a policy to determine what percentage of

accounts are uncollectible.

Recommendation In order to comply with GAAP, the City should establish a policy for

determining the percentage of accounts receivable deemed uncollectible. In addition, a contra account to accounts receivable should be established to account for those uncollectible receivables.

2. Condition/

Accounts receivable subsidiary ledgers were not reconciled to the

Context general ledger monthly.

Criteria Internal control procedures.

Effect An immaterial difference existed between the subsidiary ledgers and

the general ledger.

Cause City oversight.

Recommendation In order to strengthen internal controls, accounts receivable subsidiary

ledgers should be reconciled to the general ledger monthly and any

variances should be investigated and resolved.

We wish to thank the City staff for their support and assistance during our audit.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the City Council, management, and others within the City and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

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October 19, 2008