Internal Audit Department

ORANGE COUNTY

PERFORMANCE MEASURE VALIDATION
AUDIT OF PUBLIC DEFENDER
2005-2006 PERFORMANCE INDICATOR

AUDIT NO: 2757
REPORT DATE: DECEMBER 4, 2007

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Orange County's Internal Audit
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OC Fraud Hotline (714) 834-3608

Letter from Director Peter Hughes

Transmittal Letter

AUDIT NO. 2757 DECEMBER 4, 2007

TO: Deborah Kwast
Public Defender

FROM: Dr. Peter Hughes, CPA, Director
Internal Audit Department

SUBJECT: Performance Measure Validation
Audit of Public Defender
2005-2006 Performance Indicator

We have completed our Audit of the Public Defender's Performance Indicator for the fiscal year 2005-2006 Result included in the 2007-2008 Business Plan. We are pleased to report that we found adequate supporting documentation for your 2005-2006 reported Performance Indicator result. The final Internal Auditor's Report is attached.

In developing our PMV audit program we benchmarked with Maricopa County, Arizona Internal Audit Department's Performance Measure Certification program. Maricopa County has been conducting their certification program for over five years and has received several awards and has been referred to as the "gold standard" of performance measurement auditing by the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB). Our approach closely mirrors the award winning approach developed by the Maricopa County Internal Audit Department.

Each month I submit an **Audit Status Report** to the BOS where I detail any material and significant audit findings released in reports during the prior month and the implementation status of audit recommendations as disclosed by our Follow-Up Audits. Accordingly, the results of this audit will be included in a future status report to the BOS.

Please feel free to call me should you wish to discuss any aspect of our audit report.

Additionally, we will request your department complete a **Customer Survey** of Audit Services. You will receive the survey shortly after the distribution of our final report.

Other recipients of this report listed on the Internal Auditor's Report on page 2.

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Public Defender 2005-2006 Performance Indicator
Audit No 2757

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OC Internal Audit Report

INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT

AUDIT NO. 2757 **DECEMBER 4, 2007**

TO: Deborah Kwast
Public Defender

SUBJECT: Performance Measure Validation Audit of Public Defender 2005-2006 Performance Indicator

Audit Highlight

Based on our audit of the fiscal year 2005-2006 Result reported in your 2007-2008 Business Plan, we rated your reported Outcome Indicator Result as 5 Star.

Scope of Review

We have completed our Audit of the Public Defender's Performance Indicator for the fiscal year 2005-2006 Result included in the 2007-2008 Business Plan. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of the methodology in place for collecting and reporting Outcome Indicator Results by interviewing key personnel, observations, and reviewing source documentation. Our audit scope did not include an assessment of the appropriateness of your Outcome Indicators based on your mission, goals and objectives.

We have initiated our PMV audits at the request of the Audit Oversight Committee. Our approach is to review performance results, assign validation ratings, report conclusions, and make recommendations. Our validation program is designed to provide assurance to the Board of Supervisors, the County Executive Officer, and you and other stakeholders that reported Outcome Indicators are reliable and can be utilized in decision making covering Government resources with confidence.

In developing our PMV audit process we benchmarked with Maricopa County, Arizona Internal Audit Department's Performance Measure Certification program. Maricopa County has been conducting their certification program for over five years and has received several awards and has been referred to as the "gold standard" of performance measurement auditing by the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB). Our approach closely mirrors the award winning approach developed by the Maricopa County Internal Audit Department.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing established by the Institute of Internal Auditors.

Results

For the Outcome Indicator tested, we reported the results using one of the three Rating Definitions shown below.

Rating Definitions	
5 Star ★★★★★	We found adequate supporting documentation.
4 Star ★★★★	We found adequate supporting documentation with some recommendations for improvement.
3 Star ★★★	We noted opportunities for improvement.

Based on our audit of the fiscal year 2005-2006 Result reported in your 2007-2008 Business Plan, we rated your reported Outcome Indicator Result as 5 Star. On page 3, we have provided a table (Summary Table – Validation Results) that lists for the Outcome Indicator, the reported result, and our rating of the accuracy of the Public Defender result.

Acknowledgment

We appreciate the courtesy and cooperation extended to us during the audit by the personnel of the Public Defender's Office. If we can be of further assistance, please contact me or Eli Littner, Deputy Director, at (714) 834-5899 or Alan Marcum, Senior Audit Manager, at (714) 834-4119.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Peter Hughes, CPA, Director
Internal Audit Department

Distribution Pursuant to Audit Oversight Committee Procedure No. 1:

Members, Board of Supervisors
Members, Audit Oversight Committee
Thomas G. Mauk, County Executive Officer
Becky Juliano, Director of Administration
Foreperson, Grand Jury
Darlene J. Bloom, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

SUMMARY TABLE – VALIDATION RESULTS

Public Defender Fiscal Year 2005-2006 Stated		Internal Audit Validation		
Outcome Indicator	**Result**	(Highest Rating Possible) **5 Star** ★★★★★	**4 Star** ★★★★	**3 Star** ★★★
1. Continued high quality performance in regards to proficiency index. Baseline rating of 96.49% established in Fiscal Year 2003/2004.	Rating number of 97.20%.	✓		