



# The NCT Group CPA's, L.L.P.

Certified Public Accountants and Consultants

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE APPLICABLE TO EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND STATE PROJECT

Board of County Commissioners  
Polk County, Florida

### Compliance

We have audited the compliance of Polk County, Florida (County) with the types of compliance requirements described in the *U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement*, and the requirements described in the *Executive Office of the Governor's State Projects Compliance Supplement*, that are applicable to each of its major federal programs and state projects for the year ended September 30, 2003. The County's major federal programs and state projects 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 and state projects is the responsibility of the County's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the County's compliance based on our audit.

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with United States generally accepted auditing standards; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*; and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General. Those standards, OMB Circular A-133, and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General, 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 or state program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the 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 the County's compliance with those requirements.

In our opinion, the County complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referred to above that are applicable to each of its major federal programs and state projects for the year ended September 30, 2003.

### Internal Control Over Compliance

The management of the County is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants applicable to federal programs and state projects. In planning and performing our audit, we considered the County's internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program or state project to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133 and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General.

**RSM McGladrey Network**

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Our consideration of the internal control over compliance would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be material weaknesses. 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 noncompliance with applicable requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants that would be material in relation to a major federal program or state project being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over compliance and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of County Commissioners, management, federal and state awarding agencies, and pass-through entities, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than those specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "The NCT Group CPA's, L.L.P." in a cursive script.

The NCT Group CPA's, L.L.P.

January 16, 2004