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Finance Department 491 East Pioneer Avenue Homer, Alaska 99603

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April 8, 2024

BDO USA, P.C. 3601 C St., Ste. 600 Anchorage, AK 99503

Ladies and gentlemen:

We are providing this letter in connection with your audit of the financial statements of the City of Homer (the Government), which comprise the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information as of June 30, 2022, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows for the Period then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, for the purpose of expressing an opinion as to whether the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We confirm that we are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation in the financial statements of financial position, changes in net position, and cash flows in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered material, regardless of size, if they involve an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in the light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would be changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, as of the date of this representation letter, as entered on the first page, the following representations made to you during your audit:

- (1) We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement letter dated October 20, 2022, for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- (2) We have fulfilled our responsibility, as set out in the terms of the aforementioned audit engagement letter, for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
- (3) The financial statements include all properly classified funds and other financial information of the primary government and all component units required to be included in the financial reporting entity by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. All funds required to be presented as major funds are identified and presented as such.



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- (4) We have made available to you:
  - (a) All financial records, and related data and federal awards (including amendments, if any, and any other correspondence with federal agencies or pass-through entities relevant to federal programs and related activities), including the names of all related parties and all relationships and transactions with related parties, as agreed upon in the terms of the aforementioned audit engagement letter.
  - (b) All additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit.
  - (c) Unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
  - (d) Minutes of the meetings of City Council, and Committees of Council Members that were held from July 1, 2021 to the date of this letter, or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared.
- (5) There have been no communications from regulatory agencies concerning noncompliance with or deficiencies in financial reporting practices.
- (6) There are no material transactions that have not been properly recorded in the accounting records underlying the financial statements or schedule of expenditures of federal awards (SEFA). The financial statement misstatements relating to accounts and disclosures identified and discussed with us in the course of the audit that are listed immediately below have been corrected. We have evaluated the propriety of the corrected misstatements based on a review of both the applicable authoritative literature and the underlying supporting evidence from our files and confirm our responsibility for the decision to correct them.

#### **Corrected Misstatements**

Item #	Account Name and Adjustment	Debit	Credit		
	Description				
1)	To update final balances related to leases per the TB to agree to supporting schedules				
	Lease Receivable	\$110,944			
	Rent and Lease Revenue	\$16,116			
	Fund Balance		\$37,505		
	Deferred Inflows Related to Leases		\$89,555		
2)	Additional entry to update final balances related to leases per the TB to agree to supporting schedules				
	Lease Receivable	\$379,993			
	Deferred Inflows Related to Leases		\$379,900		
	Rent and Lease Revenue		\$93		



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(7) The financial statement misstatements relating to accounts and disclosures identified and discussed with us in the course of the audit that are listed immediately below have not been corrected. In our opinion, the effects of not correcting such identified financial statement misstatements are, both individually and in the aggregate, immaterial to the financial statements of the Government taken as a whole.

### **Uncorrected Misstatements**

ltem #	Account Name and Adjustment Description	Debit	Credit	Impact on Net Position
1)	PY passed adjustment, identified receivable and revenue for ex reimbursement.	\$90,214		
	Revenue		(\$90,214)	
10	Grant Receivable	\$90,214		
2)	CY passed adjustment: to reverse revenue recognized in the CY that should have been recognized in the CY			(\$90,214)
	Revenue	\$90,214		
	Grant Receivable		(\$90,214)	
Current year cumulative uncorrected misstatements				\$0
Cumula	tive effect of prior period uncorrec	cted misstatem	ents brought	
forward	\$0			
Cumulative uncorrected misstatements adjusted for prior period impact				\$0

(8) You have identified and discussed with us in the course of the audit the deficiencies in our internal control over financial reporting listed immediately below:

	Material Weaknesses	
۸ ۲ د	Deadline for Federal Single Audit - Reporting - Noncompliance and Material Weakness in Internal Control Over Compliance The City did not comply with the required submission date of the data collection form and reporting package to the FAC for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022.	
Significant Deficiencies		
F c	Grant Revenue Reconciliations - Significant Deficiency in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting Reconciliations and related details provided on grant revenue were not completed until 16 months after year-end. In addition, the reconciliations indicated that grant receivable and revenue from the prior year were not recorded until the current fiscal year.	
	Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 87 (GASBS 87) - Significant Deficiency in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting As part of its initial implementation of GASBS 87, management failed to measure the lease receivables and lease related deferred inflows of resources using the facts and circumstances that existed at the beginning of the period of	



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	implementation of GASBS 87. This resulted in adjustments to the lease receivables and lease related deferred inflows of resources recorded in the Port of Homer Enterprise Fund.
3)	Significant Deficiency over the Retention of Personal Identifiable Information and Personal Health Information A portable storage device containing personally protected health information and related personally identifiable information for the affected individuals was removed from a secured location and misplaced.
4)	Review of Reporting - Significant Deficiency in Internal Control Over Compliance During testing of the reporting requirements, BDO noted the one report tested did not have evidence of review before submission.
Cont	rol Deficiencies Other Than Material Weaknesses or Significant Deficiencies
1)	Investment Reconciliation BDO observed that reconciliations are completed for the investment balances regularly. BDO identified that the approval of the reconciliations is not documented. No mitigating controls were identified that would detect whether the reconciliation had a mistake.
2)	User Access Review BDO was unable to inspect evidence that a user access review was performed over the Caselle application.
3)	Super User Access Segregation of Duties: BDO identified that Controller and Finance Director have superuser access in Caselle. BDO additionally identified 2 users with superuser access that were no longer employees of the City. In addition, BDO identified that four finance department personnel, one city clerk, Special Projects Coordinator, Finance Director and Controller, have the ability to post and approve their own journal entries.
4)	<b>Operating System Password Parameters</b> Password parameters were not configured and implemented with complexity requirements to ensure access to the application is restricted.

- (9) We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud or noncompliance. We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud or noncompliance. We have no knowledge of any:
  - (a) Fraud or suspected fraud involving management or involving employees who have significant roles in internal control, whether or not perceived to have a material effect on the financial statements.





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- (b) Fraud or suspected fraud involving others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
- (c) Allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the Government received in communications from employees, former employees, regulatory agencies, law firms, predecessor accounting firms, or others.
- (d) Instances of noncompliance or suspected noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements.
- (10) We have no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets, liabilities, or equity.
- (11) The following, where applicable and material, have been properly recorded or disclosed in the financial statements:
  - (a) The identity of all related parties and all related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware, including revenues, expenses, loans, transfers, leasing arrangements, and guarantees, and amounts receivable from or payable to related parties.
  - (b) Arrangements with financial institutions involving compensating balances or other arrangements involving restrictions on cash balances and line-of-credit or similar arrangements.
  - (c) Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the Government is contingently liable.
  - (d) Significant estimates and material concentrations known to management that are required to be disclosed in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. In that regard, all accounting estimates that could be material to the financial statements, including key factors and significant assumptions underlying those estimates, have been identified, and we believe the estimates are reasonable in the circumstances The methods, significant assumptions, and the data used in making the accounting estimates and the related disclosures are appropriate to achieve recognition, measurement, and disclosure that is in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
  - (e) The effects of all known actual or possible litigation, claims, and other liabilities or gain or loss contingencies that are required to be accrued or disclosed by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, including:
    - Pending or anticipated tax refunds, other potential or pending claims, lawsuits by or against any branch of government or others;
    - Written or oral guarantees, endorsements, or unused letters of credit;
    - Unusual guarantees; or
    - Labor claims or negotiations.

Specifically, the loss of a portable storage device that resulted in the loss of ambulance patients PHI and PII has been considered in representation (25).



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Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require loss contingencies to be accrued if it is probable an asset has been impaired or a liability incurred at the statement of financial position date and the amount of loss can be reasonably estimated. Such contingencies must be disclosed, but may not be accrued, if the loss is reasonably possible (but not probable) or the loss is probable but the amount of loss cannot be reasonably estimated.

- (f) Commitments, such as:
  - Major capital asset purchase agreements;
  - More-than-one-year employment arrangements or contracts with suppliers or customers, or one-yearor-longer term leases;
  - Deferred compensation, bonuses, pensions plans, or severance pay; or
  - Pending sale or merger of all or a portion of the business or of an interest therein or acquisition of all or a portion of the business, assets or securities of another entity;
- (g) Joint ventures or other participations, the detailed transactions of which are not carried on our books.
- (12) There are no:
  - (a) Violations or possible violations of budget ordinances, laws or regulations and provisions of contracts and grant agreements, tax or debt limits, and any related debt covenants whose effects could be material to the financial statements whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the financial statements or as a basis for recording a loss contingency.
  - (b) Unasserted claims or assessments that our lawyer has advised us are probable of assertion and must be disclosed in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
  - (c) Side agreements or other arrangements (either written or oral) that have not been disclosed to you.
  - (d) Restrictions of net position that were not properly authorized and approved, or reclassifications of net position that have not been properly reflected in the financial statements.
- (13) Receivables recorded in the financial statements represent valid claims against debtors for transactions arising on or before the statement of financial position date and have been appropriately reduced to their estimated net realizable value.
- (14) The Government has satisfactory title to all owned assets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on such assets nor has any asset been pledged as collateral.
- (15) We have appropriately disclosed the Government's policy regarding whether to first apply restricted or unrestricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available and have determined that net position is properly recognized under the policy.



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- (16) We have complied with all aspects of contractual agreements, including debt covenants, that would have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of noncompliance. We have also complied with the SEC disclosure rules for reporting annual financial information and material events to repositories in accordance with SEC Rule N.240, 15c2-12.
- (17) No discussions have taken place with your firm's personnel regarding employment with the Government.
- (18) We are responsible for compliance with laws, regulations and provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to us and we have identified and disclosed to you all laws, regulations and provisions of contracts and grant agreements that we believe have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts.
- (19) Components of net position (net investment in capital assets, restricted and unrestricted) and classifications of fund balance (nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned) are properly classified and, if applicable, approved.
- (20) Revenues are appropriately classified in the statement of activities within program revenues, contributions, and general revenues. Expenses have been appropriately classified in or allocated to functions and programs in the statement of activities, and allocations have been made on a reasonable basis.
- (21) In regards to assisting us in preparing and submitting the required form SF-SAC Data Collection Form for the year ended June 30, 2022, based on our records and other information that comes to your attention during the audit, services performed by you, we have: (1) assumed all management responsibilities, (2) designated an individual (within senior management) with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience to oversee the services, (3) evaluated the adequacy and results of the services performed, and (4) accepted responsibility for the results of the services.
- (22) We acknowledge our responsibility for presenting the supplementary information in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United State of America and we believe it is fairly presented. The methods of measurement and presentation of the supplementary information have not changed from the prior period and we have disclosed to you any significant assumptions underlying the measurement and presentation of the supplementary information.
- (23) Required supplementary information is measured and presented in accordance with prescribed guidelines.
- (24) With respect to federal award programs:
  - (a) We are responsible for understanding and complying with, and have complied with, the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance), including requirements relating to the preparation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards (SEFA).
  - (b) We have, in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, identified and disclosed to you in the schedule of expenditures of federal awards (SEFA), expenditures made during the audit period for all government programs and related activities provided by federal agencies in the form of federal awards, grants, federal cost-reimbursement contracts, loans, loan guarantees, property (including donated surplus property), cooperative agreements, interest subsidies, insurance, food commodities, direct appropriations, and other direct assistance.



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- (c) We acknowledge our responsibility for the preparation of the SEFA and related notes in accordance with the requirements of the Uniform Guidance, and we believe the SEFA, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with the Uniform Guidance. The methods of measurement or presentation of the SEFA have not changed from those used in the prior period, and we have disclosed to you any significant assumptions and interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the SEFA below.
- (d) We have notified you of federal awards and funding increments that were received for awards received before December 26, 2014, and differentiated those awards from awards received on or after December 26, 2014, and subject to the audit requirements of the Uniform Guidance.
- (e) We will include the auditor's report on the SEFA in any document that contains the SEFA and that indicates you have reported on such information.
- (f) If the SEFA is not presented with the audited financial statements, we will make the audited financial statements readily available to the intended users of the SEFA no later than the date we issue the SEFA and the auditor's report thereon.
- (g) We are responsible for understanding and complying with, and have complied with in all material respects, the requirements of federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards related to each of our federal programs and have identified and disclosed to you the requirements of federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions considered to have a direct and material effect on each federal program.
- (h) We are responsible for establishing and maintaining, and have established and maintained, effective internal control over compliance for federal programs that provides reasonable assurance that we are managing our federal awards in compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions that could have a material effect on our federal programs. We believe the internal control system is adequate and is functioning as intended. Also, subsequent to the date of the auditor's report as of which compliance was audited, no changes have occurred in internal control over compliance or other factors that might significantly affect internal control, including any corrective action we have taken regarding significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance as reported in the schedule of findings and questioned costs.
- (i) We have made available to you all federal award contracts and grant agreements (including amendments, if any) and any other correspondence with federal agencies or pass-through entities relating to each major federal program and related activities that have taken place with federal agencies or pass-through entities.
- (j) We have received no requests from a federal agency to audit one or more specific programs as a major program.
- (k) We have complied, in all material respects, with the direct and material compliance requirements (except for noncompliance disclosed to you), including when applicable, those set forth in the OMB Compliance Supplement, relating to federal awards and have identified and disclosed to you all amounts questioned and all known noncompliance with the direct and material requirements of federal awards, including the results of other audits or program reviews. or confirmed that there were no amounts questioned and no known noncompliance with the direct and material compliance requirements of federal awards. We also know of no instances of noncompliance occurring subsequent to the end of the period audited.



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- (I) We have disclosed to you any communications from federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities concerning possible noncompliance with the direct and material compliance requirements, including communications received from the end of the period covered by the compliance audit to the date of the auditor's report.
- (m) Amounts claimed or used for matching were determined in accordance with relevant guidelines in the Uniform Guidance [and OMB Circular A-87, Cost Principles for State, Local, and Tribal Governments, and OMB's Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments, if applicable].
- (n) We have disclosed to you our interpretations of compliance requirements that are subject to varying interpretations, if any.
- (o) We have made available to you all documentation related to compliance with the direct and material compliance requirements, including information related to federal program financial reports and claims for advances and reimbursements.
- (p) We have disclosed to you the nature of any subsequent events that provide additional evidence with respect to conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period that affect noncompliance during the reporting period.
- (q) Federal program financial reports and claims for advances and reimbursements are supported by the books and records from which the basic financial statements have been prepared, and are prepared on a basis consistent with the schedule of expenditures of federal awards.
- (r) The copies of federal program financial reports provided to you are true copies of the reports submitted or electronically transmitted, to the respective federal agency or pass-through entity, as applicable.
- (s) We have monitored subrecipients, as necessary, to determine that they have expended subawards in compliance with applicable federal statutes, regulations and terms and conditions of the subaward and have met other pass-through entity requirements of the Uniform Guidance.
- (t) We have considered the results of subrecipients' audits and have made any necessary adjustments to our books and records.
- (u) We have issued management decisions for audit findings that relate to federal awards made to subrecipients and such management decisions have been issued within six months of acceptance of the audit report by the Federal Audit Clearinghouse. Additionally, we have followed-up ensuring that the subrecipient has taken timely and appropriate action on all deficiencies detected through audits, on-site reviews, and other means that pertain to the federal award provided to the subrecipient.
- (v) We have charged costs to federal awards in accordance with applicable cost principles.
- (w) We are responsible for, and have accurately completed, the appropriate sections of the Data Collection Form as required by the Uniform Guidance. The final version of the applicable audit reporting package, which includes your signed auditor's reports, that we will submit to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse (FAC) will be identical to the final version of such documents that you provided to us.



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- (x) We have identified and disclosed to you the findings received and related corrective actions taken for previous audits, attestation engagements, internal or external monitoring, and other studies directly related to the audit objectives of the compliance audit, including findings received and corrective actions taken from the end of the audit period covered by the compliance audit report to the date of the auditor's report.
- (y) We have provided views on your reported findings, conclusions, and recommendations. We are responsible for taking corrective action on audit findings and we are responsible for preparing and implementing a corrective action plan for each audit finding that meets the requirements of the Uniform Guidance.
- (z) We are responsible for and have ensured the reporting package does not contain protected personally identifiable information.
- (25) There have been no known or suspected breaches of sensitive information (e.g., personnel files) caused by cyber-attack or other means, or other cybersecurity incidents, where the breach or other incident could have a material effect on the financial statements, with the exception of the portable storage device, which is properly disclosed in Note 13 to the financial statements.

With regards to the loss of the portable storage device:

- We have informed you of incidents relating to loss of a portable storage device that contained protected health information and personally identifiable information that occurred during the period under audit and up to the date of this representation letter.
- We have determined these incidents to be immaterial to the financial statements and related disclosures.
- Management informed those charged with governance upon notification of this event. Management confirms that these communications continued throughout the duration of this event.
- Management determined these events did not rise to the level of formal investigation by law enforcement.
- We confirm that the City has adequate cyber insurance coverage in place for this event and potential future threats.
- We confirm that the City notified its cyber insurance provider and legal counsel of this event.
- We have informed you of the loss of personally identifiable information and protected health information and confirm that we are not aware of any controlled unclassified information nor classified information has been lost due to this incident.
- We have identified that the result of this incident is the result of human error. We have engaged services to update the City's HIPAA policies and required forms.
- (26) We affirm that expenditures of state awards were below the \$750,000 threshold for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, and we were not required to be audited in accordance with the State of Alaska Single Audit Guide and Compliance Supplement.
- (27) In connection with any electronic presentation of the financial statements and your audit report thereon on our web site, we acknowledge that:
  - We are responsible for the preparation, presentation, and content of the financial statements in the electronic format.
  - If your audit report is presented on our web site, the full financial statements upon which you reported and to which you appended your signed report will be presented.



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- We will clearly indicate in the electronic presentation on our web site the financial information that is subject to your audit report. We will clearly differentiate any information that may also be presented by us on or in connection with our web site that was contained in the published version of the financial statements and other supplementary information, but which is not part of the audited financial statements or other financial information covered by your audit report.
- We have assessed the security over financial statement information and the audit report presented on our web site, and are satisfied that procedures in place are adequate to ensure the integrity of the information provided. We understand the risk of potential misrepresentation inherent in publishing financial information on our web site through internal failure or external manipulation.
- If the electronic financial statements are generally made available to the public on our web site, we will include a notification to the reader that such financial statements are presented for convenience and information purposes only, and while reasonable efforts have been made to ensure the integrity of such information, they should not be relied on. A copy of the printed financial statements will be provided on request.
- (28) Our annual report comprises the following documents:
  - Management's Discussion and Analysis
  - Basic Financial Statements
  - Required Supplementary Information
  - Supplementary Information
  - Single Audit Reports

Such documents are consistent with the financial statements, and do not contain any material misstatements.

- (29) With respect to our participation in multi-employer defined benefit pension and other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plans:
  - (a) We believe that the actuarial assumptions and methods used to measure pension and OPEB liabilities and costs for financial accounting and disclosure purposes are appropriate in the circumstances.
  - (b) We are unable to determine the possibility of a withdrawal liability in a multi-employer benefit plan.
  - (c) We agree with the findings of specialists in evaluating the net pension and OPEB liabilities and have adequately considered the qualifications of the specialist in determining the amounts and disclosures used in the financial statements and underlying accounting records. We did not give or cause any instructions to be given to specialists with respect to the values or amounts derived in an attempt to bias their work, and we are not otherwise aware of any matters that have had an impact on the independence or objectivity of the specialists.
- (30) We have considered climate-related events and conditions when preparing the financial statements and necessary disclosures, and have communicated to you such matters, if any, and their impact on our financial reporting.

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To the best of our knowledge and belief, no events, including instances of noncompliance, have occurred subsequent to the statement of financial position date and through the date of this representation letter, as entered on the first page, that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the aforementioned financial statements or in the schedule of findings and questioned costs.

Very truly yours,

deLumeau, Controller)

(Elizabeth Fischer, Finance Director)