

**MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY**  
**(A Component Unit of the CNMI Government)**

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**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY  
INFORMATION**

**YEARS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2016 AND 2015**

**WITH INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT THEREON**

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**MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY**  
(A Component Unit of the CNMI Government)

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors  
of Marianas Visitors Authority

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the governmental funds of the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA), a component unit of Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands government, as of September 30, 2016 and 2015, and for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the MVA's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

**Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

**Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

## **Opinions**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and governmental funds of the MVA as of September 30, 2016 and 2015, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## **Other Matters**

### *Required Supplementary Information*

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) and budgetary comparison information on pages 4 through 12 and page 38 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

### *Other Information*

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the MVA's basic financial statements. The individual fund financial statements are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The individual fund financial statements are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the individual fund financial statements are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

## **Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards**

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 15, 2017, on our consideration of the MVA's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering MVA's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
March 15, 2017



**MARIANAS**  
VISITORS AUTHORITY

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## MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

#### INTRODUCTION

The objective of management's discussion and analysis (MD&A) is to provide readers of the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) financial statements an overview and better understanding of its financial position and results of activities for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016. Management has prepared this overview as required supplementary information to the financial statements and the footnotes that follow. This MD&A should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and accompanying footnotes.

#### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Pursuant to Public Law 19-08 known as Appropriations and Budget Authority Act of 2016, the MVA's budgeted Hotel and Container Tax Entitlement for fiscal year 2016 is \$12,090,000. The actual hotel occupancy tax received by MVA for fiscal year 2016 was \$11,285,742. The legislature appropriated one dollar \$1 to the MVA in fiscal year 2016.
- ▶ The MVA Budget pursuant to Public Law 19-08 Chapter III Section 301 was modified and shall allocate \$2,532,403: \$1,802,403 for the DPW streetlights; \$200,000 for stationary x-ray machine for the airport, \$255,000 for a container and loose cargo x-ray machine for the seaport, \$75,000 for a handheld x-ray scanner to scan appliances, cars, large items at the seaport; and \$200,000 for the Mayor of Saipan cleanup and beautification projects. MVA fulfilled these provisions accordingly.
- ▶ MVA's total assets exceeded liabilities by \$4,472,572 and \$5,765,266 at the end of fiscal year 2016 and 2015 respectively. The unrestricted net position was \$4,337,204 and \$5,617,908 at the end of fiscal year 2016 and 2015, respectively. The reduction in the net position was due to allocation of the fund on street lights, increase in offshore marketing expenses, implementation of Japan market revitalization program, and Destination Enhancements such as Beach Road Pathway lighting project.
- ▶ MVA increased its marketing and advertising expenditures by \$1 Million at the end of fiscal year 2016 as compared to fiscal year 2015 as the funds enabled them. The marketing strategy/goal is to increase the number of arrivals to Saipan, Tinian and Rota, and most importantly, increase local spending by those arrivals so as to maximize the positive benefits those funds have on the economy and the revenue of the CNMI government. The total tourist arrivals are 501,489 and 479,679 in fiscal year 2016 and fiscal year 2015 respectively. The increase was 4% in fiscal year 2016 as compared to fiscal year 2015.

## Management's Discussion and Analysis, Continued

- ▶ PL 18-1 Section 102 also includes the provision on Destination Enhancements amounting to \$1,061,195 and \$190,469.34 in fiscal year 2016 and fiscal year 2015, respectively. The Destination Enhancement projects in fiscal year 2015 were put on hold due to Soudelor Typhoon.

Maintenance and beautification of the tourist sites were implemented and paid in fiscal year 2016 such as Beach Road Pathway lighting, Mt. Tapochau railing, Banzai Ciff restroom, landscaping on Garapan Beach Road and Coral Tree Avenue, Taga Beach facilities, Kammer Beach facilities and Latte Stone Quarry. MVA supported Division of Parks and Grounds with supplies and fuel, maintained the restroom facilities in Marpi sites, provided life guard and security guards at some tourist sites and paid the local contractor for trash collection in Garapan area.

- ▶ MVA as of the date of audit is current on its financial obligations with both offshore and local vendors.
- ▶ MVA received \$44,008 of in-kind contributions in fiscal year 2016. In-kind contributions decreased by approximately 54% or \$36,824 compared to the previous year.

## **OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Financial section of this report presents the MVA's financial statements as two components: basic financial statements, and notes to the financial statements. It also includes the supplemental information.

## **BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 34 requires the presentation of the Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) and the basic financial statements. The basic financial statements consist of agency-wide statements, fund financial statements, notes to the financial statements, and a budgetary comparison statement for the general fund.

GASB issued Statement No. 63 "*Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position.*" This Statement provides financial reporting guidance for deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources. Concepts Statement No. 4, *Elements of Financial Statements*, introduced and defined those elements as a consumption of net assets by the government that is applicable to a future reporting period, and an acquisition of net assets by the government that is applicable to a future reporting period, respectively. Previous financial reporting standards do not include guidance for reporting those financial statement elements, which are distinct from assets and liabilities. The MVA has adopted and applied this Statement in their financial statements. The prior financial statements have been restated to comply with the requirements of this update.

## **MD&A**

The MD&A is a narrative section that introduces the basic financial statements. It should give readers an objective and easily understood, readable analysis of the MVA's financial performance for the year.

## **Agency-Wide Statements**

The MVA's agency-wide financial report includes two financial statements: the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities. The Marianas Visitors Authority prepared these financial statements in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) principles.

### **Statement of Net Position**

The Statements of Net Position presents information on assets and deferred outflows of resources, and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources with the difference between them presented as net position. It reflects the MVA's assets, liabilities and the resources remaining after liabilities are satisfied. Over time, increases or decreases in net position serve as a useful indicator as to whether the entity's financial health has improved or deteriorated during the fiscal year.

### **Statement of Activities**

The Statement of Activities is the operating statement for the MVA as a whole. It is based on full accrual accounting rather than the traditional modified accrual basis. Depreciation of capital assets is recognized as an expense in this statement.

### **Fund Financial Statements**

The financial reporting package includes the fund financial statements. Fund reporting focuses on showing how money flows into and out of funds and the balance left at year-end that is available for spending. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over specific activities.

The MVA, like other state and local governments agencies, uses fund accounting to demonstrate and ensure compliance with finance related legal requirements.

### **Balance Sheet**

#### **Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance**

These statements present MVA's major funds. MVA has only one fund, the general fund. The fund statements are prepared using the traditional government model of modified accrual basis, which measures cash and all financial assets that can be readily converted to cash. These statements provide a detailed short-term view of the MVA's operations.

### **Reconciliation from Agency-Wide to Fund Statements**

Because the numbers on these statements do not agree to the numbers on the agency-wide statements, a reconciliation schedule is presented.

### **Statements of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance-Budget and Actual**

A budgetary comparison statement for the general fund is considered to be required supplementary information and is included in the basic financial statements.

## **COMPARISON OF RESULTS**

### **Assets, Liabilities and Net Position**

The MVA's net position on an agency-wide basis decreased by \$1,292,694 from the previous year.



**SUMMARY OF CHANGE IN NET POSITION (STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES)**

	<u>2016</u>		<u>2015</u>		<u>2014</u>
Net position, beginning	\$ 5,765,266	\$	7,660,674	\$	5,711,049
Adjustment of pension liability			918,774		
Net position, beginning, as restated			<u>8,579,448</u>		
Revenues	\$ 11,430,690		9,961,720		9,922,594
Expenditures	<u>12,723,384</u>		<u>12,775,902</u>		<u>7,972,969</u>
Decrease in net position	\$ (1,292,694)		<u>(2,814,182)</u>		<u>1,949,625</u>
Net position, ending	\$ <u>4,472,572</u>	\$	<u>5,765,266</u>	\$	<u>7,660,674</u>

**SUMMARY OF STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**

	<u>2016</u>		<u>2015</u>		<u>2014</u>
Current assets	\$ 7,646,007	\$	7,781,583	\$	10,498,200
Capital assets	<u>135,368</u>		<u>147,358</u>		<u>182,740</u>
Total assets	\$ <u>7,781,375</u>	\$	<u>7,928,941</u>	\$	<u>10,680,940</u>
Current liabilities	\$ 3,206,195	\$	2,045,648	\$	2,909,570
Non-current liabilities	<u>102,608</u>		<u>117,927</u>		<u>99,496</u>
Total liabilities	\$ <u>3,308,803</u>	\$	<u>2,163,575</u>	\$	<u>3,009,066</u>
Deferred inflows of resources	\$ -		100		11,200
Net investment in capital assets	135,368		147,358		182,740
Restricted	<u>4,337,204</u>		<u>5,617,908</u>		<u>7,477,934</u>
Total net position	<u>4,472,572</u>		<u>5,765,266</u>		<u>7,660,674</u>
Total liabilities and net position	\$ <u>7,781,375</u>	\$	<u>7,928,941</u>	\$	<u>10,680,940</u>

The \$4,472,572 in restricted net position represents the accumulated results of all past years' operations. It means that if MVA is able to collect all its receivables and pay off all of its bills today, including all of its non-capital liabilities and compensated absences, it would have \$4,472,572 of restricted assets left.

**Assets.** Assets consist primarily of cash and cash equivalents (70%) and receivables, which include local government appropriation and entitlement (27%), others (1%) and capital assets (2%).

**Liabilities.** These are composed primarily of accounts payable for marketing activities, deferred revenue, accrued employee annual and sick leave and others. The net increase in current liabilities of \$1,160,547 is due to MVA's accrual of its obligations to its offshore and local vendors in fiscal year 2016.

## Management's Discussion and Analysis, Continued

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**Net position.** Net position represents the MVA's residual interest in its assets net of liabilities. The restricted component of net position decreased by \$1,292,694 as compared last FY2015 primarily due to increase in the financial obligations of MVA in the amount of \$1,160,547 for the street lights, offshore marketing, Japan revitalization program and Beach Road Pathway lighting project.

### Revenues

Total revenues for fiscal year 2016 were \$11,543,259, a \$1,581,539 increase from fiscal year 2015.

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
General Revenues			
Hotel and cointainer tax entitlement	\$ 11,399,920	\$ 9,797,367	\$ 9,741,534
Grant and contributions	44,008	80,832	55,607
Other income	28,470	6,426	11,130
Royalty income	1,509	15,593	21,588
Interest income	791	544	542
Subtotal	<u>\$ 11,474,698</u>	<u>\$ 9,900,762</u>	<u>\$ 9,830,401</u>
Program revenues			
Membership fees	\$ 24,700	\$ 23,965	\$ 16,230
Special events	43,861	36,993	75,963
Subtotal	<u>\$ 68,561</u>	<u>\$ 60,958</u>	<u>\$ 92,193</u>
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 11,543,259</u>	<u>\$ 9,961,720</u>	<u>\$ 9,922,594</u>

Revenues are classified as either general revenues or program revenues.

The general revenue classification includes hotel and container tax entitlements, grant and in-kind contributions, program revenues and other income (royalty and memorial maintenance fee).

Program revenues are those directly generated by a function or activity of the government entity. These revenues include membership dues, special events fees that MVA charges for the specific events, and contributions from the private sector to support MVA programs. These special events revenues help MVA in reducing its actual expenditures on those respective events. In all situations, MVA has no surplus on this matter.

Grants and contributions, (primarily in-kind contributions) include accommodations and free use of hotel facilities, among others, and are classified as marketing or special events revenue when the donor specifies to which MVA activities the donation is to be used or as general revenue for unrestricted contributions.

## Management's Discussion and Analysis, Continued

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The MVA has no business-type activities from which to generate revenues and relies on cash and in-kind contributions from members to bridge operational costs that cannot be fully covered by the appropriations received.

### Expenses

Total agency-wide expenses by function were as follows:

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
General government	\$ 1,741,879	\$ 1,764,367	\$ 1,718,018
Marketing	7,558,772	6,593,468	5,547,998
Advertising	525,506	485,535	475,274
Destination enhancement	1,061,194	190,469	212,868
Support to other government agency	1,898,666	-	-
Bad debts	1,383	3,700,406	-
Depreciation	<u>48,553</u>	<u>41,657</u>	<u>18,811</u>
Total expenditures	\$ <u>12,835,953</u>	\$ <u>12,775,902</u>	\$ <u>7,972,969</u>

Expenditures for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016 only increased by \$60,051 over the fiscal year 2015 total. Funds available in fiscal year 2016 were spent on Destination Enhancement projects, marketing, support to other government agencies and community programs.

### OVERALL FINANCIAL POSITION

The overall financial position (net position) of MVA decreased by \$1,292,694. MVA increased its revenue by \$1.6 million due to the opening of Kensington Hotel and other smaller boutique hotels in fiscal year 2016 which allowed for an increase in the share of hotel occupancy tax for MVA. Notably, we recorded consistent monthly arrival increases in fiscal year 2016, which generated more hotel occupancy tax. This increase was spent on community programs, marketing, promotions that includes support for PAL direct flights with China and Hong Kong via Manila, familiarization tours, group incentives, co-op promotions, Japan revitalization programs, sports marketing, trade shows and other promotions. More funding was spent as well on Destination Enhancements as compared to last year.

Given the right level of funding, invested wisely to promote and build demand in key markets along with a targeted plan for destination enhancement, MVA believes that the CNMI tourism industry will improve along with the financial position of the MVA.

MVA must take the lead in funding overseas promotions and continue to encourage support from private funds from tourism industry stakeholders.

The overall financial position (net position) of MVA decreased by \$1,292,694. MVA increased its revenue by \$1.6 million due to the opening of Kensington Hotel and other smaller boutique hotels in FY 2016, it allowed for an increase in the share of hotel occupancy tax for MVA.

## Management's Discussion and Analysis, Continued

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Notably, we recorded consistent monthly arrival increases in fiscal year 2016, which generated more hotel occupancy tax.

### FUND ANALYSIS

At the governmental fund level, MVA's fund balance in fiscal year 2016 was decreased by \$1,296,023 as more programs were implemented this fiscal year 2016 as compared to fiscal year 2015.

### CAPITAL ASSETS

The MVA's investment in capital assets as of September 30, 2016 amounts to \$135,368 net of accumulated depreciation. Depreciation expense for the year was \$48,553. There was no significant acquisition of capital assets this fiscal year as compared to fiscal year 2015.

Capital assets net of accumulated depreciation are as follows:

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Vehicles	\$ 48,650	\$ 68,108	\$ 87,564
Furniture and fixtures	83,195	77,002	90,888
Maintenance equipment	1,118	2,248	4,288
Leasehold improvements	<u>2,405</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,288</u>
Net capital assets	<u>\$ 135,368</u>	<u>\$ 147,358</u>	<u>\$ 187,028</u>

### FUTURE PLANS

- **Tourism Master Plan**

The Marianas Visitors Authority has completed a sustainability and feasibility study to inform the MVA and the CNMI at large on how best to manage our tourism industry, how to attain a sustainable tourist arrival target level, how to improve the tourist experience upon arrival and departure, quality level of existing and new hotel development plans, how to apply the concept of yield management more effectively, plus more. After this study is complete, we plan to release an RFP for our tourism master plan in the latter part of 2017. The current tourism master plan expired in 2016 and is obsolete as it was done prior to the issuance of the exclusive casino license to Imperial Pacific. The next master plan will take all of this into consideration.

- **Marketing Programs**

- Diversify into Southeast Asia market – Using PAL and HK Express flight hubs, initial outreach into ASEAN countries to develop niche markets of Golf and SCUBA diving with the budget of \$60,000.
- Diversify into Australia - The initial outreach was in 2011 and there will be a follow up plan. This was budgeted before for \$330,000 and was never actualized. This can grow into secondary market in 3 years.
- Mobile Apps – Upon arrival app is accessible with links to participating MVA Member businesses. App contains a full map and direction finding functions. The budget is \$35,000.

- Rebranding follow up after the 2017 launch. The budget is \$50,000 each for the 3 major markets.

- **Community Projects Programs**

Community Projects will continue to work with our local industry partners in carrying forward ongoing Signature Events as well as develop new activities that would broaden our sports tourism offerings. One of our newest attractions for 2017 is the CNMI's first ever Ironman Saipan 70.3 scheduled on March 11, 2017. This international and well recognized race promises to bring in additional athletes from all over the world. Last but not least, the MVA will continue to co-sponsor other related and meaningful community events such as the Tournament of Champions, Flame Tree Arts Festival, Saipan International Fishing Tournament, Miss Marianas Beauty Pageant, Marianas Tourism Education Council, Rota and Tinian fishing tournaments and fiesta activities, memorial groups, etc.

- **Tour Guide Certification Program**

Tour Guide Certification Program adheres to the mandate propagated by 2014 Public Law 18-58. It seeks to educate and regulate tour guides who represent our islands to our visitors. The following are the plans in implementing this program:

Tour guide certification training

Training program will be instituted three times a year focusing on history, environment, safety and professional development. The guides are expected to attend the courses and pass the tests and will be issued a Badge/Decal. All certified tour guides will be required to carry on their persons a badge and decal on their vehicles. Tour Guide Manual is in development that will be translated into three different languages.

Tour guide virtual reality tour

A video production that actually narrates history and cultural narratives of each site is in its first phase. This will be shared not only with the tour guides but with potential visitors to educate them before, during and after the visits.

Others: Safety tips video

Produced and aired through KSPN/Flame Tree TV, Tour Guide Certification program will update the content of the video so that it can better serve our visitors' needs.

- **Tourist Exit Survey** will be conducted on a regular basis which is an important element in ensuring that the information obtained is accurate and reliable. A strong research and statistical base for the tourism industry is critical to maintain our international competitiveness and increase our market share. Exit survey at seaport will be considered depending on funding.

- **Destination enhancement or product development projects.**

Destination Enhancement continues to plan and work on the improvement, restoration, rehabilitation and renovation of tourist sites.

- Flower Islands Project for Saipan, Tinian and Rota

## Management's Discussion and Analysis, Continued

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- Paseo De Marianas revitalization – Saipan
  
- Reproducing exact replicas of the latte stones found in Tinian's House of Taga and placing them in different locations on Saipan.
- Sculpture project that involves working with local artists to create beautiful outdoor public sculptures that complement the history and culture of the CNMI.
- Construction of the stage at Tachogna Beach - Tinian
- Demolition of the broken Tachogna building connected to the restroom facility - Tinian
- Refurbishment, Lighting & Beautification of walkways from Kammer Beach to Taga Beach - Tinian
- Repair of guardrails at Kammer Beach - Tinian
- Upgrade guardrails at House of Taga and Taga Beach - Tinian
- Renovation of MVA Building - Tinian
- Renovation of the facilities at the Tatachok Beach Park- Rota
- Renovation of MVA's building- Rota
- 360 park at Mt. Sabana in partnership with Mayor of Rota - Rota
- Enhancement of departure and arrival area at the airport – Saipan
  
- **Funds Management**  
MVA will continue to monitor the inflow of cash primarily on the HOT and update the expenditures based on availability of funds so as not to experience the negative financial situation from previous years. The current business relationship with the offshore and local contractors will be sustained to the extent possible keeping its payment terms and commitments intact.

### **CONTACTING MVA**

This financial report is designed to provide CNMI residents and taxpayers with an overview of MVA's finances and to show MVA's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact MVA at (670) 664-3200 or visit our office on Beach Road, next to the San Jose intersection.

**MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY**  
(A Component Unit of the CNMI Government)

Governmental Activities - Statements of Net Position

September 30, 2016 and 2015

	<u>2016</u>	(As Restated) <u>2015</u>
<b><u>ASSETS</u></b>		
Current assets:		
Cash in bank and on hand - restricted	\$ 5,409,967	4,475,547
Accounts receivable entitlement - Government of CNMI	2,184,636	3,245,632
Other receivables	1,404	10,404
Prepaid expenses	<u>50,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>
Total current assets	7,646,007	7,781,583
Noncurrent assets:		
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization	<u>135,368</u>	<u>147,358</u>
Total assets	\$ <u><u>7,781,375</u></u>	<u><u>7,928,941</u></u>
<b><u>LIABILITIES</u></b>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 2,771,825	1,878,574
Accrued liabilities and benefits	<u>434,370</u>	<u>167,074</u>
Total current liabilities	3,206,195	2,045,648
Noncurrent liabilities:		
Due within one year		
Accrued compensated absences	11,489	13,527
Due in more than one year		
Accrued compensated absences	<u>91,119</u>	<u>104,400</u>
Total liabilities	<u>3,308,803</u>	<u>2,163,575</u>
Deferred inflows of resources	<u>-</u>	<u>100</u>
<b><u>NET POSITION</u></b>		
Net investment in capital assets	135,368	147,358
Restricted - expendable	<u>4,337,204</u>	<u>5,617,908</u>
Total net position	<u>4,472,572</u>	<u>5,765,266</u>
	\$ <u><u>7,781,375</u></u>	<u><u>7,928,941</u></u>

*See accompanying notes to financial statements.*

**MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY**  
(A Component Unit of the CNMI Government)

Statements of Activities

For the Years Ended September 30, 2016 and 2015

		Program Revenue		Net (Expenses) Revenues and Change in Net Position	
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities (As Restated)	
				2016	2015
Governmental activities:					
General government	\$ 1,741,878	24,700	-	(1,717,178)	(1,736,220)
Marketing	7,558,772	-	44,008	(7,514,764)	(6,550,390)
Advertising	525,506	43,861	-	(481,645)	(448,542)
Destination enhancement	1,061,195	-	-	(1,061,195)	(156,897)
Support to other government agency	1,898,666			(1,898,666)	-
Bad debts	1,383	-	-	(1,383)	(3,700,406)
Depreciation	48,553	-	-	(48,553)	(41,657)
Total governmental activities	\$ 12,835,953	68,561	44,008	(12,723,384)	(12,634,112)
General revenues:					
Hotel and container tax entitlement				11,399,920	9,797,367
Royalty income				1,509	15,593
Other income				28,470	6,426
Interest income				791	544
Total general revenues				11,430,690	9,819,930
Change in net position				(1,292,694)	(2,814,182)
Net position at beginning of year, as previously reported				5,765,266	7,660,674
Adjustment to reduce liability for accrued retirement contribution				-	918,774
Net position at beginning of year, as restated				5,765,266	8,579,448
Net position, ending				\$ 4,472,572	5,765,266

*See accompanying notes to financial statements.*



**MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY**  
(A Component Unit of the CNMI Government)

Governmental Funds - Balance Sheets

September 30, 2016 and 2015

	<u>2016</u>	(As Restated) <u>2015</u>
<b><u>ASSETS</u></b>		
Current assets:		
Cash in bank and on hand - restricted	\$ 5,409,967	4,475,547
Accounts receivable entitlement - Government of CNMI	2,184,636	3,245,632
Other receivables	1,404	10,404
Prepaid expenses	<u>50,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>
Total current assets	\$ <u>7,646,007</u>	<u>7,781,583</u>
<b><u>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</u></b>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	2,771,825	1,878,574
Accrued liabilities and benefits	<u>434,369</u>	<u>167,073</u>
Total current liabilities	<u>3,206,194</u>	<u>2,045,647</u>
Deferred inflows of resources	<u>-</u>	<u>100</u>
Fund balances:		
Nonspendable - not in spendable form	50,000	50,000
Assigned	<u>4,389,813</u>	<u>5,685,836</u>
Total fund balance	<u>4,439,813</u>	<u>5,735,836</u>
	\$ <u>7,646,007</u>	<u>7,781,583</u>

*See accompanying notes to financial statements.*

**MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY**  
(A Component Unit of the CNMI Government)

Governmental Funds - Statements of Revenues, Expenditures, and  
Changes in Fund Balance

For the Years Ended September 30, 2016 and 2015

	<u>2016</u>	(As Restated) <u>2015</u>
Revenues:		
Hotel and container tax entitlement	\$ 11,399,920	9,586,657
Charges for services	68,561	60,958
In-kind contributions	44,008	80,832
Royalty income	1,509	15,593
Other income	28,470	6,426
Interest income	<u>791</u>	<u>544</u>
Total revenues	11,543,259	9,751,010
Expenditures:		
General government	1,787,683	1,760,185
Marketing	7,558,772	6,631,222
Advertising	525,506	485,535
Destination enhancement	1,061,195	156,897
Support to other government agency	1,898,666	-
Bad debts	1,383	-
Capital outlay-current expenditures	<u>6,077</u>	<u>6,600</u>
Total expenditures	12,839,282	9,040,439
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(1,296,023)	710,571
Assigned fund balance at beginning of year, as previously reported	5,735,836	4,106,491
Adjustment to reduce liability for accrued retirement contribution	<u>-</u>	<u>918,774</u>
Assigned fund balance at beginning of year, as restated	<u>5,735,836</u>	<u>5,025,265</u>
Assigned fund balance, end of year	\$ <u><u>4,439,813</u></u>	<u><u>5,735,836</u></u>

*See accompanying notes to financial statements.*

**MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY**  
(A Component Unit of the CNMI Government)

Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet of Governmental Funds  
to the Statement of Net Position

For the Years Ended September 30, 2016 and 2015

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Fund balance	\$ 4,439,813	5,735,836
<p>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Balance Sheet differ from the amounts reported in the Statements of Net Position because:</p>		
<p>Long-term liabilities that are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported as liabilities in the funds.</p>		
Accrued compensated absences	(15,794)	(18,431)
<p>Deferred inflows of resources for receivables from CNMI that are not available within 60 days after the year-end.</p>		
	-	100
<p>Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported as assets in governmental funds.</p>		
	<u>48,553</u>	<u>47,761</u>
Total net position - governmental activities	\$ <u><u>4,472,572</u></u>	<u><u>5,765,266</u></u>

*See accompanying notes to financial statements.*

**MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY**  
(A Component Unit of the CNMI Government)

Reconciliation of Governmental Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures  
and Changes in Fund Balance with the Agency-Wide Statement of Activities

For the Years Ended September 30, 2016 and 2015

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Net change in fund balance - governmental funds	\$ (1,296,023)	710,571
<p>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance differ from amounts reported in the Statement of Activities because:</p>		
<p>Unearned revenues for receivables from CNMI that are not available within 60 days after the year-end.</p>		
Unearned revenues prior year	-	(3,489,696)
<p>Capital outlays to purchase or build capital assets are reported in governmental funds as expenditures. However, for governmental activities, those costs are shown in the statements of net position and allocated over their estimated useful lives as annual depreciation expense in the statements of activities. This is the amount by which capital outlays exceed depreciation in the period.</p>		
Capital outlays	51,882	
Depreciation expense	<u>(48,553)</u>	<u>3,329</u>
		<u>(35,057)</u>
Changes in net position of governmental activities	\$ <u>(1,292,694)</u>	<u>(2,814,182)</u>

*See accompanying notes to financial statements.*

**MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY**  
(A Component Unit of the CNMI Government)

Notes to Financial Statements

September 30, 2016 and 2015

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements of the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). The Governmental Accounting Standards Boards (GASB) is the primary source of governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. Some of the MVA's more significant accounting policies are summarized below, along with some of the practices that are unique to governments.

A. Reporting Entity

On June 17, 1998, Public Law No. 11-15 was enacted and this law deleted in its entirety Section 302(b) of Executive Order 94-3 and abolished the Marianas Visitors Bureau (MVB) to establish the MVA, a non-stock/nonprofit public corporation organized for the purpose of promoting the visitor industry in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Pursuant to Public Law 11-15, all corporate powers are held and exercised by or under authority of the Board of Directors, subject to the limitations of the Organization's by-laws and the laws of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Board is composed of nine members, of whom five members are appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate and four members are chosen by the members of MVA.

In accordance with its enabling legislation and subsequent amendments, MVA receives an appropriation and entitlement of the hotel room occupancy taxes and alcoholic beverage container taxes collected by the CNMI Government.

B. Agency-wide and Fund Financial Statements

Agency-wide financial statements display information about the reporting government as a whole.

The purpose of the Statement of Activities is to allow financial statement users to determine operating results of the MVA in its entirety over a period of time. It demonstrates the degree to which direct expenses are offset by program revenues.

Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function. Program revenues include charges to customers who purchase or use goods and services provided by a given function. The MVA's program revenues include, but are not limited to, charges to customers from sales during events, fees collected from participants of special events and contributions in cash and in-kind from the private sector.

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY  
(A Component Unit of the CNMI Government)

Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

September 30, 2016 and 2015

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, Continued

B. Agency-Wide and Fund Financial Statements, Continued

In-kind contributions restricted for special events or advertising and marketing activities are classified as revenues and expenses of these activities.

Appropriations from the CNMI and other items not included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

Governmental fund financial statements are separate financial statements for government funds.

MVA maintains only one fund, which is a general fund at the MVA level.

Governmental fund financial statements are organized and operated on the basis of funds. A fund is an independent fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Fund accounting segregates funds according to their intended purpose and is used to aid management in demonstrating compliance with finance-related legal and contractual provisions. The minimum number of funds is maintained consistent with legal and managerial requirements.

Governmental fund types are used to account for the general governmental activities. The operating fund of the MVA is the general fund. MVA has no capital projects or debt service funds.

The financial statements include certain prior-year summarized comparative information in total but not by net asset class. Such information does not include sufficient detail to constitute a presentation in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Accordingly, such information should be read in conjunction with the organization's financial statements for the year ended September 30, 2016, from which the summarized information was derived.

C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation

Measurement focus is a term used to describe which transactions are recorded within the various financial statements. Basis of accounting refers to when transactions are recorded regardless of measurement focus.

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY  
(A Component Unit of the CNMI Government)

Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

September 30, 2016 and 2015

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, Continued

C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation, Continued

Agency-wide financial statements are presented on a full accrual basis of accounting with an economic resources measurement focus. An economic resource focus concentrates on a fund's net position. All transactions and events that affect the total economic resources (net position) during the period are reported. Under the full accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time the liabilities are incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows.

Governmental fund financial statements are presented using a modified accrual basis and the current financial resources measurement focus. Earned revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. Expenditures are generally recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures and other expenditures having a due date are recorded only when payment is due.

Since the fund financial statements are presented on a different measurement focus and basis of accounting than the agency-wide statements' governmental column, reconciliation is necessary to explain the adjustments needed to transform the fund-based financial statements into the agency-wide presentation. This reconciliation is part of the financial statements.

The financial transactions of the MVA are recorded in the general fund. The operations of this fund are accounted for with self-balancing accounts comprised of assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues and expenditures.

The GASB 34 model sets forth minimum criteria (percentage of the assets, liabilities, revenues or expenditures of either fund category or the government combined) for the determination of major funds for financial reporting purposes. GASB 34 also gives governments the discretion to include as major funds those having particular importance.

Net Position/ Fund Balances

Net position in government-wide fund financial statements are composed of three sections:

- Net investment in capital assets:

Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and net of related debts attributable to the acquisition, construction of or improvements of those assets.

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY  
(A Component Unit of the CNMI Government)

Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

September 30, 2016 and 2015

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, Continued

C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation, Continued

- Restricted:

Nonexpendable - net position subject to externally imposed stipulations that require MVA to maintain them permanently.

Expendable – Net position whose use by MVA is subject to externally imposed stipulations that can be fulfilled by actions of MVA pursuant to those stipulations or that expire with the passage of time.

Unrestricted:

Net position that is not subject to externally imposed stipulations. Unrestricted net position may be designated for specific purposes by action by management or the Board of Directors or may otherwise be limited by contractual agreements with outside parties.

Fund Balance

In the governmental fund financial statements, fund balance is composed of five classifications designed to disclose the hierarchy of constraints placed on how fund balance can be spent. The governmental fund balances are classified as follows:

- Non-spendable – includes fund balance amounts that cannot be spent either because they are not in spendable form or because of legal or contractual constraints.
- Restricted – includes fund balance amounts that are constrained for specific purposes which are externally imposed by providers, such as creditors or amounts constrained due to constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- Committed – includes fund balance amounts that are constrained for specific purposes that are internally imposed by the government through formal action of the highest level of decision making authority and do not lapse at year-end.
- Assigned – includes fund balance amounts that are intended to be used for specific purposes that are neither considered restricted or committed.
- Unassigned – includes negative fund balances in other governmental funds.



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY  
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Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

September 30, 2016 and 2015

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, Continued

D. Assets, Liabilities and Equity

1. Receivables and Payables

For agency-wide financial statements, receivables and related revenues are recognized as soon as they are earned, whereas for governmental fund financial statement purposes, receivables and related revenues are recognized only when they are both measurable and available.

Appropriations and entitlements from the CNMI Government, the MVA's major revenue source, are considered measurable and available when they can be collected within 60 days after year-end.

Receivables are reported at gross value and, if appropriate, are reduced by any significant amounts expected to be uncollectible.

2. Prepaid expenses

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid expenses.

3. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property and equipment, are accounted for in the agency-wide financial statements. All capital assets are valued at historical cost. Improvements are capitalized and depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets. Donated assets are valued at their fair value on the date of gift.

Capital assets purchased or acquired with original cost of \$500 or more are reported at historical cost or estimated historical cost. Contributed assets are reported at fair market value as of the date received. Additions, improvements and other capital outlays that significantly extend the useful life of assets are capitalized. The cost of normal repairs and maintenance that do not add to the asset value or materially extend useful lives are not capitalized. Capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method. When capital assets are disposed, the cost and applicable accumulated depreciation are removed from the respective accounts, and the resulting gain or loss is recorded in the Statement of Net Position.

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY  
(A Component Unit of the CNMI Government)

Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

September 30, 2016 and 2015

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, Continued

D. Assets, Liabilities and Equity

Estimated useful lives, in years, for depreciable assets are as follows:

<u>Asset Description</u>	<u>Years</u>
Maintenance equipment	2-10
Furniture and fixtures	3-10
Vehicles	3-5
Building and leasehold improvements	10-20

4. Compensated Absences

Compensated absences represent the accumulated liability to be paid under MVA's current annual leave policy.

Vested or accumulated vacation leave is recorded as an expense and liability as the benefits accrue to employees. In accordance with the provisions of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 16 – *Accounting for Compensated Absences*, no liability is recorded for non-vesting accumulating rights to receive sick pay benefits. Unused leave is payable to employees upon resignation or termination of employment if the employee has completed one year or more of service. An employee cannot carry over to the following calendar year accumulated annual leave in excess of three hundred sixty (360) hours. However, any annual leave accumulated in excess of 360 hours as of the end of the calendar year can be converted to sick leave on the last day of such calendar year. At September 30, 2016 and 2015, accrued annual leave was \$102,608 and \$117,927, respectively.

5. Fund Balances

MVA's board of directors is authorized to assign amounts to a specific purpose. MVA's board of directors has established a policy to provide such authority to the board of directors.

E. Use of Estimates

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and reported amounts of revenues and expenditures or expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY  
(A Component Unit of the CNMI Government)

Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

September 30, 2016 and 2015

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, Continued

F. New Accounting Standards

In February 2015, GASB issued Statement No. 72, *Fair Value Measurement and Application*. This Statement addresses accounting and financial reporting issues related to fair value measurements and requires entities to expand their fair value disclosures by determining major categories of debt and equity securities within the fair value hierarchy on the basis of the nature and risk of the investment. The provisions of Statement No. 72 are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2015. The implementation of this statement did not have a material effect on the MVA's financial statements.

In June 2015, GASB issued Statement No. 73, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions and Related Assets That Are Not Within the Scope of GASB Statement 68, and Amendments to Certain Provisions of GASB Statements 67 and 68*. This Statement aligns the reporting requirements for pensions and pension plans not covered in GASB Statement Nos. 67 and 68 with the reporting requirements in Statement No. 68. The provisions of this Statement are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2015, with the exception of the provisions that address employers and governmental nonemployer contributing entities for pensions that are not within the scope of Statement No. 68, which are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2016. Management has not evaluated the impact that the implementation of this statement will have on the MVA's financial statements.

In June 2015, GASB issued Statement No. 74, *Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans*. This Statement addresses financial reporting requirements for governments whose employees are provided with postemployment benefits other than pensions (other postemployment benefits or OPEB). The provisions of this Statement are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2016. Management has not evaluated the impact that the implementation of this statement will have on the MVA's financial statements.

In June 2015, GASB issued Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*. This Statement provides guidance on reporting by governments that provide OPEB to their employees and for governments that finance OPEB for employees of other governments. The provisions of this Statement are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2017. Management has not evaluated the impact that the implementation of this statement will have on the MVA's financial statements.

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY  
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Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

September 30, 2016 and 2015

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, Continued

F. New Accounting Standards, Continued

In June 2015, GASB issued Statement No. 76, *The Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles for State and Local Governments*. This Statement eliminates two of the four categories of authoritative GAAP that exist under the existing hierarchy prescribed by Statement No. 55. The two categories that will remain under the new standard are (1) GASB Statements and (2) GASB technical bulletins and implementation guides in addition to AICPA guidance that the GASB clears. The provisions of this Statement are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2015. The implementation of this statement did not have a material effect on the MVA's financial statements.

In August 2015, GASB issued Statement No. 77, *Tax Abatement Disclosures*. This Statement requires governments that enter into tax abatement agreements to disclose certain information about the agreements. The provisions of this Statement are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015. Management has not evaluated the impact that the implementation of this statement will have on the MVA's financial statements.

In December 2015, GASB issued Statement No. 78, *Pensions Provided Through Certain Multiple-Employer Defined Benefit Pension Plans*. This Statement addresses an issue regarding the scope and applicability of Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*. This issue is associated with pensions provided through certain multiple-employer defined benefit pension plans and to state or local governmental employers whose employees are provided with such pensions. GASB Statement No. 78 will be effective for fiscal year ending September 30, 2017. Management has not evaluated the impact that the implementation of this statement will have on the MVA's financial statements.

In December 2015, GASB issued Statement No. 79, *Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants*. This Statement addresses accounting and financial reporting for certain external investment pools and pool participants. GASB Statement No. 79 will be effective for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017. Management has not evaluated the impact that the implementation of this statement will have on the MVA's financial statements.

In January 2016, GASB issued Statement No. 80, *Blending Requirements for Certain Component Units*. The Statement is intended to provide clarity about how certain component units incorporated as not-for-profit corporations should be presented in the financial statements of the primary state or local government. GASB Statement No. 80 will be effective for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017. Management has not evaluated the impact that the implementation of this statement will have on the MVA's financial statements.

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY  
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Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

September 30, 2016 and 2015

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, Continued

F. New Accounting Standards, Continued

In March 2016, GASB issued Statement No. 81, *Irrevocable Split-Interest Agreements*. This Statement is to improve accounting and financial reporting for irrevocable split-interest agreements by providing recognition and measurement guidance for situations in which a government is a beneficiary of the agreement. GASB Statement No. 81 will be effective for fiscal year ending September 30, 2018. Management has not evaluated the impact that the implementation of this statement will have on the MVA's financial statements.

In March 2016, GASB issued Statement No. 82, *Pension Issues*. This Statement addresses certain issues that have been raised with respect to Statements No. 67, *Financial Reporting for Pension Plans*, No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*, and No. 73, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions and Related Assets That Are Not within the Scope of GASB Statement 68, and Amendments to Certain Provisions of GASB Statements 67 and 68*. This Statement addresses issues regarding (1) the presentation of payroll-related measures in required supplementary information, (2) the selection of assumptions and the treatment of deviations from the guidance in an Actuarial Standard of Practice for financial reporting purposes, and (3) the classification of payments made by employers to satisfy employee (plan member) contribution requirements. GASB Statement No. 82 will be effective for fiscal year ending September 30, 2018. Management has not evaluated the impact that the implementation of this statement will have on the MVA's financial statements.

In November 2016, GASB issued Statement No. 83, *Certain Asset Retirement Obligations*. This Statement addresses accounting and financial reporting for certain asset retirement obligations. GASB Statement No. 83 will be effective for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019. Management has not evaluated the impact that the implementation of this statement will have on the MVA's financial statements.

In January 2017, GASB issued Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*. This Statement improves guidance regarding the identification of fiduciary activities for accounting and financial reporting purposes and how those activities should be reported. GASB Statement No. 84 will be effective for reporting periods after December 15, 2018. Management has not evaluated the impact that the implementation of this statement will have on the MVA's financial statements.

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY  
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Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

September 30, 2016 and 2015

(2) Reconciliation Of Agency-Wide And Fund Financial Statements

- A. Explanation of certain differences between the governmental fund balance sheet and the agency-wide statement of net position.

The governmental fund balance sheet includes a reconciliation between fund balance – total governmental funds and net position – governmental activities as reported in the agency-wide statements of net position. The net adjustments for 2016 and 2015 consist of the following:

<u>Description</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and are therefore not reported in the fund (total capital assets on agency-wide statement in governmental activities column):	\$ 794,700	605,623
Less accumulated depreciation (458,265)	(659,332)	(458,265)
Net capital assets	135,368	147,358
Liabilities that, because they are not due and payable in the current period, do not require current resources to pay and are therefore not recorded in the fund statements:		
Annual leave liability	(102,608)	(117,927)
Net adjustment	\$ <u>32,760</u>	<u>29,431</u>

- B. Explanation of certain differences between the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance and the agency-wide statement of activities.

The governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance includes a reconciliation between net changes in fund balance - total governmental funds and changes in net position of governmental activities as reported in the agency-wide statement of activities. The adjustments are as follows.

<u>Description</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Some expenses reported in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures.		
Compensated absences – net	\$ 15,319	18,431

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY  
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Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

September 30, 2016 and 2015

(2) Reconciliation Of Agency-Wide And Fund Financial Statements, Continued

Some revenues reported in the Statement of Activities are not available for current financial obligations and therefore not reported as income.

CNMI appropriation	-	210,710
Capital outlays reported in the fund statements	6,077	6,600
Depreciation expense, the allocation of capital outlays over useful lives of the assets, that is recorded on the Statement of Activities but not in the fund statements.	(48,553)	(35,057)
Net adjustments	\$ (27,157)	<u>200,684</u>

(3) Budgetary Information

Accounting principles used in developing data on a budgetary basis differ from those used in preparing financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Amounts included in the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes Fund Balance – Budget and Actual – General Fund (which are presented on a non-GAAP budgetary basis) reconcile to the fund balance on the accompanying Balance Sheet and Statement of Net Position. MVA has no authority to impose taxes to generate revenue. MVA is an autonomous agency and a component unit of the CNMI government and it receives annual appropriations and entitlement from the CNMI government. The CNMI legislative budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. An annual appropriated budget is adopted by the Legislature for MVA through an Annual Appropriations Act.

(4) Cash in bank and on hand

As of September 30, 2016 and 2015 cash and cash equivalents consist of the following:

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Petty cash	\$ 703	703
Cash in bank	<u>5,409,264</u>	<u>4,474,844</u>
	\$ <u>5,409,967</u>	<u>4,475,547</u>

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY  
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Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

September 30, 2016 and 2015

(4) Cash in bank and on hand, Continued

At September 30, 2016 and 2015 the carrying amount of MVA's total cash and cash equivalents (excluding petty cash) was \$5,409,264 and \$4,475,547, respectively. The corresponding bank balances as of September 30, 2016 and 2015 were \$6,026,073 and \$4,539,218, respectively, of which the entire balance was within Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insurance limits or was collateralized by the bank.

(5) Receivable from the CNMI Government

The CNMI Government appropriated a total of \$12,000,000 and \$12,720,001 for MVA's operational use for the years 2016 and 2015, respectively, under the Budget Authority Act of 2016 (Public Law 19-08).

The following is a summary of the changes in the "Due from CNMI government" for the fiscal years ended September 30, 2016 and 2015:

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Due from CNMI government, beginning	\$ 3,245,632	4,402,286
CNMI appropriation and entitlement	<u>11,911,036</u>	<u>9,797,367</u>
Sub-total	15,156,668	14,199,653
Collections:		
For prior year's appropriation and entitlement	(3,245,633)	(707,773)
For current year's appropriation and entitlement	<u>(9,726,399)</u>	<u>(6,545,842)</u>
Subtotal	2,184,636	6,946,038
Write-off uncollectible balance	-	(3,700,406)
Allowance for doubtful accounts	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Due from CNMI government, net	<u>\$ 2,184,636</u>	<u>3,245,632</u>

The due from CNMI government as of September 30, 2016 was subsequently collected in October 31, 2016.

As of September 30, 2015, MVA's board of directors performed an evaluation of uncollectible balances from CNMI government. The board believes that those long outstanding receivables were no longer collectible, therefore the board approved the direct write off of up to \$4.5 million.



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY  
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Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

September 30, 2016 and 2015

(5) Receivable from the CNMI Government, Continued

The actual write off was \$3,700,406. The long outstanding receivables represented uncollected hotel occupancy taxes and appropriations from the past 3 to 5 years.

(6) Investments at Fair Value

GASB 72 requires all investments be categorized under a fair value hierarchy. ASC Section 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures* defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and expands financial statement disclosures about fair value measurements. Under ASC 820, fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. ASC 820 also establishes a fair value hierarchy, which prioritizes the inputs to valuation technique used to measure fair value into three broad levels:

- Level 1 - Quoted prices (unadjusted) for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that a government can access at the measurement date.
- Level 2 - Inputs (other than quoted prices included within Level 1) that are observable for an asset or liability, either directly or indirectly. This inputs can include quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active or inactive markets, or market-corroborated inputs.
- Level 3 - Unobservable inputs for an asset or liability, which generally results in a government using the best information available and may include the government's own data.

In some cases, the inputs used to measure fair value might fall in different levels of the fair value hierarchy. The level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement in its entirety falls shall be determined based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety. Assessing the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgment, considering factors specific to the asset or liability. At September 30, 2016, MVA had no investments.

**MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY**  
(A Component Unit of the CNMI Government)

Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

September 30, 2016 and 2015

(6) Changes in Capital Assets

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the fiscal years ended September 30, 2016 and 2015:

	Balance October 1, 2015	<u>September 30, 2016</u>		Balance September 30, 2016
		Additions Transfer	Deletions Retirements	
Vehicle and equipment	\$ 224,011	-	-	224,011
Office furniture, fixtures and equipment	298,340	31,069	-	329,409
Leashold improvements	152,512	4,801	-	157,313
Maintenance equipment	<u>83,272</u>	<u>695</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>83,967</u>
	<u>758,135</u>	<u>36,565</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>794,700</u>
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization:				
Vehicle and equipment	155,903	19,458	-	175,361
Office furniture, fixtures and equipment	221,338	24,876	-	246,214
Leasehold improvements	152,512	2,396	-	154,908
Maintenance equipment	<u>81,024</u>	<u>1,825</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>82,849</u>
	<u>610,777</u>	<u>48,555</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>659,332</u>
Governmental activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 147,358</u>	<u>(11,990)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>135,368</u>
	Balance October 1, 2014	<u>September 30, 2015</u>		Balance September 30, 2015
		Additions Transfer	Deletions Retirements	
Vehicle and equipment	\$ 224,011	-	-	224,011
Office furniture, fixtures and equipment	290,222	8,118	-	298,340
Leashold improvements	152,512	-	-	152,512
Maintenance equipment	<u>83,272</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>83,272</u>
	<u>750,017</u>	<u>8,118</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>758,135</u>
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization:				
Vehicle and equipment	136,448	19,455	-	155,903
Office furniture, fixtures and equipment	201,005	20,333	-	221,338
Leasehold improvements	152,508	4	-	152,512
Maintenance equipment	<u>77,316</u>	<u>3,708</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>81,024</u>
	<u>567,277</u>	<u>43,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>610,777</u>
Governmental activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 182,740</u>	<u>(35,382)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>147,358</u>

Most capital assets are not directly identifiable to specific governmental activities, thus depreciation expense is presented as unallocated in the Statement of Activities.

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY  
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Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

September 30, 2016 and 2015

(7) Deferred Inflows of Resources

Revenues collected in advance of the fiscal year in which they are earned are recorded as deferred inflows of resources in the agency-wide and fund financial statements. Deferred inflows of resources in the fund financial statements also include revenues that are measurable but not available. Subsequently, all receivables were collected as of October 31, 2016.

(8) Noncurrent Liabilities

MVA's noncurrent liabilities consist of accrued annual leave summarized as follows:

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Beginning balance	\$ 117,927	99,496
Additional accrual	49,091	31,958
Annual leave used	<u>(64,410)</u>	<u>(13,527)</u>
Ending balance	102,608	117,927
Due within one year	<u>(11,489)</u>	<u>(13,527)</u>
Due in more than one year	\$ <u>91,119</u>	<u>104,400</u>

(9) Risk Management

The MVA is exposed to various risks of loss related to thefts of, damage to, and destruction of assets; injuries to employees and third parties; and natural disaster. These risks are covered by commercial insurance purchased from independent third parties.

(10) Commitments and Contingencies

MVA entered into a non-cancelable lease agreement covering their office in Saipan with an initial term of five years expiring on April 16, 2013 with an option to renew for an additional five years with the same terms. The lease agreement calls for payment of \$4,700 per month. Subsequently, MVA extended the contract for another six months expiring October 15, 2013.

On January 16, 2014 MVA entered into a lease agreement for their main office facility in Saipan with a term of five years expiring on January 16, 2018 with an option to renew for additional three years on the same terms and conditions. The lease agreement calls for payment of \$4,500 per month.

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY  
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Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

September 30, 2016 and 2015

(10) Commitments and Contingencies

Minimum future lease payments (excluding the renewal period) are as follows:

Years ending September 30:

2016	\$ 54,000
2017	54,000
2018	<u>18,000</u>
	\$ <u>126,000</u>

(11) Retirement Plan

MVA contributed to the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund's (NMIRF) defined benefit plan (DB Plan), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan established and administered by the CNMI. On September 30, 2013, the DB Plan was transferred to Northern Mariana Islands Settlement Fund (NMISF) and PSS now contributes to NMISF.

On August 30, 2012, Public Law 17-79 was enacted to amend Title I of the Commonwealth Code to include the intent of the CNMI to participate in the retirement insurance system established by Title II of the U.S. Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) and for participation to be extended to elected officials, employees, political subdivisions and instrumentalities of the CNMI. On September 11, 2012, Public Law 17-82 CNMI Pension Reform Recovery Act of 2012 was enacted. Unless specifically exempted or authorized by federal law, Public Law 17-82 provides for mandatory membership of CNMI Government employees and elected officials in the U.S. Social Security system and authorizes employees, who elect to, to buy quarters of service in the U.S. Social Security system from contributions made to the DB plan. In addition, Public Law 17-82 provides active and inactive DB Plan members the option to voluntarily terminate membership in the DB Plan, withdraw or roll over contributions to the defined contribution (DC) Plan and to participate in the U.S. Social Security system without termination of employment or penalty. Further, Public Law 17-82 allows the CNMI Government to continue remitting its 4% employer contribution to the DC Plan unless the employee ceases to contribute its employee share.

On March 11, 2013, Public Law 18-02 was enacted to amend Public Law 17-82 to clarify those provisions necessary to expedite the refunds and to prevent any further frustration of the process. Included in the public law is the amendment of Section 203(a) of Title 1, Division 8, Part 3, which states that the government obligation to withhold and remit the employee's portion to the employee's defined account shall continue with respect to employees who do not terminate membership in the DB Plan.

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY  
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Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

September 30, 2016 and 2015

(11) Retirement Plan, Continued

*Defined Contribution Plan (DC Plan)*

On June 16, 2006, Public Law 15-13 was enacted which created the DC Plan, a multi-employer pension plan and is the single retirement program for all employees whose first time CNMI government employment commences on or after January 1, 2007. Each member of the DC Plan is required to contribute to the member's individual account an amount equal to 10% of the member's compensation. MVA is required to contribute to each member's individual account an amount equal to 4% of the member's compensation. MVA's recorded DC contributions for the year ended September 30, 2016 totaled \$10,871, equal to the required yearly contribution.

Members of the DC Plan, who have completed five years of government service, have a vested balance of 100% of both member and employer contributions plus any earnings thereon.

*Unremitted Employer Contribution prior to September 30, 2013*

The amount MVA recognized as payable to the Retirement fund prior to the creation of the Settlement Fund totaled \$918,775 including penalties as of September 30, 2013

MVA believes that the payable to the Retirement fund is ultimately due from the CNMI central government and not from MVA. The Settlement Order for federal District Court for the CNMI Case No. 09-00023, which states that the NMIRF shall assign to the CNMI government all rights to collect employer contributions deficient as of August 6, 2013 and related costs from the Autonomous Agencies, or any other CNMI instrumentalities, strengthen MVA's position. The beginning net position in the Statement of Activities was restated to reverse the liabilities and prior year expenses accrued amounting to \$918,775.

*Medical and Life Insurance Benefits*

In addition to providing pension benefits, the CNMI Government also ensures that employees are provided with medical and life insurance benefits. The CNMI Government created the Group Health and Life Insurance Trust Fund ("Trust Fund"), held in trust and administered by the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund (NMIRF). MVA contributes to the Group Health and Life Insurance program. This is open to active employees who work at least 20 hours per week and to retired CNMI Government employees who retire as a result of length of service, disability or age, as well as their dependents. Life insurance coverage is to be provided by a private carrier. Contributions from employees and employers are based on rates as determined by NMIRF Board of Trustees. Employee deductions are made through payroll withholdings.

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY  
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Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

September 30, 2016 and 2015

(12) Restatement

The reported beginning assigned fund balance was restated to adjust the liabilities to record only those liabilities requiring expenditure of current resources. The assigned fund balance, beginning, was restated as follows:

Assigned fund balance beginning, as previously reported	\$ 4,106,491
Restatement	
Reduce liability for accrued retirement contribution	918,774
Assigned fund balance, beginning, as restated	\$ 5,025,265

The restatement of 2015 balances are summarized as follows:

	<u>As Stated</u>	<u>Restatement</u>	<u>Restated</u>
Total assets	\$ 7,781,583	\$ -	\$ 7,781,583
Total liabilities	\$ 2,964,421	\$ (918,774)	\$ 2,045,647
Total assigned fund balance	\$ 4,106,491	\$ 918,774	\$ 5,025,265

The reported beginning net position in the Statement of Activities was restated to reverse the accrual of liability to the NMI Retirement Fund. The Settlement Order for federal District Court for the CNMI Case No. 09-00023, states that the NMIRF shall assign to the CNMI government all rights to collect employer contributions deficient as of August 6, 2013 and related costs from the Autonomous Agencies, or any other CNMI instrumentalities. Since MVA's liability to the NMI Retirement Fund is funded by the CNMI government, essentially the CNMI government is liable for the \$918,775.

Net position, beginning, as previously reported	\$ 7,660,674
Restatement	
Reversal of accrual of retirement contributions payable	918,774
Net position, beginning, as restated	\$ 8,579,448

The restatements of 2015 balance are summarized as follows:

	<u>As Stated</u>	<u>Restatement</u>	<u>Restated</u>
Total assets	\$ 7,928,941	\$ -	\$ 7,928,941
Total liabilities	\$ 3,082,349	\$ (918,774)	\$ 2,163,575
Total net position	\$ 7,660,674	\$ 918,774	\$ 8,579,448

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY  
(A Component Unit of the CNMI Government)

Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

September 30, 2016 and 2015

(12) Restatement, Continued

MVA's liability, as it related to the Defined Benefit Plan, will be accrued based on the allocated share of the unfunded pension obligation based on the last actuarial valuation of the NMI Settlement Fund. As of the report date, the NMI Settlement Fund has not provided the allocated unfunded pension obligation of MVA.

(13) Reclassifications of Accounts

Certain reclassifications have been made to the 2015 financial statements to conform to the current year presentation. These reclassifications had no effect on previously reported net assets in the agency-wide financial statements.

(14) Subsequent Events

In preparing the accompanying financial statements and these footnotes, management has evaluated subsequent events through March 15, 2017, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued. There were no such events requiring disclosure.

**MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY**  
(A Component Unit of the CNMI Government)

Budgetary Comparison Schedule

For the Year Ended September 30, 2016

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual</u>	Variance with
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		Final Budget Positive <u>(Negative)</u>
Revenues:				
Hotel and container tax entitlement, net of P.L. 19-08	\$ 12,160,000	12,090,000	11,399,920	(690,080)
Fund of prior years encumbered on projects	3,888,812	4,836,805	-	(4,836,805)
In-kind contributions	-	-	44,008	44,008
Concession vendor fees	-	-	32,615	32,615
Other income	30,000	30,000	28,470	(1,530)
Membership dues	-	-	24,700	24,700
Memorial trust income	-	-	11,246	11,246
Royalty income	-	-	1,509	1,509
Interest income	-	-	791	791
	<u>16,078,812</u>	<u>16,956,805</u>	<u>11,543,259</u>	<u>(5,413,546)</u>
Expenditures:				
Promotion and advertising	8,849,621	9,054,621	8,040,270	1,014,351
Support to other government agencies	3,072,403	3,072,403	1,898,666	1,173,737
Personnel service	1,277,011	1,335,011	1,080,317	254,694
Destination enhancement	1,975,000	1,975,000	1,061,195	913,805
Professional fees	389,000	362,000	204,853	157,147
Tourist site security and maintenance	150,000	259,000	144,749	114,251
Repairs and maintenance	21,000	21,000	66,916	(45,916)
Travel	15,500	18,500	54,211	(35,711)
Rental	54,000	54,000	54,000	-
Printing and publications	111,101	116,701	47,913	68,788
In-kind contribution of promotion and advertising	-	-	44,008	(44,008)
Insurance	31,000	35,000	26,638	8,362
Communications	21,570	25,113	23,729	1,384
Maintenance supplies	8,000	20,000	20,887	(887)
Utilities	31,200	31,200	20,711	10,489
Office supplies	16,400	20,400	16,447	3,953
Fuel and lubrication	15,000	15,000	8,665	6,335
Office equipment, rentals, repairs	7,200	9,200	6,771	2,429
Computer systems and equipment	7,000	9,000	6,077	2,923
Bank charges and penalties	-	-	3,911	(3,911)
Dues and subscriptions	2,000	2,750	2,239	511
Postage and freight	3,000	3,000	1,397	1,603
Bad debts	-	-	1,383	(1,383)
Capital expenditures including MVA office	19,900	516,000	-	516,000
Miscellaneous	1,906	1,906	-	1,906
	<u>16,078,812</u>	<u>16,956,805</u>	<u>12,835,953</u>	<u>4,120,852</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures	-	-	(1,292,694)	(1,292,694)
Assigned Fund balance, beginning of year	<u>1,168,781</u>	<u>3,693,854</u>	<u>5,765,266</u>	<u>-</u>
Assigned fund balance, end of year	\$ <u>1,168,781</u>	<u>3,693,854</u>	<u>4,472,572</u>	<u>(1,292,694)</u>

*See accompanying notes to financial statements.*



**MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY**  
(A Component Unit of the CNMI Government)

Supplemental Schedule

Schedule of Functional Expenditures - Statement of Activities  
For the Years Ended September 30, 2016 and 2015

	General \$ Government	Marketing	Advertising	Destination Enhancement	Support to other government agency	Depreciation	Total 2016	Total 2015
Advertising and marketing	-	8,595,081	525,506	-	-	-	9,120,587	7,116,757
Support to other government agency	-	-	-	-	1,898,666	-	1,898,666	97,910
Destination enhancement	-	-	-	1,061,195	-	-	1,061,195	156,897
Professional fees	204,853	-	-	-	-	-	204,853	67,930
Tourist site security maintenance	144,749	-	-	-	-	-	144,749	161,614
Travel	54,211	-	-	-	-	-	54,211	10,676
Rentals	54,000	-	-	-	-	-	54,000	47,426
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	48,553	48,553	41,657
Printing and publication	47,913	-	-	-	-	-	47,913	45,194
In-kind contributions	44,008	-	-	-	-	-	44,008	80,832
Insurance	26,638	-	-	-	-	-	26,638	27,853
Communications	23,729	-	-	-	-	-	23,729	25,595
Repairs and maintenance	21,110	-	-	-	-	-	21,110	33,754
Maintenance supplies	20,887	-	-	-	-	-	20,887	16,246
Utilities	20,711	-	-	-	-	-	20,711	24,505
Office supplies	16,447	-	-	-	-	-	16,447	14,253
Fuel and lubrication	11,995	-	-	-	-	-	11,995	14,162
Office equipment, rental, repairs	6,771	-	-	-	-	-	6,771	7,396
Bank charges and penalties	3,911	-	-	-	-	-	3,911	3,049
Dues and subscriptions	2,239	-	-	-	-	-	2,239	2,680
Postage and freight	1,397	-	-	-	-	-	1,397	-
Bad debts	1,383	-	-	-	-	-	1,383	3,700,406
Personnel service and related expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	981,200
Rota municipality charter incentive	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	97,910
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 706,952</b>	<b>8,595,081</b>	<b>525,506</b>	<b>1,061,195</b>	<b>1,898,666</b>	<b>48,553</b>	<b>12,835,953</b>	<b>12,775,902</b>

*See accompanying notes to financial statements.*

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORTS ON  
INTERNAL CONTROL AND ON COMPLIANCE**

**MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY  
(A Component Unit of the CNMI Government)**

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YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

**BCM, LLC**  
Suite 203 MH II Building  
Marina Heights Business Park  
P.O. Box 504053  
Saipan MP, 96950

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

To the Board of Directors  
Marianas Visitors Authority

We have audited, in accordance with the 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 statements of the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA), a component unit of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands government, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Marianas Visitors Authority's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated March 15, 2017.

**Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Marianas Visitors Authority's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Marianas Visitors Authority's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Marianas Visitors Authority'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 a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a 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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. 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 may exist that have not been identified.

## **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Marianas Visitors Authority's financial statements are free from 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 entity'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 entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
March 15, 2017

**MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY**  
(A Component Unit of the CNMI Government)

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs  
Year Ended September 30, 2016

**A. SUMMARY OF AUDITORS' RESULTS**

1. The Independent Auditors' Report on the financial statements of the Fund expressed an unqualified opinion.
2. No reportable conditions in internal control over financial reporting were identified for 2016.
3. No instance of noncompliance considered material to the financial statements was disclosed by the audit.

**B. FINDINGS RELATING TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, WHICH ARE REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS**

**Current Year Findings:**

None reported

**Prior Year Findings:**

None reported