

Gould Killian CPA Group, P.A.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS AND CONSULTANTS

Report On Compliance With Requirements Applicable To Each Major Federal Program And Internal Control Over Compliance In Accordance With OMB Circular A-133 And The State Single Audit Implementation Act

To the Board of Commissioners
Buncombe County, North Carolina

Compliance

We have audited the compliance of Buncombe County, North Carolina, with the types of compliance requirements described in the *U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement* and the *Audit Manual for Governmental Auditors in North Carolina*, issued by the Local Government Commission, that are applicable to each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2008. Buncombe County's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. Compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants applicable to each of its major federal programs is the responsibility of Buncombe County's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on Buncombe County's compliance based on our audit.

Buncombe County's financial statements include the operations of the Asheville Regional Airport Authority, which received \$2,274,602 in federal awards which is not included in the accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal and state awards for the year ended June 30, 2008. Our audit, described below, did not include operations of the Asheville Regional Airport Authority because the Authority engaged other auditors to perform an audit in accordance with OMB Circular A-133.

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*, and the State Single Audit Implementation Act. Those standards, OMB Circular A-133, and the State Single Audit Implementation Act require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about Buncombe County's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our audit does not provide a legal determination on Buncombe County's compliance with those requirements.

In our opinion, Buncombe County complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referred to above that are applicable to each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2008. However, the results of our auditing procedures disclosed instances of noncompliance with those requirements that are required to be reported in accordance with OMB Circular A-133 and the State Single Audit Implementation Act, and which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as items 08-3 and 08-4.

Internal Control Over Compliance

The management of Buncombe County is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants applicable to federal programs. In planning and performing our audit, we considered Buncombe County's internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over compliance.

Our consideration of the internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses as defined below. However, as we discussed below, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

A control deficiency in an entity's internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies that adversely affects the entity's ability to administer a federal program such that there is more than a remote likelihood that noncompliance with a type of a compliance requirement of a federal program that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the County's internal control. We consider the deficiencies in internal control over compliance described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as items 08-3 and 08-4 to be significant deficiencies.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented or detected by the County's internal control. We did not consider any of the deficiencies described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs to be material weaknesses.

Buncombe County's response to the findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. We did not audit the County's response and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

This report is intended for the information of the audit committee, management, members of the Board of Commissioners, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Donald Killian CPA Group, P.A.

Asheville, North Carolina
October 31, 2008