



OKLAHOMA

Office of the State Auditor & Inspector

Cindy Byrd, CPA | State Auditor & Inspector

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January 21, 2026

Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners
Cleveland County
201 S Jones
Norman, OK 73069

In accordance with 19 O.S. § 171, we are pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide Cleveland County (the County) for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Audit Scope and Objectives

We will audit the financial statement, including the related notes to the financial statement, which collectively comprise the basic financial statement of the County, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024. These services will also include the performance of procedures to determine compliance with statutes that, while having no impact on the financial statement amounts, must by law be audited.

We have also been engaged to report on supplementary information that accompanies the County's financial statement. We will subject the following supplementary information to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statement and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statement or to the financial statement itself, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS), and we will provide an opinion on it in relation to the financial statement as a whole in a report combined with our auditor's report on the financial statement:

- Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
- Comparative Schedule of Expenditures – Budget and Actual – Budgetary Basis – General Fund
- Comparative Schedule of Expenditures – Budget and Actual – Budgetary Basis – Health Fund

The objectives of our audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions about whether your financial statement is fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with requirements prescribed by Oklahoma state law, which is a regulatory basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), and to report on the fairness of the supplementary information referred to in the second paragraph when considered in relation to the financial statement as a whole. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements, including omissions, can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment of a reasonable user made based on the financial statement. The objective also includes reporting on:

- Internal control over financial reporting and compliance with the provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and award agreements, noncompliance with which could have a material effect on the financial statement in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.
- Internal control over compliance related to major programs and an opinion (or disclaimer of opinion) on compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards that could have a direct and material effect on each major program in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance).

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement and Single Audit

We will conduct our audit in accordance with GAAS; the standards for financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996; and the provisions of the Uniform Guidance, and will include tests of accounting records, a determination of major program(s) in accordance with Uniform Guidance, and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such opinions. As part of an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

We will evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management. We will also evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statement, including the disclosures, and determine whether the financial statement represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement, whether from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the government or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the government. Because the determination of waste and abuse is subjective, *Government Auditing Standards* do not expect auditors to perform specific procedures to detect waste or abuse in financial audits nor do they expect auditors to provide reasonable assurance of detecting waste or abuse.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, combined with the inherent limitations of internal control, and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is an unavoidable risk that some material misstatements or noncompliance may not be detected by us, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*. In addition, an audit is not designed to detect immaterial misstatements or violations of laws or governmental regulations that do not have a direct and material effect on the financial statement or on major programs. However, we will inform the appropriate level of management of any material errors, any fraudulent financial reporting, or misappropriation of assets that come to our attention. We will also inform the appropriate level of management of any violations of laws or governmental regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential. These notifications will be in the form of audit findings, which will be presented to management during the course of our audit. To ensure the timely completion of the audit, management's written response and planned corrective actions for the findings must be submitted to our auditors within five (5) business days after the audit findings are submitted. We will include such matters in the reports required for a Single Audit. Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to any later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

We will also conclude, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the government's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our procedures will include tests of documentary evidence supporting the transactions recorded in the accounts and may include tests of the physical existence of inventories, and direct confirmation of certain other assets by correspondence with selected individuals, funding sources, creditors, and financial institutions. We will also request written representations from your attorneys as part of the engagement.

We have identified the following significant risk of material misstatement as part of our audit planning:

According to GAAS, significant risks include management override of controls. Accordingly, we have considered this to be a significant risk.

Our audit of the financial statement does not relieve you of your responsibilities.

Audit Procedures—Internal Control

We will obtain an understanding of the government and its environment, including the system of internal control, sufficient to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to error or fraud, and to design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks and obtain evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinions. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentation, or the override of internal control.

Tests of controls may be performed to test the effectiveness of certain controls that we consider relevant to preventing and detecting errors and fraud that are material to the financial statement and to preventing and detecting misstatements resulting from illegal acts and other noncompliance matters that have a direct and material effect on the financial statement. Our tests, if performed, will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on internal control and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

As required by the Uniform Guidance, we will perform tests of controls over compliance to evaluate the effectiveness of the design and operation of controls that we consider relevant to preventing or detecting material noncompliance with compliance requirements applicable to each major federal award program. However, our tests will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on those controls and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to the Uniform Guidance.

An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. Accordingly, we will express no such opinion. However, during the audit, we will communicate to management and those charged with governance internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under AICPA professional standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance.

Audit Procedures—Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of the County's compliance with provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and agreements, including grant agreements. However, the objective of those procedures will not be to provide an opinion on overall compliance and we will not express such an opinion in our report on compliance issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

The Uniform Guidance requires that we also plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the County has complied with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards applicable to major programs. Our procedures will consist of tests of transactions and other applicable procedures described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* for the types of compliance requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each of the County's major programs. For federal programs that are included in the 2024 Compliance Supplement, our compliance and internal control procedures will relate to the compliance requirements that the 2024 Compliance Supplement identifies as being subject to audit. The purpose of these procedures will be to express an opinion on the County's compliance with requirements applicable to each of its major programs in our report on compliance issued pursuant to the Uniform Guidance.

Audit Procedures – Statutory

We will perform procedures to ensure that the County has complied with statutes related to inmate trust fund, sheriff commissary, court fund, and equipment. Noncompliance with these statutes would have no effect on the amounts reported on the financial statement. Therefore, the procedures will not be a part of our audit, no standards will be followed in their performance and our opinion on the financial statement will not encompass these areas. Any noncompliance noted will be communicated to management as findings. These findings, with management's responses, will be reported in the section "Other Findings" in our audit report.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statement and Single Audit

Our audit will be conducted on the basis that you acknowledge and understand your responsibility for (1) designing, implementing, establishing, and maintaining effective internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statement that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, including internal controls over federal awards, and for evaluating and monitoring ongoing activities to help ensure that appropriate goals and objectives are met; (2) following laws and regulations; (3) ensuring that there is reasonable assurance that government programs are administered in compliance with compliance requirements; and (4) ensuring that management and financial information is reliable and properly reported. Management is also responsible for implementing systems designed to achieve compliance with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements. You are also responsible for the selection and application of accounting principles; for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and all accompanying information in conformity with requirements prescribed by Oklahoma state law, which is a regulatory basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America with the oversight of those charged with governance; and for compliance with applicable laws and regulations (including federal statutes), rules, and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements (including award agreements).

Your responsibilities also include identifying significant contractor relationships in which the contractor has responsibility for program compliance and for the accuracy and completeness of that information.

You are also responsible for making drafts of financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, all financial records, and related information available to us and for the accuracy and completeness of that information (including information from outside of the general and subsidiary ledgers). You are also responsible for providing us with (1) access to all information of which you are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement, such as records, documentation, identification of all related parties and all related-party relationships and transactions, and other matters; (2) access to personnel, accounts, books, records, supporting documentation, and other information as needed to perform an audit under the Uniform Guidance; (3) additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit; and (4) unrestricted access to persons within the government from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence. It is your responsibility to ensure vendors, subcontractors, and other entities with contractual relationships with the County comply with our requests for additional, supporting documentation if we deem such documentation necessary to fulfill our responsibilities. Your responsibilities also include identifying significant vendor relationships in which the vendor has responsibility for program compliance and for the accuracy and completeness of that information. At the conclusion of our audit, we will require certain written representations from you about the financial statement; schedule of expenditures of federal awards; federal award programs; compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements; and related matters.

Your responsibilities include adjusting the financial statement to correct material misstatements and confirming to us in the management representation letter that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statement as a whole.

You are responsible for the design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud, and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud affecting the government involving (1) management, (2) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (3) others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statement. Your responsibilities include informing us of your knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the government received in communications from employees, former employees, grantors, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for identifying and ensuring that the government complies with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants. You are also responsible for taking timely and appropriate steps to remedy fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements that we report. Additionally, as required by the Uniform Guidance, it is management's responsibility to evaluate and monitor noncompliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards; take prompt action when instances of noncompliance are identified including noncompliance identified in audit findings; promptly follow up and take corrective action on reported audit findings; and prepare a summary schedule of prior audit findings and a separate corrective action plan. The summary schedule of prior audit findings should be available for our review on February 27, 2026.

You are responsible for identifying all federal awards received and understanding and complying with the compliance requirements and for the preparation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards (including notes and noncash assistance received, and COVID-19-related concepts, such as lost revenues, if applicable) in conformity with the Uniform Guidance. You agree to include our report on the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in any document that contains, and indicates that we have reported on, the schedule of expenditures of federal awards. You also agree to include the audited financial statement with any presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards that includes our report thereon. Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the written representation letter that (1) you are responsible for presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in accordance with the Uniform Guidance; (2) you believe the schedule of expenditures of federal awards, including its form and content, is stated fairly in accordance with the Uniform Guidance; (3) the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or, if they have changed, the reasons for such changes); and (4) you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards.

You are also responsible for the preparation of the other supplementary information, which we have been engaged to report on, in conformity with requirements prescribed by Oklahoma state law, which is a regulatory basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. You agree to include our report on the supplementary information in any document that contains, and indicates that we have reported on, the supplementary information. You also agree to include the audited financial statement with any presentation of the supplementary information that includes our report thereon.

Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the written representation letter that (1) you are responsible for presentation of the supplementary information in accordance with state statute; (2) you believe the supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with state statute; (3) the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or, if they have changed, the reasons for such changes); and (4) you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the supplementary information.

You are responsible for including all informative disclosures that are appropriate for the regulatory basis of accounting. Those disclosures will include (1) a description of the regulatory basis of accounting, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and how the regulatory basis of accounting differs from GAAP; (2) informative disclosures similar to those required by GAAP; and (3) additional disclosures beyond those specifically required that may be necessary for the financial statement to achieve fair presentation.

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining a process for tracking the status of audit findings and recommendations. Management is also responsible for identifying and providing report copies of previous financial audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or other studies related to the objectives discussed in the Audit Scope and Objectives section of this letter. This responsibility includes relaying to us corrective actions taken to address significant findings and recommendations resulting from those audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or studies. You are also responsible for providing management's views on our current findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as your planned corrective actions, for the report, and for the timing and format for providing that information.

With regard to the electronic dissemination of audited financial statements, including financial statements published electronically on your website, you understand that electronic sites are a means to distribute information and, therefore, we are not required to read the information contained in these sites or to consider the consistency of other information in the electronic site with the original document.

Engagement Administration, Fees, and Other

At the conclusion of the engagement, we will complete the appropriate sections of the Data Collection Form that summarizes our audit findings. It is management's responsibility to submit the reporting package (including financial statement, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, summary schedule of prior audit findings, auditors' report, and a corrective action plan) along with the Data Collection Form to the federal audit clearinghouse. We will coordinate with you the electronic submission and certification. The Data Collection Form and the reporting package must be submitted within the earlier of 30 calendar days after receipt of the auditor's report or nine months after the end of the audit period.

The audit documentation for this engagement will be retained for a minimum of five years after the report release date or for any additional period requested by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, State Attorney General, or other legislative body. If we are aware that a federal awarding agency, pass-through entity, or auditee is contesting an audit finding, we will contact the party(ies) contesting the audit finding for guidance prior to destroying the audit documentation.

John Brownell is the engagement team manager and is responsible for supervising the engagement. They may be reached at jbrownell@sai.ok.gov or 405-713-1833 with any questions or concerns. Should the engagement team manager change during the audit, we will communicate this directly to management and those charged with governance.

Our fee for these services will be at our standard hourly rates plus travel. Our standard hourly rates vary according to the degree of responsibility involved and the experience level of the personnel assigned to your audit. The balance in your audit account should be encumbered at this time. Our invoices for these fees will be rendered each month as work progresses and are payable on presentation.

Reporting

In accordance with state statute, *Government Auditing Standards*, and our office policy, the audit report will be distributed to the Governor, the Attorney General, appropriate officials of the County, and to all officials with oversight authority. Copies will be filed with the State's Library Clearinghouse, and the report will be posted to the State Auditor and Inspector's website.

We will issue written reports upon completion of our Single Audit. Our reports will be addressed to the officers of the County. Circumstances may arise in which our report may differ from its expected form and content based on the results of our audit.

Depending on the nature of these circumstances, it may be necessary for us to modify our opinions, add a separate section, or add an emphasis-of-matter or other-matter paragraph to our auditor's report, or if necessary, withdraw from this engagement. If our opinions are other than unmodified, we will discuss the reasons with you in advance. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit or are unable to form or have not formed opinions, we may decline to express opinions or issue reports, or we may withdraw from this engagement.

The *Government Auditing Standards* report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters will state that (1) the purpose of the report is solely to describe the scope of testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance, and (2) the report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. The Uniform Guidance report on internal control over compliance will state that the purpose of the report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Both reports will state that the report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Government Auditing Standards require that we provide you with a copy of our most recent external peer review report and any subsequent reports received during the contract period. Accordingly, our 2023 peer review report accompanies this letter.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to the County and believe this letter accurately summarizes the significant terms of our engagement. If you have any questions, please let us know. If you agree with the terms of our engagement as described in this letter, please sign the enclosed copy and return it to us.

Sincerely,

Cindy Byrd

CINDY BYRD, CPA
Oklahoma State Auditor & Inspector

* * * * *

Jammy Richards

Individual Designated to Oversee Financial Statement Preparation

Title:

Treasurer

RESPONSE:

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of the County.

Jim

Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners

1/21/26

Date

Jammy Richards

Treasurer

1/21/26

Date

Sam Hawlett

County Clerk

2/2/26

Date



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An Affiliate of NASACT

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PEER REVIEW REPORT July 21, 2023

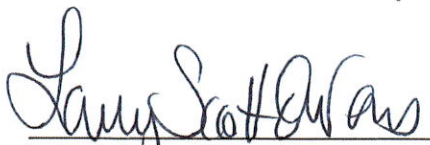
The Honorable Cindy Byrd, CPA
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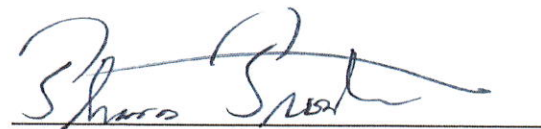
We have reviewed the system of quality control of Oklahoma Office of the State Auditor & Inspector (the office) in effect for the period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 and for the 2021 State of Oklahoma ACFR audit released on January 26, 2022. A system of quality control encompasses the office's organizational structure and the policies adopted and procedures established to provide it with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. The design of the system and compliance with it are the responsibility of the office. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the design of the system and the office's compliance with the system based on our review.

We conducted our review in accordance with the policies and procedures for external peer reviews established by the National State Auditors Association (NSAA). In performing our review, we obtained an understanding of the office's system of quality control for engagements conducted in accordance with professional standards. In addition, we tested compliance with the office's quality control policies and procedures to the extent we considered appropriate. These tests covered the application of the office's policies and procedures on selected engagements. The engagements selected represented a reasonable cross-section of the office's engagements conducted in accordance with professional standards. We believe that the procedures we performed provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Our review was based on selective tests; therefore it would not necessarily disclose all design matters in the system of quality control or all compliance matters with the system. Also, there are inherent limitations in the effectiveness of any system of quality control; therefore, noncompliance with the system of quality control may occur and not be detected. Projection of any evaluation of a system of quality control to future periods is subject to the risk that the system of quality control may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or because the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, the system of quality control of the Office of the State Auditor & Inspector in effect for the period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 and for the 2021 State of Oklahoma ACFR has been suitably designed and was complied with during the period to provide the audit organization with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with *Government Auditing Standards* in all material respects. Audit organizations can receive a rating of *pass*, *pass with deficiency(ies)*, or *fail*. The **Oklahoma Office of the State Auditor & Inspector has received a peer review rating of *pass*.**


L. Scott Owens, CIA, CGAP, MPA
Concurring Reviewer
External Peer Review Team
National State Auditors Association


Thomas Troutman, CPA, CIA, CGFM
Team Leader
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