

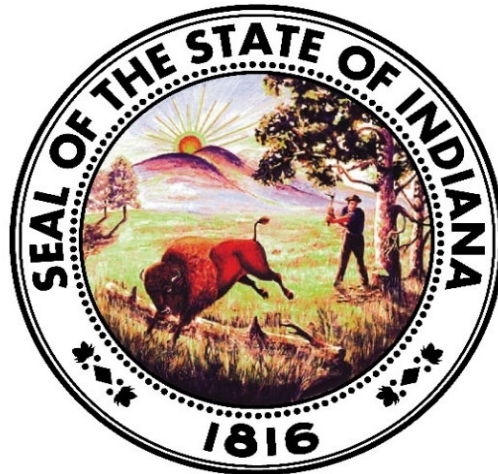
STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS
302 West Washington Street
Room E418
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-2769

FEDERAL COMPLIANCE AUDIT REPORT

OF

HANCOCK COUNTY, INDIANA

January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022



FILED
06/20/2023

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SCHEDULE OF OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
County Auditor	Debra A. Carnes	01-01-22 to 12-31-23
County Treasurer	Jane Klemme	01-01-22 to 12-31-23
Clerk of the Circuit Court	Lisa Lofgreen	01-01-22 to 12-31-23
County Sheriff	Brad Burkhart	01-01-22 to 12-31-23
County Recorder	Marcia Moore	01-01-22 to 12-31-23
President of the Board of County Commissioners	John Jessup Bill Spalding	01-01-22 to 12-31-22 01-01-23 to 12-31-23
President of the County Council	William Bolander Jeannine Gray	01-01-22 to 12-31-22 01-01-23 to 12-31-23



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING
AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL
STATEMENT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF HANCOCK COUNTY, INDIANA

We have audited, 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, the financial statement of Hancock County (County), for the year ended December 31, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statement, which collectively comprise the County's financial statement and have issued our report thereon dated May 30, 2023, wherein we noted the County followed accounting practices the Indiana State Board of Accounts prescribes rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statement, we considered the County's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statement, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control 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 and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the County's financial statement will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING
AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL
STATEMENT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*
(Continued)

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the County's financial statement is free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement 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 or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the County's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Beth Kelley, CPA, CFE
Deputy State Examiner

May 30, 2023



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR THE MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM; REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE; AND REPORT ON SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF HANCOCK COUNTY, INDIANA

Report on Compliance for the Major Federal Program

Qualified Opinion

We have audited Hancock County's (County) compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on its major federal program for the year ended December 31, 2022. The County's major federal program is identified in the *Summary of Auditor's Results* section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs.

Qualified Opinion on COVID-19 - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

In our opinion, except for the noncompliance described in the *Basis for Qualified Opinion* section of our report, the County complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on the COVID-19 - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds for the year ended December 31, 2022.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*); and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance* section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the County and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the County's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Matter Giving Rise to Qualified Opinion on COVID-19 - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

As described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs, the County did not comply with requirements regarding 21.027 COVID-19 - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, as described in item 2022-001 for Procurement and Suspension and Debarment. Compliance with such requirement is necessary, in our opinion, for the County to comply with the requirements applicable to that program.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR THE MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM; REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE; AND REPORT ON SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE
(Continued)

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the County's federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the County's compliance based on our audit. 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, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually, or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the County's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the County's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of the County's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Other Matters

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the County's response to the noncompliance findings identified in our audit described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. The County's response to the noncompliance findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying Corrective Action Plan. The County's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance, and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR THE MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM; REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE; AND REPORT ON SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE
(Continued)

Report on Internal Control over Compliance

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance* section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance, and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as discussed below, we did identify certain deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses.

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A material weakness in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. We consider the deficiency in internal control over compliance, as described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as item 2022-001, to be material weaknesses.

A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

Government Auditing Standards require the auditor to perform limited procedures on the County's response to the internal control over compliance findings identified in our audit described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. The County's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance, and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR THE MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM; REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE; AND REPORT ON SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE
(Continued)

Report on Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Required by the Uniform Guidance

We have audited the financial statement of the County, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statement. We issued our report thereon dated May 30, 2023, which contained a dual opinion on the financial statement. An adverse opinion was issued regarding the presentation in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and an unmodified opinion was issued regarding the presentation in accordance with the regulatory basis of accounting. Our audit was performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statement as a whole. The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by the Uniform Guidance and is not a required part of the financial statement. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statement. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the 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. In our opinion, the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statement as a whole.



Beth Kelley, CPA, CFE
Deputy State Examiner

May 30, 2023

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS AND ACCOMPANYING NOTES

The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards and accompanying notes presented were approved by management of the County. The schedule and notes are presented as intended by the County.

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HANCOCK COUNTY
 SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Federal Grantor Agency Cluster Title/Program Title/Project Title	Pass-Through Entity or Direct Grant	Assistance Listings Number	Pass-Through Entity (or Other) Identifying Number	Passed Through to Subrecipient	Total Federal Awards Expended
<u>Department of Justice</u>					
Crime Victim Assistance VOCA-Grant Victim Assistance	Indiana Criminal Justice Institute	16.575	VOCA-2020-00090-FR3	\$ -	\$ 69,764
Treatment Court Discretionary Grant Program Hancock County Drug Court	Direct Grant	16.585	2019-DC-BX-0065	-	105,438
Violence Against Women Formula Grants STOP Grant	Indiana Criminal Justice Institute	16.588	2020-WF-AX-0031	-	63,821
Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program Bulletproof Vest Grant	Direct Grant	16.607	FY2022	-	460
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program Hancock Circuit Court Problem Solving Grant Hancock Circuit Court Problem Solving Grant	Direct Grant	16.738	21-CSPSC-C30-DC-001 22-CSPSC-C30-MH-001	- -	2,000 -
Total - Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program				-	2,000
Total - Department of Justice				-	241,483
<u>Department of Transportation</u>					
Highway Planning and Construction Cluster Highway Planning and Construction	Indiana Department of Transportation	20.205			
DES: 2003034 Added Travel Lanes			800200303400LC3	-	73,150
DES: 1297608 ROW RDC			A249-13-320163A	-	148,685
DES: 1802940 Added Travel Lanes			A249-18-G180103	-	307,103
DES: 1600633 Right of Way Acquisition			A249-18-L170069	-	410,255
DES: 1500282 Bridge Inspection			A249-18-L180058	-	5,046
DES: 1600949 Bridge #18			A249-19-L180102	-	71,763
DES: 1702755 Bridge #62			A249-19-L190011	-	80,907
DES: 1702757 School Zone Flashers/Guard Rails			A249-19-L190083	-	51,471
DES: 1702754 Bridge #145			A249-20-L090116	-	684,941
DES: 1702756 Road Widening			A249-20-L190125	-	226,243
DES: 1902796 Bridge #95			A249-21-L200174	-	36,363
DES: 1902783 Bypass of US 52			A249-21-L200175	-	94,419
DES: 1902793 Bridge #36			A249-21-L210049	-	7,885
Total - Highway Planning and Construction				-	2,198,231
Total - Highway Planning and Construction Cluster				-	2,198,231

HANCOCK COUNTY
 SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Federal Grantor Agency Cluster Title/Program Title/Project Title	Pass-Through Entity or Direct Grant	Assistance Listings Number	Pass-Through Entity (or Other) Identifying Number	Passed Through to Subrecipient	Total Federal Awards Expended
Federal Transit Cluster					
Federal Transit Formula Grants Urbanized Area Formula Funding Program Hancock County Public Transit	Direct Grant	20.507	1202-2021-6	-	34,454
Total - Federal Transit Cluster				-	34,454
Highway Safety Cluster					
State and Community Highway Safety Program Hancock County Comprehensive Highway Injury Reduction Program	Indiana Criminal Justice Institute	20.600	CHIRP-2022-00071	-	1,732
Total - Highway Safety Cluster				-	1,732
Formula Grants for Rural Areas and Tribal Transit Program Hancock County Rural Transit 2022 Funds	Indiana Department of Transportation	20.509	IN-2020-007-00	-	332,152
Minimum Penalties for Repeat Offenders for Driving While Intoxicated Hancock County Comprehensive Highway Injury Reduction Program	Indiana Criminal Justice Institute	20.608	CHIRP-2022-00071	-	1,945
Total - Department of Transportation				-	2,568,514
<u>Department of the Treasury</u>					
COVID-19 - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds American Rescue Plan Act 2021 (ARPA)	Direct Grant	21.027	FY2022	5,000,000	5,988,108
Total - Department of the Treasury				5,000,000	5,988,108
<u>Election Assistance Commission</u>					
HAVA Election Security Grants HAVA Grant	Indiana Office of the Secretary of State	90.404	FY2022	-	689
Total - Election Assistance Commission				-	689
<u>Department of Health and Human Services</u>					
Public Health Emergency Preparedness Public Health Emergency Preparedness	Indiana State Department of Health	93.069	NU90TP922052	-	48,170

HANCOCK COUNTY
 SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Federal Grantor Agency Cluster Title/Program Title/Project Title	Pass-Through Entity or Direct Grant	Assistance Listings Number	Pass-Through Entity (or Other) Identifying Number	Passed Through to Subrecipient	Total Federal Awards Expended
COVID-19 - Immunization Cooperative Agreements CARES Act (Health)	Indiana State Department of Health	93.268	NH23IP922631	-	152,249
COVID-19 - Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Infectious Diseases (ELC) CARES Act (Health)	Indiana State Department of Health	93.323	NU50CK000503	-	63,512
COVID-19 - Public Health Emergency Response: Cooperative Agreement for Emergency Response: Public Health Crisis Response CARES Act (Health)	Direct Grant	93.354	FY2022	-	330,000
Child Support Enforcement Clerk Title IV-D Incentive Title IV-D Incentive General Fund Prosecutor Title IV-D Incentive Indirect Costs Clerk Perpetuation-Title IVD Reimbursements Prosecutor Direct Reimbursements Title IVD Clerk Direct Reimbursements Title IVD	Indiana Department of Child Services	93.563	2101INCEST 2101INCEST 2101INCEST 2201INCSES 2201INCSES 2201INCSES 2201INCSES	- - - - - - -	9,465 13,275 22,235 62,630 66 176,793 11,569
Total - Child Support Enforcement				-	296,033
Foster Care Title IV-E Foster Care Title IV-E	Public Defender of Indiana	93.658	FY2022	-	11,803
Total - Department of Health and Human Services				-	901,767
<u>Department of Homeland Security</u>					
Emergency Management Performance Grants Emergency Management Emergency Management	Indiana Department of Homeland Security	97.042	EMC-2020-EP-00001 EMC-2021-EP-00004	- -	30,000 44,678
Total - Emergency Management Performance Grants				-	74,678
Total - Department of Homeland Security				-	74,678
Total federal awards expended				<u>\$ 5,000,000</u>	<u>\$ 9,775,239</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards.

HANCOCK COUNTY
NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) includes the federal grant activity of the County under programs of the federal government for the year ended December 31, 2022. The information in the SEFA is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the SEFA presents only a select portion of the operations of the County, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position of the County.

B. Other Significant Accounting Policies

Expenditures reported on the SEFA are reported on the cash basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following, as applicable, either the cost principles in OMB Circular A-87, *Cost Principles for State, Local, and Indian Tribal Governments*, or the cost principles contained in the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowed or are limited as to reimbursement. When federal grants are received on a reimbursement basis, the federal awards are considered expended when the reimbursement is received.

Note 2. Indirect Cost Rate

The County has elected not to use the 10 percent de minimis indirect cost rate allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

HANCOCK COUNTY
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

Section I - Summary of Auditor's Results

Financial Statement:

Type of auditor's report issued:	Adverse as to GAAP; Unmodified as to Regulatory Basis
Internal control over financial reporting:	
Material weaknesses identified?	no
Significant deficiencies identified?	none reported
Noncompliance material to financial statement noted?	no

Federal Awards:

Internal control over major program:	
Material weaknesses identified?	yes
Significant deficiencies identified?	none reported
Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)?	yes

Identification of Major Program and type of auditor's report issued on compliance for it:

Assistance Listings Number	Name of Federal Program or Cluster	Opinion Issued
21.027	COVID-19 - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	Qualified

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs: \$750,000

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?	no
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Section II - Financial Statement Findings

No matters are reportable.

Section III - Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs

FINDING 2022-001

Subject: COVID-19 - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds - Suspension and Debarment
 Federal Agency: Department of the Treasury
 Federal Program: COVID-19 - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds
 Assistance Listings Number: 21.027
 Federal Award Number and Year (or Other Identifying Number): FY2022
 Compliance Requirement: Procurement and Suspension and Debarment
 Audit Findings: Material Weakness, Modified Opinion

HANCOCK COUNTY
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
(Continued)

Condition and Context

The County elected to receive the standard revenue loss allowance, allowing them to claim up to \$10 million of its total State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) allocation of \$15,183,218 as revenue loss to use for government services. During the audit period, SLFRF program funds were expended under the revenue loss eligible use category totaling \$988,108 and under the Public Health and Economic Impacts use category totaling \$5,000,000.

Prior to entering into subawards and covered transactions with SLFRF award funds, recipients are required to verify that such contracts and subrecipients are not suspended, debarred, or otherwise excluded. "Covered transactions" include, but are not limited to contracts for goods and services awarded under a non-procurement transaction (i.e., grant agreement) that are expected to equal or exceed \$25,000. The verification is to be done by checking the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS), collecting a certification from that person, or adding a clause or condition to the covered transaction with that person.

The County's policies related to SLFRF suspension and debarment requirements included that all vendors be checked for suspension and debarment. However, of the 13 transactions that equaled or exceeded \$25,000 that were paid from the SLFRF funds during the audit period, 11 vendors, totaling \$844,613, were determined to not have been checked for suspension or debarment.

The lack of internal controls and noncompliance were systemic issues throughout the audit period.

Criteria

2 CFR 200.303 states in part:

"The non-Federal entity must:

- (a) Establish and maintain effective internal control over the Federal award that provides reasonable assurance that the non-Federal entity is managing the Federal award in compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award. These internal controls should be in compliance with guidance in 'Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government' issued by the Comptroller General of the United States or the 'Internal Control Integrated Framework, issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). . . ."

2 CFR 200.214 states:

"Non-federal entities are subject to the non-procurement debarment and suspension regulations implementing Executive Orders 12549 and 12689, 2 CFR part 180. The regulations in 2 CFR part 180 restrict awards, subawards, and contracts with certain parties that are debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in Federal assistance programs or activities."

31 CFR 19.300 states:

"When you enter into a covered transaction with another person at the next lower tier, you must verify that the person with whom you intend to do business is not excluded or disqualified. You do this by:

- (a) Checking the EPLS; or

HANCOCK COUNTY
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
(Continued)

- (b) Collecting a certification from that person if allowed by this rule; or
- (c) Adding a clause or condition to the covered transaction with that person."

Cause

The system of internal controls, as established by management of the County, was not properly implemented to ensure that the policies and procedures in place related to suspension and debarment were appropriately followed.

Effect

Without the proper implementation of an effectively designed system of internal controls, the internal control system cannot be capable of effectively preventing, or detecting and correcting, material noncompliance. As a result, vendors to whom payments equal to or in excess of \$25,000 were not verified to be not suspended, debarred, or otherwise excluded.

Noncompliance with the provisions of federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal award could result in the loss of future federal funding to the County.

Questioned Costs

There were no questioned costs identified.

Recommendation

We recommended the County's management design and implement a system of internal controls related to suspension and debarment procedures to ensure entities are neither suspended nor debarred, or otherwise excluded or disqualified prior to entering into any covered transactions.

Views of Responsible Officials

For the views of responsible officials, refer to the Corrective Action Plan that is part of this report.

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AUDITEE-PREPARED DOCUMENT

The subsequent document was provided by management of the County. The document is presented as intended by the County.

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

FINDING 2022-001 (Auditor Assigned Reference Number)

Contact Person Responsible for Corrective Action: Debra A. Carnes

Contact Phone Number: 317.477.1105

We concur with the finding

As a pass-through entity for Federal ARPA funds, the Hancock County Auditor will design and implement a system of internal controls related to suspension and debarment procedures to ensure entities are neither suspended nor debarred or otherwise excluded or disqualified prior to entering any covered transactions.

All current recipients of ARPA funds will be verified and documented as well. These controls will be utilized for all State and Federal grant funds that will be disbursed.

Anticipated Completion Date: July 31,2023

OTHER REPORTS

In addition to this report, other reports may have been issued for the County. All reports can be found on the Indiana State Board of Accounts' website: <http://www.in.gov/sboa/>.