



City of Houston

Ronald C. Green
City Controller

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Controller's Audit Division Receives Positive Audit Findings

"Who's auditing the auditors?"

Houston TX--The Association of Local Government Auditors (ALGA) has completed a peer review of the City of Houston Controller's Office Audit Division. The review covered the period July 1, 2010 through July 31, 2013. Certified and trained audit management from the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transit Authority, Los Angeles Police Department, California Association of Governments and the Palm Beach, Florida, Clerk & Comptroller performed the detailed test work.

The objective of the Controller's Office requesting the peer review was to provide assurance on compliance with professional standards under both Government Auditing Standards (GAS)—the "Yellow Book"—promulgated by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) *and* the Standards issued by the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA)—the "Red Book"—as required under Article VIII, Section 7 of the City of Houston Charter contained within the Municipal Code of Ordinances.

There were separate reports issued to communicate the results for each set of standards – both concluded that the Audit Division is in full compliance/conformance and has *"an internal system of quality control designed and operating effectively to reasonably assure continued compliance."*

Specifically, the peer review cited the Houston Controller's Office Audit Division for excelling in:

- Staff certifications and wealth of professional audit experience;
- A comprehensive annual enterprise risk assessment process and annual audit plan;
- The detailed policies and procedures manual;
- Risk based annual Audit Follow Up process.

“The Audit Division continues to excel in aiding City departments locate savings in contracts, businesses practices and administrative procedures,” says Houston City Controller Ronald Green. “It is always good to receive a ‘Job well done!’ from your peers in other municipalities.”

In performing the peer review, the audit team reviewed the Controller’s Office Audit Division’s strategic vision and business plan; written policies and procedures; internal monitoring procedures; and validated a sample of audit engagement reports, detailed working papers, and documents relating to staff development and training. The team also interviewed the city controller, city auditor and auditing staff.

The Office of the City Controller’s Audit Division’s first peer review was performed in July 2010 which also resulted in the determination of being in compliance and conformance with professional standards—per Red Book and Yellow Book, which are published by the Government Accounting Office concerning Federal fiscal law—for the period of July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010.

The Office of the City Controller’s Audit Division is a member of ALGA, which offers a reciprocal agreement to provide compliance reviews on affiliated organizations at a significantly reduced cost. Using the membership affiliation to perform the review yielded a minimum savings of approximately \$25,000.

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Ronald C. Green was elected Houston City Controller in December 2009, after serving three terms as a Council Member At Large on Houston’s City Council where he also served as Chair of the Budget and Fiscal Affairs Committee. He was re-elected to his third and final term as Controller in November 2013. Green earned both a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Houston, as well as a law degree from Texas Southern University’s Thurgood Marshall School of Law. He is licensed to practice law in the State of Texas, the District of Columbia, the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals and the United States Supreme Court. Green is also a licensed real estate broker.