



STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF CITRUS

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MARTIN McKENNA
CHAIRMAN
FLORIDA CITRUS COMMISSION

August 14, 2013

Mr. Douglas Ackerman
Florida Department of Citrus
605 E. Main Street
Bartow, FL 33830

Dear Mr. Ackerman,

In accordance with Section 20.055(7), Florida Statutes, I am submitting the Annual Report for the Office of Inspector General for fiscal year 2012-13.

As you are aware, our inspector general position was vacant last year, therefore no report was filed for fiscal year 2011-12. This report covers the six-month period January 1, 2013 through June 30, 2013, those months that I have held the inspector general title.

I look forward to serving the Department and the Florida citrus industry in support of the FDOC values statement, Accountability, in the upcoming year.

Respectfully submitted,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Debra J. Funkhouser.

Debra J. Funkhouser
Inspector General

Enclosure

c: Melinda Miguel, Chief Inspector General

Maximize consumer demand for Florida citrus products to ensure the sustainability and economic well-being of the Florida citrus grower, the citrus industry and the State of Florida.

The Florida Department of Citrus is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Agency.

Office of Inspector General

Annual Report, 2012-13

Introduction

The Office of the Inspector General, under the authority of Section 20.055, Florida Statutes, is responsible to promote accountability, integrity, and efficiency. Duties include conducting audits, reviews, and investigations; assessing the reliability and validity of performance measures and standards; and the promotion of economy and efficiency and the administration of other activities designed to prevent fraud and abuse within the Department.

Section 20.055, F.S. also requires that an annual report be submitted to the department head not later than September 30 each year, summarizing the activities during the preceding fiscal year. This document is presented to the Executive Director in support of fiscal year 2012-13.

Background

The Department of Citrus has a one-person Inspector General office. The position of inspector general was vacant from October 2011 through December 2012, at which time the Comptroller of the Department was appointed to the position. A Memo of Understanding was executed with the Executive Office of the Governor, State of Florida (EOG), and the Florida Citrus Commission (Commission) which outlines restrictions on activities during the first year of the current inspector general's tenure by virtue of previous responsibilities, and also outlines the oversight to be provided by the EOG Chief Inspector General's (CIG) office to preserve the independence of the Office of the Inspector General for the Department.

Activities

A review of recent internal and external audits revealed that all findings and recommendations had been implemented as suggested. The fraud policy of the Department was reviewed and updated to include requirements under a federal funding program; it is endorsed by the Executive Director. The audit charter was also updated and approved by the Florida Citrus Commission. Consulting activities supported the transition to a new Comptroller.

A consulting service to review the Department's scientific research activities was begun during the latter part of 2012-13 and is expected to be finalized in the 2013-14 fiscal year.

A risk assessment was conducted with input by executive staff, Florida Citrus Commission members, and the EOG CIG; the results were used to develop the Department's audit plan for 2013-14. Audits of contract vendors will commence January 2014.

Assistance was provided to auditor general staff in conducting the periodic audit of the Department for the audit period July 1, 2011 through February 28, 2013. A final report was provided in August 2013.

Other Comments

No investigations were conducted during fiscal year 2012-13.

