

NEFF & RICCI LLP

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
6100 UPTOWN BLVD. NE SUITE #400
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87110

Independent Auditors' Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance With *Government Auditing Standards*

The Honorable Martin Chavez, Mayor and
Members of City Council and
Mr. Domingo Martinez, CGFM
New Mexico State Auditor
Santa Fe, New Mexico

We have audited the financial statements of the City of Albuquerque, New Mexico (the "City") as of and for the year ended June 30, 2002, and have issued our report thereon dated December 2, 2002. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the City's general purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statements amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the City's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. However, we noted certain matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be reportable conditions. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control over financial reporting that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the City's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data consistent with the assertions of

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management in the financial statements. Reportable conditions are described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as items 01-07 to 01-12, 01-17, 02-01 to 02-29.

A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, we believe none of the reportable conditions described above is a material weakness.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the City, the State Auditor and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Neff + Ricci LLP". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Albuquerque, New Mexico
December 2, 2002