

**SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE  
PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND**

---

**AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

---

**YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015**

**WITH**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT**

*State of South Carolina*



*Office of the State Auditor*

1401 MAIN STREET, SUITE 1200  
COLUMBIA, S.C. 29201

RICHARD H. GILBERT, JR., CPA  
DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

(803) 253-4160  
FAX (803) 343-0723

August 24, 2015

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley, Governor  
and  
Members of the Board of Governors  
South Carolina Medical Malpractice Patients' Compensation Fund  
Columbia, South Carolina

This report on the audit of the financial statements of the South Carolina Medical Malpractice Patients' Compensation Fund for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015, was issued by The Brittingham Group, L.L.P., Certified Public Accountants, under contract with the South Carolina Office of the State Auditor.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please let us know.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard H. Gilbert Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Richard H. Gilbert, Jr., CPA  
Deputy State Auditor

RHGjr/cwc

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE  
PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

---

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

---

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

WITH

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE  
PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

---

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

---

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

WITH

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

**CONTENTS**

Independent Auditors Report .....	1
Management's Discussion and Analysis .....	3
<b>Basic Financial Statements</b>	
Statement of Net Position .....	9
Statement of Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position .....	10
Statement of Cash Flows .....	11
Notes to Financial Statements .....	13
<b>Required Supplementary Information</b>	
Schedule of Proportionate Share of the South Carolina Retirement System Net Pension Liabilities.....	35
Schedule of South Carolina Retirement System Contributions.....	36
<b>Independent Auditors Report on Internal Control</b>	
Independent Auditors Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance With <i>Government Auditing Standards</i> .....	37

# THE BRITTINGHAM GROUP, L.L.P.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

501 STATE STREET  
POST OFFICE BOX 5949  
WEST COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29171

PHONE: (803) 739-3090  
FAX: (803) 791-0834

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

Mr. Richard H. Gilbert, Jr., CPA  
Deputy State Auditor  
South Carolina Office of the State Auditor  
1401 Main Street, Suite 1200  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the business-type activities of the South Carolina Medical Malpractice Patients' Compensation Fund (the "Fund" or "PCF"), a non-major enterprise fund of the State of South Carolina as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Fund'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 audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. 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 opinion.

### ***Opinions***

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the business-type activities of the South Carolina Medical Malpractice Patients' Compensation Fund, as of June 30, 2015, and the respective changes in financial position, and cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### ***Emphasis of Other Matter***

As discussed in *Note 1*, the financial statements present only the South Carolina Medical Malpractice Patients' Compensation Fund and do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the State of South Carolina, as of June 30, 2015, and the changes in its financial position, and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### ***Change in Accounting Principle***

As discussed in *Note 17* to the financial statements, in 2015 the Fund adopted new accounting guidance, *GASB Statement No. 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pension – In Amendment of GASB Statement No. 27*. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

### ***Other Matters***

#### ***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, Schedule of Proportionate Share of the South Carolina Retirement System Net Pension Liabilities, and Schedule of South Carolina Retirement System Contributions on pages 3–8, 35, and 36, 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 Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated August 24, 2015, on our consideration of the Fund'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 the Fund's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*The Brittingham Group LLP*

West Columbia, South Carolina  
August 24, 2015

## Management's Discussion and Analysis

### *Overview of the Financial Statement and Financial Analysis*

In accordance with Government Accounting Standards, the Fund produces three primary financial statements: (1) The Statement of Net Position, (2) The Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position, and (3) The Statement of Cash Flows. This management's discussion and analysis of the South Carolina Patients' Compensation Fund's (PCF) financial statements provide an overview of its financial activities for the year.

### *Statement of Net Position*

The Statement of Net Position presents the assets, liabilities and equity of the PCF as of the end of the fiscal year. The Statement of Net Position presents end-of-year data concerning assets as well as liabilities (current and non-current). Our current assets are those, which are reasonably expected to be, realized in one year. Current liabilities are obligations whose liquidation is expected to require the use of current assets.

### *Condensed Statements of Net Position*

	<b>June 30,</b>		
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>Variance</b>
<b>Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources:</b>			
Cash and investments	\$ 7,282,617	\$ 11,700,276	\$ (4,417,659)
Interest receivable and prepaid expenses	295,336	296,696	(1,360)
Capital assets, net	936,618	873,583	63,035
Deferred outflows of resources	42,741	**	**
	<b>\$ 8,557,312</b>	<b>\$ 12,870,555</b>	<b>\$ (4,313,243)</b>
<b>Liabilities and Deferred Inflows of Resources:</b>			
Current liabilities	\$ 11,114,516	\$ 10,836,963	\$ 277,553
Claims payable non current portion	56,514,828	65,228,000	(8,713,172)
Pension liability	508,409	**	**
Deferred inflows of resources	42,863	**	**
	<b>68,180,616</b>	<b>76,064,963</b>	<b>(7,884,347)</b>
<b>Net Position (Deficit):</b>			
Invested in capital assets	936,618	873,583	63,035
Unrestricted deficit	(60,559,922)	(64,067,991)	3,508,069
	<b>\$ (59,623,304)</b>	<b>\$ (63,194,408)</b>	<b>\$ (3,571,104)</b>

\*\* - The June 30, 2014 figures have not been adjusted for the implementation of GASB 68 as this information is not available.

### ***Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position (Deficit)***

The purpose of the statement is to present the revenues earned by the PCF, operating and non-operating, and the expenses incurred by the PCF. Non-operating revenues are those for which goods or services are not provided.

The Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position is prepared on the accrual basis of accounting. Accrual accounting attempts to record the financial effects of transactions of an entity in the period in which those transactions occur, rather than in the period in which cash is received. Revenues are recognized when goods or services are provided. Expenses are recognized when resources are utilized in order to produce goods or services.

### ***Condensed Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position***

	<b>Year Ended June 30,</b>		
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Operating revenues	\$ 11,142,183	\$ 12,453,006	\$ (1,310,823)
Operating expenses	(7,156,330)	6,457,904	(13,614,234)
Operating income	3,985,853	18,910,910	(14,925,057)
Non-operating revenues	86,497	164,006	(77,509)
Change in Net Position	4,072,350	19,074,916	<u>\$ (15,002,566)</u>
Net Position (Deficit) - Beginning of year, restated **	<u>(63,695,654)</u>	<u>(82,269,324)</u>	
Net Position (Deficit) - End of year	<u>\$ (59,623,304)</u>	<u>\$ (63,194,408)</u>	

\*\* - The June 30, 2014 figures have not been adjusted for the implementation of GASB 68 as this information is not available.

### ***Statement of Cash Flows***

The final statement presented by the PCF is the Statement of Cash Flows. The Statement of Cash Flows presents detailed information about the cash activity during the year. The statement is divided into four parts. The first part deals with operating cash flows and reports the net cash flows from the operating activities of the Fund. The second section reports the cash activity related to financing for capitalized items. The third section reflects cash flows from investing activities and shows the interest received from investing activities. The fourth section reconciles the net cash provided or used by operating activities to the operating income displayed on the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position.

## Condensed Statement of Cash Flows

	Year Ended June 30,		
	2015	2014	Variance
Cash provided (used) by:			
Operating activities	\$ (4,284,334)	\$ 24,517	\$ (4,308,851)
Capital and Related Financing activities	(257,204)	(142,104)	(115,100)
Investing activities	4,057,633	950,651	3,106,982
Net change in cash	(483,905)	833,064	(1,316,969)
Cash and cash equivalents - beginning of year	987,692	154,628	833,064
Cash and cash equivalents - end of year	<u>\$ 503,787</u>	<u>\$ 987,692</u>	<u>\$ (483,905)</u>

## Assessment and Rate Increases

The PCF Board of Governors determined that a membership deficit assessment was **not** necessary during this fiscal year. The last membership deficit assessment was in June 2000. The statute grants the Board the authority to make assessments under Section 38-79-450 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976. The PCF Board continues to maintain that no assessments will be necessary for the continued operation of the Fund.

In February 2015 an actuarial review was conducted for the purpose of determining rates for the 2015-2016 plan year. This review was done at the direction at the South Carolina Department of Insurance and the PCF Board of Governors. The PCF Board of Governors voted and approved no change in the rates for the 2015-20-16 plan year.

These rate change considerations were based on the actuary's recommendation and were approved by the PCF Board of Governors. The Board of Governors considered a number of factors in their deliberations including but not limited to claims experience over this fiscal year, competitive place in the commercial market, and a miscellaneous actuarial review while keeping in mind our goal of providing affordable protection for the healthcare providers in the State of South Carolina. Also included in the consideration of the rate changes this year was the effect of Tort Reform. This zero change of the rates makes 11 years of either a rate decrease or no change. This supports the PCF Board's belief that the PCF's financial condition continues to stabilize.

The PCF Board continues to surcharge any licensed healthcare providers who have had issues with regard to their State Board licensing. This surcharge applies where there are issues such as a loss of hospital privileges, criminal activity, sanctions, license revocation or restrictions of the physician's license to practice medicine. The surcharge will remain with the member for a ten (10) year period and is reduced after five (5) years assuming no additional issues have arisen during this time. An inquiry is made to the State Board of Medical Examiners on each new member who applies to the PCF.

The PCF Board of Governors reviews the surcharge for experience rating. A member is surcharge based on the frequency and amounts of settled claims. The surcharge for experience rating remains with the member for 10 years.

The PCF uses independent agents to assist in the underwriting of its members. Agency Commissions were increased to 8% this year. The PCF Board believes that the use of independent agents help to better serve our members.

Finally, the PCF Board has given the underwriting staff authority to offer credits up to 40% per membership to reward members for positive membership activity such as claims free, large group size and unusual (positive) risk characteristic in an effort to be more competitive with the medical malpractice market. Also authorized was the use of up to 15% debits for negative membership activity. The overall impact to the PCF cannot be more than 10% of the membership revenue.

### ***Business Overview***

The Board of Governors is composed of three physicians, two dentists, two hospital representatives, two insurance representatives, two attorneys, and two representatives of the general public, all appointed by the Governor. The appointed members serve a term of six years. Currently we are awaiting the replacement of one physician member and the trial lawyer member. The Governor recently appointed the defense attorney member.

The Board continues to amend its Plan of Operation and Manual of Rules and Rates for efficient administration of the Fund, consistent with the provisions of the Plan of Operations and Article 5 of the enabling legislation.

The Executive Director is charged with the day-to-day operations of the Fund. Quarterly newsletters are sent to the members/stakeholders providing updates concerning underwriting changes, news, risk management initiatives and spotlights on our members.

The PCF functions with a staff of four full-time equivalent employees. Included is one Administrative Assistants, one Program Coordinator, one Program Manager and the Executive Director. One of our Administrative Assistants retired this past fiscal year. That FTE position remains unfilled.

At the close of the fiscal year, the PCF had a membership total of 2,988. This includes one nursing home, 31 Clinics and Hospitals, 187 professional associations, 2,020 physicians, 592 dentists and oral surgeons, 140 Midlevel healthcare providers, 18 pharmacists and other healthcare providers. The PCF paid a total of \$13,125,161 for claims, settlements and judgments during the fiscal year. This represents 30% increase in claims payments made from the prior fiscal year. The PCF collected \$10,859,327 in membership fees which constitutes an approximate decrease of 10% from the prior fiscal year.

The PCF is an organization that works extensively with legal counsel for claims defense, expert witnesses, and claims investigations, all in conjunction with the primary carrier. The effective selection, coordination and management of these professionals are critical to the success of the PCF. It requires professionals with special skills and a high work ethic. For all of the PCF claims that went to trial during this fiscal year, 99% of the claims resulted in defense verdicts. This fiscal year continued to show a downward trend in the total number of claims, however, the severity of the claims reported increased minimally. This appears to be in line with the national trend, which continues to show a soft market for Medical Malpractice insurance.

The PCF has maintained our membership numbers in spite of the continuing practice of South Carolina hospitals purchasing physician practices and to competitive pricing by other carriers coming into the state as a result of a soft medical malpractice market. These factors, along with the increasing number of members choosing lower PCF limits and increased shared limit options, and increased use of credits on membership account for the decrease in membership fees.

The Board has engaged in strategic planning efforts throughout the fiscal year, which included the continual review and revision of the PCF Plan of Operations, Underwriting Manual of Rules and Rates and claims handling procedures. The Plan of Operations details procedural information that provides for economic, fair and nondiscriminatory administration and for the prompt and efficient provision of excess medical malpractice insurance. The Plan contains other provisions including, but not limited to, assessment of all members for expenses, deficits, losses, reasonable underwriting standards, acceptance and cession of reinsurance, appointment of servicing carriers, and procedures for determining the amounts of insurance to be provided by the Fund. The Plan of Operations and any amendments to the Plan are subject to the approval of the Board and of the Director of Insurance or his designee. The Board continues to review and consider legislative changes that will allow for the more efficient operation and management of the Fund.

In 2008, the South Carolina Legislature has passed certain measures that have benefited the Fund (S.669). With the passage of S.669 the PCF Board is making significant strides toward stabilizing the Fund by capping its exposure. S.669 clarified the PCF Board’s authority to set limits of coverage. Prior unlimited exposure has resulted in excessively high incurred but not reported statistics. At the end of this fiscal year the PCF memberships consisted of the following limits:

\$10 Million per occurrence \$12 Million annual aggregate	27%
\$5 Million per occurrence \$7 Million annual aggregate	7%
\$3 Million per occurrence \$6 Million annual aggregate	17%
\$2 Million per occurrence \$4 Million annual aggregate	2%
\$1 Million per occurrence \$3 Million annual aggregate	47%

Active memberships with unlimited coverage ended with May 1, 2010 renewals.

The Fund provides a high level of customer services to its members through enrollment of new members, renewal of current members, collection of fees and payment of claims. It provides credentialing information to hospitals and managed care organizations.

The Board has authorized the revision of the membership agreement and the development of applications to better serve its members. The Board continues to allow its members to pay their annual membership fee on a quarterly basis, with a small administrative fee.

The PCF website now allows new members to apply on-line for a PCF membership, existing members to pay membership fees, and direct access to renewal information for hospitals and managed care organizations credentialing agents.

Physicians and dentists who attend the South Carolina Medical Association and the South Carolina Dental Association Risk Management Seminar, which is co-sponsored by the JUA, receive a discount in their annual membership fee. The new Dentists discount now includes a 40% discount for first year of practice with a 10% discount for the second year. If new dental graduates attend the Risk Management Seminar held at the MUSC Dental School they will also receive a 25% discount on their first year’s membership fees. It is a one-time discount. The discount does not apply to a physician’s professional association.

The PCF consists of four full-time employees. There is one vacant position to the retirement of one administrative assistant. The Executive Director, along with the Board of Governors, closely monitors the staff’s ability to meet the demands and needs of its members, which continue to increase. The PCF is a highly complex organization that works extensively with legal counsel for claims defense, expert

witnesses and claims investigations, all in conjunction with the primary carrier. The effective selection, coordination and management of these professionals are critical to the success of the PCF. It requires a staff with specialized skills and a high work ethic.

### ***Economic Outlook***

The principal challenge facing the PCF is to retain current members and at the same time, adjust membership fees appropriately to reduce the loss reserve liability. The other significant challenge the PCF faces is to manage the claims process effectively and coordinate with the primary carriers for satisfactory resolution of all claims. The PCF's ultimate goal is to provide medical professionals with effective medical malpractice liability coverage, while ensuring that the PCF is in a sound financial position to pay all of its liabilities. There are no pending judgments on appeal that affect the PCF.

Based on actuarial reviews and recommendations, the PCF Board of Governors feels confident that the rates established this fiscal year are appropriate. The PCF continues to rate members for claims experience as well as surcharge members for state licensing issues. New underwriting initiatives have been established to assist in maintaining and improving membership numbers such as discounts based on group size, number of years of continued coverage through the PCF and positive loss experience. Coverage enhancements have also been added which consists of nose coverage for converting a claims-made membership back to an occurrence membership. Step factors for claims-made memberships have been reduced to be more in line with other admitted medical malpractice insurers.

The South Carolina Patients' Compensation Fund shows an overall deficit on its books due to the fact that, since 2002, it has recorded the actuarial liability for unpaid claims as well claims that are "incurred but not reported." Prior to 2002, the Fund's accounts did not reflect such reserves operating on a cash basis. Over the past 14 years the PCF Board of Governors has taken steps to reduce the net deficit of the PCF by \$164,000,000. As a result, the PCF continues to show an upward trend in its overall financial outlook. During the fiscal year, the PCF met all of its financial and legal obligations in a timely manner.

The Fund is not aware of any facts, decisions, or conditions that can reasonably be expected to have a material impact on the Fund's economic outlook during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015.

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

**Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources:**

Current assets:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 503,787
Investments	6,778,830
Prepaid expenses	228,342
Interest receivable	66,994
Total current assets	7,577,953

Non-current assets:

Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	936,618
Total non-current assets	936,618

Deferred outflows of resources	42,741
--------------------------------	--------

Total assets and deferred outflows of resources	8,557,312
---	-----------

**Liabilities and Deferred Inflows of Resources:**

Current liabilities:

Accounts payable	187,500
Accrued liabilities	359,019
Unearned member fees	2,752,997
Current portion of claims payable	7,815,000
Total current liabilities	11,114,516

Other liabilities:

Claims payable, net of discount of \$4,912,000	56,514,828
Pension liability	508,409
Total long-term liabilities	57,023,237

Deferred inflows of resources	42,863
-------------------------------	--------

Total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources	68,180,616
---	------------

**Net Position (Deficit)**

Net investment in capital assets	936,618
Unrestricted deficit	(60,559,922)
Total net position (deficit)	\$ (59,623,304)

*See accompanying notes.*

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENSES,  
AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

**Operating Revenues**

Membership fees, net of refunds (\$259,621)	\$ 10,859,327
Administrative fees	88,516
Miscellaneous income	194,340
Total operating revenues	11,142,183

**Operating Expenses**

Claims	13,125,161
Change in claims reserves	(7,938,172)
Commissions	900,445
Personnel services	356,288
Operating and contractual services	498,356
Supplies and materials	20,083
Amortization	93,257
Loss on disposal of assets	100,912
Total operating expenses	7,156,330

Operating income	3,985,853
------------------	-----------

**Non-Operating Revenue (Expenses)**

Interest income	127,118
Investment account fees	(44,409)
Realized loss on investment	(34,852)
Unrealized gain on investment	38,640
Net non-operating revenue (expense)	86,497

Change in net position	4,072,350
Net position (deficit), beginning of year, as restated	(63,695,654)
Net position (deficit), end of year	\$ (59,623,304)

*See accompanying notes.*

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

**Cash Flows From Operating Activities**

Cash received from members	\$ 10,408,153
Cash payments for claims	(13,125,161)
Cash payments for personnel services	(346,615)
Cash payments for operating and contractual services	(1,200,628)
Cash payments for suppliers	(20,083)
Net cash flows from operating activities	<u>(4,284,334)</u>

**Cash Flows From Capital and Related Financing Activities**

Construction of capital asset	(257,204)
Net cash flows from capital and related financing activities	<u>(257,204)</u>

**Cash Flows From Investing Activities**

Purchase of investments	(1,366,303)
Proceeds from sale of investments	5,118,090
Interest and investment income	305,846
Net cash flows from investing activities	<u>4,057,633</u>

Net change in cash and cash equivalents	(483,905)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	987,692
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	<u>\$ 503,787</u>

(CONTINUED)

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

-CONTINUED-

**Reconciliation of Operating Income to Net Cash Flows**

**From Operating Activities**

Operating income	\$ 3,985,853
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash flows from operating activities:	
Amortization	93,257
Loss on disposal of assets	100,912
Change in assets and liabilities	
Prepaid expenses	(28,859)
Deferred outflows	(42,741)
Deferred inflows	42,863
Accounts payable	112,500
Accrued expenses	124,083
Unearned member fees	(734,030)
Claims payable, net of discounts	(7,938,172)
Net cash flows from operating activities	<u>\$ (4,284,334)</u>
Non-cash investing activities:	
Net increase in fair value of investments (unrealized gains)	<u>\$ 38,640</u>

*See accompanying notes.*

# SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 30, 2015

### 1. **Basis of Presentation and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

The financial statements of the South Carolina Medical Malpractice Patients' Compensation Fund (the "*Fund*") have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applied to enterprise funds of governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The significant accounting principles and policies utilized by the Fund are described below:

Reporting Entity: The South Carolina Medical Malpractice Patients' Compensation Fund was established by Section 38-79-420 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina on July 1, 1976. The Fund is part of the primary government of the State of South Carolina and is included in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the State of South Carolina.

The Board of Governors, whose members are appointed by the Governor of the State of South Carolina, is the governing body of the Fund. The Board was created to manage and operate the Fund. The Board has the authority to set annual membership fees and to make deficit assessments when insufficient money is available to pay the Fund's liabilities. The Board also has the authority to approve and pay claims liabilities and to actively defend the Fund against claims.

The coverage is available to any public or private health care provider in the State. The Fund is responsible for payment of that portion of any covered medical malpractice claim, settlement, or judgment, which is in excess of \$100,000 per incident or in excess of \$300,000 in the aggregate for one year. Effective November 26, 2000, excess coverage thresholds increased to \$200,000 and \$600,000. Beginning in 2009, the Fund began eliminating unlimited coverage from its offered limits. Although the reporting entity operated somewhat autonomously, it lacks full corporate powers. The accompanying financial statements present the financial position, results of operations, and cash flows solely of the Fund and do not include any component units or other agencies or funds of the State of South Carolina.

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Basis of Presentation: The Fund is presented as an enterprise fund of the State of South Carolina. The financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when the liability is incurred or economic asset used. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets and liabilities resulting from exchange and exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange takes place.

-CONTINUED-

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

-CONTINUED-

**1. Basis of Presentation and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

Preparation of 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 disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

The Fund was created by act of the General Assembly for the purpose of providing funds for payment of that portion of any medical malpractice claim, settlement or judgment against a health care provider in accordance with the limits previously defined. The Fund is liable only for payment of claims against "licensed health care providers", which includes physicians and surgeons, directors, officers, and trustees of hospitals; nurses; oral surgeons; dentists; pharmacists; chiropractors; hospitals; nursing homes; or any similar category of licensed health care providers. All providers licensed in South Carolina are eligible to participate in the Fund upon remitting the annual assessment fees in amounts as determined by the governing board of the Fund.

Budget Policy: The Fund is granted an annual appropriation for administrative operating purposes by the General Assembly. The appropriation as enacted becomes the legal operating budget for the Fund for its budgeted activities. The Appropriation Act authorizes expenditures from funds appropriated from the General Fund of the State and expenditures of total funds. None of the funding of the Fund is provided from State General Fund appropriations. The General Assembly enacts the budget through passage of line-item appropriations by program within budgetary unit. Budgetary control is maintained at the line-item level of the budgetary entity. Agencies may process disbursement vouchers in the State's budgetary accounting system only if enough cash and appropriation authorization exist.

Transfers of funds may be approved by the State Budget and Control Board under its authority or by the Fund as set forth in the Appropriation Act for fiscal year 2014-2015 as follows: Agencies are authorized to transfer appropriations within programs and within the agency with notification to the Division of Budget and Analyses and the State Comptroller General. No such transfer may exceed twenty percent of the program budget. Transfers from personal services accounts or from other operating accounts may be restricted to any level set by the Board.

During the fiscal year-end closeout period in July, agencies may continue to charge vendor, interagency, and interfund payments for the fiscal year to that fiscal year's appropriation. For the Fund, any unexpended funds as of June 30, automatically carry over to the ensuing fiscal year. State law does not require the use of encumbrance accounting.

# SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

-CONTINUED-

### 1. **Basis of Presentation and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

State law does not precisely define the budgetary basis of accounting. The current Appropriation Act states that the General Assembly intends to appropriate all State funds and to authorize and/or appropriate the use of all other monies to operate State government for the current fiscal year. The State's annual budget is prepared primarily on the modified accrual basis of accounting with several exceptions, principally the cash disbursements basis for payroll expenditures.

Cash and Cash Equivalents: The amounts shown in the financial statements as "cash and cash equivalents" represent cash on hand, cash on deposit with the State Treasurer and local financial institutions, and cash invested in various investments by the State Treasurer as part of the State's internal cash management pool.

Because the State's internal cash management pool operates as a demand deposit account, amounts invested in the pool are classified as cash and cash equivalents. The pool includes some long-term investments such as obligations of the United States and certain agencies of the United States, obligations of the State of South Carolina and certain agencies of its political subdivisions, certificates of deposit, collateralized repurchase agreements, and certain corporate bonds. Most State agencies participate in the State's internal cash management pool; however, some agency accounts are not included in the pool because of restrictions on the use of funds. For those accounts, cash equivalents included investments in short-term, highly liquid securities having a maturity at the time of purchase of three months or less.

The State's internal cash management pool consists of a general deposit account and several special deposit accounts. The State records each agency's equity interest in the general deposit account; however, all earnings on that account are credited to the General Fund of the State. Agencies record and report their deposits in the general deposit account at cost. However, agencies report their deposits in the special deposit accounts at fair value. Investments in the pool are recorded at fair value. Interest earned by the agency's special deposit accounts is posted to the agency's account at the end of each month and is retained by the agency. Interest earnings are allocated based on the percentage of an agency's accumulated daily interest receivable to the total undistributed interest received by the pool. Reported interest income includes interest earnings, realized gains/losses and unrealized gains/losses on investments in the pool arising from changes in fair value. The Fund only has special deposit accounts. Realized gains and losses are allocated daily and are included in the accumulated income receivable. Unrealized gains and losses are allocated at year-end based on the agency's percentage of ownership in the pool.

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

-CONTINUED-

**1. Basis of Presentation and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

Although the State's internal cash management pool includes some long-term investments, it operates as a demand deposit account; therefore, for credit risk information pertaining to the internal cash management pool, see the deposits disclosures in *Note 2*.

Investments: In accordance with State Law, the Fund may invest in a variety of instruments including obligations of the United States and its agencies and securities fully guaranteed by the United States, certain corporate obligations, certain shares of Federal savings and loan associations and State chartered savings and loan associations, and collateralized repurchase agreements. Within these parameters, the Board of Governors authorizes the investment manager to invest up to 100% in U.S. Treasuries or Agencies, but no more than 40% in Corporate Bonds. No more than 5% of the assets of the Fund may be invested in the securities of any one issuer except securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government or its agencies.

Prepaid Expenses: Prepaid expenses consist of commissions paid to agents in advance upon policy inception and are expensed as policy coverage expires.

Accrued Compensated Absences: Generally all permanent full-time State employees and certain part-time employees scheduled to work at least one-half of the agency's workweek are entitled to accrue and carry forward at calendar year-end a maximum of 180 days sick leave and 45 days annual vacation leave. The Fund calculates the gross compensated absences liability based on recorded balances of unused leave. The entire unpaid liability for which the employer expects to compensate employees through paid time off or cash payments, inventoried at fiscal year-end current salary costs and the cost of the salary-related benefit payments, is recorded as a current liability. The net change in the liability is recorded in the current year in the applicable administrative expense categories.

Unpaid Claims Liabilities: The Fund is considered an insurance enterprise which follows the guidance of *Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 944, Financial Services - Insurance*.

# SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

-CONTINUED-

### 1. **Basis of Presentation and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

The Fund actuarially establishes claims liabilities based on estimates of the ultimate cost of claims that have been reported but not settled, and of claims that have been incurred but not reported. The Fund, because it carries only excess liability coverage, does not incur claim adjustment expenses. The length of time for which claims costs must be estimated varies depending on the coverage involved. Because actual claims costs depend on such complex factors as medical technology, changes in doctrines of legal liability, and damage awards, the process used in computing claims liabilities does not necessarily result in an exact amount. Claims liabilities are recomputed annually using a variety of actuarial and statistical techniques to produce current estimates that reflect recent settlements, claim frequency, and other economic and social factors.

A provision for inflation in the calculation of estimated future claims costs is implicit in the calculation because reliance is placed both on actual historical data that reflects past inflation and on other factors that are considered to be appropriate modifiers of past experience. An independent actuary performs an actuarial study annually with the latest completed in August 2015 for the current year. Adjustments to claims liabilities are charged or credited to expense in the periods in which they are made. Claims liabilities are discounted based upon the Fund's payment experience and interest rates on cash equivalents held. The discounted liabilities provide the amount needed, at the date of computation, to fund liabilities that are expected to be paid in future years.

#### Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources:

In addition to assets, the statement of net position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred outflows of resources*, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. The Fund currently reports deferred outflows of resources in the amount of \$42,741 as of June 30, 2015.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of net position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred inflows of resources*, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The Fund currently reports deferred inflows of resources in the amount of \$42,863 as of June 30, 2015.

Revenue Recognition: The Fund receives fees from members; the fee pays for coverage for a year. Due to the various effective anniversary dates, a provision for unearned fees at the end of every year is estimated. The fees may be paid annually or quarterly. The computation of unearned fees is based upon the amount of the fees, period of payment, and the effective membership dates for participants. This is done to recognize revenue during the coverage period.

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

-CONTINUED-

**1. Basis of Presentation and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

When warranted, the Fund may make deficit assessments, which are recognized as revenue on the date of the assessment.

Due to the nature of the coverage of the members, refunds are often warranted. These occur because of policyholder change of personnel and/or change of information provided by the policyholders relating to employees and their ratings. Refunds are recognized in the year of the refund. These adjustments are taken into consideration in computation of the unearned fees liability.

Operating Revenues and Expenses: Operating revenues and expenses for proprietary funds are those that result from providing services and producing and delivering goods and/or services. It also includes all revenue and expenses not related to capital and related financing, non-capital financing, or investing activities.

Estimates: The preparation of the Fund's basic financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires the use of estimates by management. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Pension Liability

During 2015, the Fund adopted the provisions of *GASB 68 "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions – An Amendment of GASB Statement 27"*. GASB required that the Fund recognize in its government wide statements their proportionate share of pension liability as a participant in the South Carolina Retirement System. See *Note 17* for additional information.

**2. Investments and Deposits**

Deposits: State law requires that a bank or savings and loan association receiving State funds must secure the deposits by deposit insurance, surety bonds, collateral securities, or letters of credit to protect the State against loss.

Custodial Credit Risk: Custodial credit risk for deposits is that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, the Fund will not be able to recover collateral securities that are in possession of an outside party. The Fund's Deposit and Investment policy states that for bank obligations and obligations of savings institutions, deposits shall not exceed the limits of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation unless collateralized as stated in Title 38, Chapter 12 of the South Carolina Code of Laws.

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

-CONTINUED-

**2. Investments and Deposits (Continued)**

The carrying amounts of the deposits for the Fund at June 30, 2015 at local financial institutions was \$446,532. Bank balances were \$1,509,182 at June 30, 2015 and insured as follows:

Amount insured by FDIC	\$	250,000
Amount collateralized by United States Government or Agency Securities		1,259,182
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>1,509,182</u></b>

The remaining deposits of the Fund in the amounts of \$57,255 at June 30, 2015, are deposits held by the State Treasurer. Please refer to the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the State of South Carolina.

Foreign Currency Risk: Foreign currency risk is the risk that changes in exchange rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. The Fund does not maintain deposits that are denominated in a currency other than the United States dollar; therefore, the Fund is not exposed to this risk.

Investments: The Fund's investments that are in the State's internal cash management pool and operate as a demand deposit are classified as deposits. The deposits are held by the State Treasurer. Please refer to the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the State of South Carolina.

As of June 30, 2015, the Fund had the following investments (and maturities) at local financial institutions:

	<b>Investment Maturities (in Years)</b>				<b>Weighted Average Interest Rate</b>
	<b>Fair Value</b>	<b>Less Than 1 Year</b>	<b>1-5 Years</b>	<b>6-10 Years</b>	
Money funds	\$ 57,934	\$ 57,934	\$ -	\$ -	0.01%
Corporate bonds	3,505,568	858,055	2,094,837	552,676	3.57%
Federal agencies	624,268	-	326,043	298,225	4.47%
U.S. Treasuries	2,335,222	318,000	1,566,829	450,393	3.73%
Municipal bonds	255,838	-	-	255,838	2.24%
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$ 6,778,830</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 1,233,989</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 3,987,709</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 1,557,132</u></b>	<b><u>3.86%</u></b>

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

-CONTINUED-

**2. Investments and Deposits (Continued)**

The Fund invests in various fixed income debt securities such as U.S. treasuries, U.S. government backed mortgage securities, state and municipal bonds, and corporate bonds. These fixed income debt securities are reported at fair value (quoted prices in active markets), as required by generally accepted accounting principles. Credit risks for the Funds' total investments are as follows at June 30, 2015:

<u>S&amp;P Rating</u>	
Treasury/Agency	\$ 2,959,490
AAA	558,096
AA	1,189,151
A	1,790,549
BBB	223,610
NR	57,934
	<u>\$ 6,778,830</u>

Reconciliation of Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments: The following schedule reconciles cash, cash equivalents and investments as reported on the Statements of Net Position to footnote disclosures provided for deposits and investments.

**Per Notes to Financial Statements:**

Carrying value of deposits:	
Held by State Treasurer	\$ 57,255
Other	446,532
Carrying value of investments:	
Money Funds	57,934
Corporate Bonds	3,505,568
Federal Agencies	624,268
U.S. Treasuries	2,335,222
Municipal Bond	255,838
Total disclosure, deposits and investments, plus reconciling items	<u>\$ 7,282,617</u>

**Per Statements of Net Position:**

Cash and cash equivalents	503,787
Investments	6,778,830
	<u>\$ 7,282,617</u>

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

-CONTINUED-

**3. Claims Liabilities**

Because medical malpractice liability insurance covers claims occurring during the coverage period and claims emerging over a long period of time and because the Fund has limited claims experience history, provisions for estimated losses incurred but not reported and claims reported but not settled are based on an actuarial formula which is used to estimate the ultimate incurred losses. An independent actuary does an actuarial study each year to determine these liabilities. As a result of the actuarial study as of June 30, 2015, net discounted liabilities for claims were \$7,938,172 less than those at June 30, 2014.

The actuarial study establishes a low, medium and high range for the estimated net claims liability. Management's best judgment is that the low range is the best representation of the Fund's net claims liability. The high and medium ranges are \$81,866,829 and \$75,554,329, respectively as opposed to the low of \$69,241,828 on an undiscounted basis.

As discussed in *Note 1*, the Fund establishes a liability for both reported and unreported insured events, which includes estimates of future payment of losses. The following represents changes in those aggregate liabilities for the year ended June 30, 2015.

	<b>Reconciliation of Claims Liabilities</b>
Unpaid claims at beginning of the fiscal year	\$ 72,268,000
Incurred claims:	
Provision for insured events of the current fiscal year	7,500,000
Increase (Decreases) in provision for insured events of prior fiscal years	2,598,989
Total incurred claims	<u>10,098,989</u>
Payment of claims:	
Attributable to events of prior fiscal years	<u>(13,125,161)</u>
Unpaid claims at end of the fiscal year	69,241,828
Less: claims discount	(4,912,000)
Net claims liabilities	<u><u>\$ 64,329,828</u></u>

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

-CONTINUED-

**4. Long Term Liabilities**

The following is a summary of changes in long-term liabilities of the Fund:

	<b>July 1, 2014</b>	<b>Increase</b>	<b>Decrease</b>	<b>June 30, 2015</b>	<b>Due Within One Year</b>
Claims, net	\$ 72,268,000	\$ 10,098,989	\$ (18,037,161)	\$ 64,329,828	\$ 7,815,000

**5. Accrued Compensated Absences**

The following is a summary of the net changes in accrued compensated absences of the Fund:

	<b>July 1, 2014</b>	<b>Increase</b>	<b>Decrease</b>	<b>June 30, 2015</b>	<b>Due Within One Year</b>
Compensated absences	\$ 15,330	\$ 24,489	\$ (15,330)	\$ 24,489	\$ 24,489

**6. Accrued Liabilities**

Accrued liabilities consist of the following at June 30, 2015:

Accrued salaries and benefits	\$ 25,138
Accrued compensated absences	24,489
Commissions payable to agents	309,392
	\$ 359,019

**7. Pension Plans**

The majority of employees of the Fund are covered by a retirement plan through the South Carolina Retirement System (SCRS), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the Retirement Benefits Division of the South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority (PEBA), a public employee retirement system. Generally, all full-time or part-time equivalent State employees in a permanent position are required to participate in and contribute to the SCRS as a condition of employment unless exempted by law as provided in Section 9-1-480 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, or are eligible and elect to participate in the State Optional Retirement Program (ORP). The SCRS plan provides a life-time monthly retirement annuity benefits to eligible members as well as disability, survivor options, annual benefit adjustments, death benefits, and incidental death benefits to eligible employees and retired members.

# SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

-CONTINUED-

### 7. Pension Plans (Continued)

The Retirement Division maintains five independent defined benefit plans and issues its own publicly available Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) which includes financial statements and required supplementary information. A copy of the separately issued CAFR may be obtained by writing to the South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority, P.O. Box 11960, Columbia, South Carolina 29211-1960. Furthermore, the Division and the five pension plans are included in the State of South Carolina's CAFR.

Under the SCRS, Class II members are eligible for a full service retirement annuity upon reaching age 65 or completion of 28 years of credited service regardless of age. Employees who first became members of the System after June 30, 2012 are considered Class III members and are eligible for a full service retirement annuity upon reaching age 65 or upon meeting the rule of 90 requirement (i.e., the members age plus the years of service add up to a total of at least 90). The benefit formula for full benefits effective since July 1, 1989 for the SCRS is 1.82 percent of an employee's average final compensation (AFC) multiplied by the number of years of credited service. For Class II members, AFC is the average annual earnable compensation during 12 consecutive quarters and includes an amount for up to 45 days termination pay at retirement for unused annual leave. For Class III members, AFC is the average annual earnable compensation during 20 consecutive quarters and termination pay for unused annual leave at retirement is not included. Early retirement options with reduced benefits are available as early as age 55 for Class II members and age 60 for Class III members. Class II members are vested for a deferred annuity after five years of earned service. Class III members are vested for a deferred annuity after eight years of earned service. Members qualify for a survivor's benefit upon completion of 15 years of credited service (five years effective January 1, 2002).

Disability annuity benefits are available to Class II members if they have permanent incapacity to perform regular duties of the member's job and they have at least 5 years of earned service (this requirement does not apply if the disability is a result of a job related injury). Class III members can apply for disability annuity benefits provided they have a permanent incapacity to perform the regular duties of the member's job and they have a minimum of eight years of credited service. For disability applications received after December 31, 2013, a member of SCRS will have to be approved for disability benefits from the Social Security Administration in order to be eligible for SCRS disability retirement benefits. An incidental death benefit equal to an employee's annual rate of compensation is payable upon the death of an active employee with a minimum of one year of credited service or to a working retired contributing member. There is no service requirement for death resulting from actual performance of duties for an active member. For eligible retired members, a lump-sum payment is made to the retiree's beneficiary of up to \$6,000 based on years of service at retirement. TERI participants and retired contributing members are eligible for the increased death benefit equal to their annual salary in lieu of the standard retired member benefit.

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

-CONTINUED-

**7. Pension Plans (Continued)**

Effective January 1, 2001, Section 9-1-2210 of the South Carolina Code of Laws allows employees eligible for service retirement to participate in the Teacher and Employee Retention Incentive (TERI) Program. TERI participants may retire and begin accumulating retirement benefits on a deferred basis without terminating employment for up to five years.

Upon termination of employment or at the end of the TERI period, whichever is earlier, participants will begin receiving monthly service retirement benefits which will include any cost of living adjustments granted during the TERI period. Because participants are considered retired during the TERI period, they do not earn service credit, and are ineligible to receive group life insurance benefits or disability retirement benefits. The TERI program will end effective June 30, 2018 and a member's participation may not continue after this date.

Effective July 1, 2014, employees participating in the SCRS were required to contribute 8.00% of all earnable compensation. The employer contribution rate for SCRS was 15.90%. Included in the total SCRS employer contribution rate is a base retirement contribution of 10.75%, .15% for the incidental death benefit program and a 5.00% surcharge that will fund retiree health and dental insurance coverage. The Fund's actual contributions to the SCRS for the years ended June 30, 2015, 2014, and 2013 were \$41,450, \$39,799, and \$44,201, respectively, and equaled the required retirement contribution rate, including surcharge, of 15.75% for 2015, 15.37% for 2014 and 15.00% for 2013. Also, the Fund paid employer incidental death program contributions of approximately \$390, \$402 and, \$434, at the rate of .15% of compensation for the current fiscal years ended June 30, 2015, 2014, and 2013, respectively.

As an alternative to membership in the SCRS, newly hired employees of the Fund may elect to participate in the State Optional Retirement Program (ORP), a defined contribution retirement plan. The Fund did not have any employees participating in the ORP during the 2015, 2014 or 2013 fiscal years.

Article X, Section 16, of the South Carolina Constitution requires that all State-operated retirement systems be funded on a sound actuarial basis. Title 9 of the South Carolina Code of Laws of 1976, as amended, prescribes requirements relating to membership, benefit, and employee/employer contributions for each retirement system. Employee and employer contribution rates to SCRS are actuarially determined.

While the surcharge to fund retiree health and dental insurance benefits is collected by the Retirement Benefits Division of PEBA, it is remitted to the Insurance Benefits Division of PEBA, which is responsible for administration of retiree health and dental insurance benefits and establishment of the applicable retiree insurance surcharge rate.

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

-CONTINUED-

**7. Pension Plans (Continued)**

At June 30, 2015 the Fund reported \$508,409 for its proportionate share of the net pension liabilities of SCRS. The net pension liability defined of the SCRS defined benefit pension plan was determined based on the July 1, 2013 actuarial valuations, using membership data as of July 1, 2013, projected forward to June 30, 2014, and financial information of the pension trust funds as of June 30, 2014, using generally accepted actuarial procedures. The Fund's portion of the net pension liability was based on the Fund's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the contributions of all participating entities. At June 30, 2014, the Fund's SCRS proportion was 0.2953%, which was the same as its portion of the net pension liability measured as of June 30, 2013. For the year ended June 30, 2015 the fund recognized pension expenses of \$7,286 for SCRS.

At June 30, 2015 the state reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources to pensions from the following sources:

**Deferred Outflows of Resources**

Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 14,406
Contributions made to SCRS from measurement date to June 30, 2015	<u>28,335</u>
<b>Total deferred outflows of resources</b>	<u><u>\$ 42,741</u></u>

**Deferred Inflows of Resources**

Net differences between projected and actual earnings on Pension Plan Investments	<u>\$ 42,863</u>
---	------------------

Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expenses as follows:

Year ended June 30,	<b>Deferred Outflows</b>	<b>Deferred Inflows</b>	<b>Net</b>
2016	\$ (31,505)	\$ 9,430	\$ (22,075)
2017	(3,170)	9,430	6,260
2018	(3,170)	9,430	6,260
2019	(4,896)	14,573	9,677
	<u>\$ (42,741)</u>	<u>\$ 42,863</u>	<u>\$ 122</u>

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

-CONTINUED-

**7. Pension Plans (Continued)**

The total pension liabilities in the July 1, 2013 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age
Actuarial Assumptions:	
Investment Rate or Return	7.50%
Proejcted Salary Increases	Levels Off at 3.5%
Inflation Rate	2.75%
Benefit Adjustments	Lesser of 1% or \$500

South Carolina state statute requires that an actuarial experience study be completed at least once in each five-year period. The last experience study was performed on data through June 30, 2010, and the next experience study is scheduled to be conducted after the June 30, 2015 annual valuation is complete.

The post-retiree mortality assumption is dependent upon the member's job category and gender. This assumption includes base rates which are automatically adjusted for future improvement in mortality using published Scale AA projected from the year 2000.

<b>Former Job Class</b>	<b>Males</b>	<b>Females</b>
Educators and Judges	RP-2000 Males (with White Collar Adjustment) Multiplied by 110%	RP-2000 Females (with White Collar Adjustment) Multiplied by 95%
General Employees and Members of the General Assembly	RP-2000 Males multiplied by 100%	RP-2000 Females multiplied by 90%
Public Safety, Firefighters and Members of the South Carolina National Guard	RP-2000 Males (with Blue Collar adjustment) multiplied by 115%	RP-2000 Females (with Blue Collar adjustment) multiplied by 115%

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments for actuarial purposes is based upon the 30 year capital market outlook at the end of the third quarter 2012. The actuarial long-term expected rates of return represent best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class and were developed in coordination with the investment consultant for the Retirement System Investment Commission (RSIC) using a building block approach, reflecting observable inflation and interest rate information available in the fixed income markets as well as Consensus Economic forecasts. The actuarial long-term assumptions for other asset classes are based on historical results, current market characteristics and professional judgement.

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

-CONTINUED-

**7. Pension Plans (Continued)**

The RSIC has exclusive authority to invest and manage the retirement trust funds' assets. As co-fiduciary of the Systems, statutory provision and governance policies allow the RSIC to operate in a manner consistent with a long-term investment time horizon. The expected real rates of investment return, along with the expected inflation rate, form the basis for the target asset allocation adopted annually by the RSIC. For actuarial purposes, the long-term expected rate of return is calculated by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target allocation percentage and then adding the actuarial expected inflation which is summarized in the table below. For actuarial purposes, the 7.50 percent assumed annual investment rate of return used in the calculated of the total pension liability includes a 4.75 percent real rate of return and a 2.75 percent inflation component. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Asset Allocation	Expected Arithmetic Real Rate of Return	Long-Term Expected Portfolio Real Rate of Return
<b>Short Term</b>	<b>5.0%</b>		
Cash	2.0%	0.3%	0.01%
Short Duration	3.0%	0.6%	0.02%
<b>Domestic Fixed Income</b>	<b>13.0%</b>		
Core Fixed Income	7.0%	1.1%	0.08%
High Yield	2.0%	3.5%	0.07%
Bank Loans	4.0%	3.8%	0.11%
<b>Global Fixed Income</b>	<b>9.0%</b>		
Global Fixed Income	3.0%	0.8%	0.02%
Emerging Markets Debt	6.0%	4.1%	0.25%
<b>Global Public Equity</b>	<b>31.0%</b>	7.8%	2.42%
<b>Global Tactical Asset Allocation Alternatives</b>	<b>10.0%</b>	5.1%	0.51%
Hedge Funds (Low Beta)	8.0%	4.0%	0.32%
Private Debt	7.0%	10.2%	0.71%
Private Equity	9.0%	10.2%	0.92%
Real Estate (Broad Market)	5.0%	5.9%	0.29%
Commodities	3.0%	5.1%	0.15%
<b>Total Expected Real Return</b>	<b>100.0%</b>		5.88%
<b>Inflation for Actuarial Purposes</b>			2.75%
<b>Total Expected Nominal Return</b>			<b>8.63%</b>

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

-CONTINUED-

**7. Pension Plans (Continued)**

The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employee contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that contributions from all SCRS participating employers will be made at contractually required rates, actuarially determined. Based on those assumptions, the plans' fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

The following table represents the Fund's proportionate share of the net SCRS pension liabilities calculated using the discount rate of 7.50 percent, as well as what the Fund's respective net pension liabilities would be if it were calculated using a discount rate of 1.00 percent lower (6.50 percent) or 1.00 percent higher (8.50 percent) than the current rate.

Plan	1% Decrease 6.50%	Current Rate 7.50%	1% Increase 8.50%
SCRS	\$ 657,912	\$ 508,409	\$ 383,680

**8. Post-Employment Benefits Other than Pensions**

In accordance with the South Carolina Code of Laws and the annual Appropriations Act, the State provides post-employment health and dental and long-term disability benefits to retired State and school district employees and their covered dependents. The Fund contributes to the South Carolina Retiree Health Insurance Trust Fund (SCRHITF) and the South Carolina Long-Term Disability Insurance Trust Fund (SCLTDITF), cost-sharing multiple employer defined benefit postemployment healthcare, and long-term disability plans administered by the Insurance Benefits Division (IB), a part of the South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority (PEBA).

Generally, retirees are eligible for the health and dental benefits if they have established at least ten years of retirement service credit. For new hires beginning employment May 2, 2008 and after, retirees are eligible for benefits if they have established 25 years of service for 100% employer funding and 15 through 24 years of service for 50% employer funding.

Benefits become effective when the former employee retires under a State retirement system. Basic Long-Term Disability (BLTD) benefits are provided to active state, public school district, and participating local government employees approved for disability.

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

-CONTINUED-

**8. Post-Employment Benefits Other than Pensions (Continued)**

**Funding Policies**

Section 1-11-710 of the South Carolina Code of Laws of 1976, as amended, requires these postemployment and long-term disability benefits be funded through annual appropriations by the General Assembly for active employees to the IB and participating retirees to the PEBA, except for the portion funded through the pension surcharge and provided from the other applicable sources of the IB, for its active employees who are not funded by State General Fund appropriations. Employers participating in the RMP are mandated by State statute to contribute at a rate assessed each year by the Office of the State Budget, 5.00% of annual covered payroll for 2015 and 4.92% of annual covered payroll for 2014. The IB sets the employer contribution rate based on a pay-as-you-go basis. The Fund paid approximately \$12,998 and \$12,739 applicable to the surcharge included with the employer contribution for retirement benefits for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively. BLTD benefits are funded through a person's premium charged to State agencies, public school districts, and other participating local governments. The monthly premium per active employee paid to IB was \$3.22 for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2015 and 2014.

Effective May 1, 2008 the State established two trust funds through Act 195 for the purpose of funding and accounting for the employer costs of retiree health and dental insurance benefits and long-term disability insurance benefits. The SCRHITF is primarily funded through the payroll surcharge. Other sources of funding include additional State appropriated dollars, accumulated IB reserves, and income generated from investments. The SCLTDITF is primarily funded through investment income and employer contributions.

A copy of the separately issued financial statements for the benefit plans and the trust funds may be obtained by writing to the South Carolina PEBA – Insurance Benefits Division, P.O. Box 11960, Columbia, South Carolina, 29211-1960.

**9. Related Party**

The South Carolina Medical Malpractice Patients' Compensation Fund has significant transactions with the State of South Carolina and various other State agencies.

Services received at no cost from State agencies include maintenance of certain accounting records and payroll and disbursement processing from the Comptroller General; check preparation, banking functions from the State Treasurer, and legal services from the Attorney General.

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

-CONTINUED-

**9. Related Party (Continued)**

Other services received at no cost from the various divisions of the State Budget and Control Board include retirement and health plan administration, audit services, personnel management, assistance in the preparation of the State Budget, procurement services, property management and record keeping, review and approval of certain budget amendments and other centralized functions.

The Fund also had financial transactions with various State agencies during the fiscal year for technical support, office supplies, telephone, interagency mail, and data processing services. The totals paid for these supplies and services were immaterial, individually and in the aggregate, for the years ended June 30, 2015. The Fund provided no services free of charge to other State agencies during the fiscal year.

The Fund is related to the South Carolina Medical Malpractice Liability Joint Underwriting Association as both were created by South Carolina Statute and substantially all members of the JUA are also Fund members. The JUA is responsible for payment of that portion of any covered medical malpractice claim, settlement, or judgment up to \$200,000 per incident or up to \$600,000 in the aggregate for one year.

The Fund is responsible for payments exceeding those thresholds up to the limits established by the Board. JUA by state law is responsible for defense costs of all claims, however the Fund has the right to review and approve all awards that are ultimately made on cases. The Fund reimburses JUA for management oversight per an annual agreement. The fee for this service for fiscal year 2015 was \$150,000. This fee may be adjusted annually for increases in the consumer price index. The JUA is considered a discrete component unit of the State of South Carolina and is included in the State's CAFR.

**10. Restriction on Payment of Claims**

In the event the Fund incurs a liability exceeding \$200,000 to any person under a single occurrence, the Fund may elect not to pay more than \$200,000 per year until the claim has been paid in full. However, the Board of Governors of the Fund may authorize payments in excess of \$200,000 per year so as to avoid payment of interest.

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

-CONTINUED-

**11. Operating Lease**

The Fund leases office space from a party outside of State government and this lease is accounted for as an operating lease. Rental expense under this lease for the year ended June 30, 2015 was \$32,754.

The obligations under this lease are of June 30, 2015 are as follows:

<u>Year Ending June 30,</u>	
2016	\$ 32,754
2017	32,754

**12. Unearned Member Fees**

Unearned fees liability at June 30, 2015 was \$2,752,997, on advance payment of membership fees and open credits. The Fund allows members to pay their fees quarterly, with a 3% administrative charge on the unpaid balance. The administrative fee is due up front and is non-refundable.

**13. Risk Management**

The Fund is exposed to various risks of loss and maintains State or commercial insurance coverage for certain risks. Management believes such coverage is sufficient to preclude any significant uninsured losses to the Fund. The Fund has not had any claims in recent years. There were no significant reductions in insurance coverage from coverage in the prior year. The Fund pays insurance premiums to certain other State agencies and commercial insurers to cover risk that may occur in normal operations. The insurers promise to pay to or on behalf of the insured for covered premium losses sustained during the policy period in accord with the insurance policy and benefit program limits.

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

-CONTINUED-

**13. Risk Management (Continued)**

Several State funds accumulate assets and the State itself assumes substantially all risks for the following:

1. Claims of covered employees for health and dental insurance benefits (PEBA – Insurance Benefits).
2. Claims of covered public employees for long-term disability and group-life insurance benefits (PEBA – Insurance Benefits).
3. Claims of covered public employees for workers' compensation insurance benefits (State Accident Fund).
4. Claims of covered public employees for unemployment compensation insurance benefits (Department of Employment and Workforce).

The Fund and other entities pay premiums to the State's Insurance Reserve Fund ("the *IRF*") which issues policies, accumulates assets to cover the risks of loss and pays claims incurred for covered losses related to the following Fund assets, activities, and/or events:

1. Personal property and equipment - Eighty percent of each loss is covered by the IRF. Losses are subject to a \$250 deductible.
2. Data processing equipment- Coverage is up to \$100,000 per loss with a \$250 deductible.
3. Torts

The IRF is a self-insurer and purchases reinsurance to obtain certain services and specialized coverage and to limit losses in the areas of property, boiler and machinery, and automobile liability. The IRF's rates are determined actuarially. State agencies are the primary participants in the State's Health and Disability Insurance Fund and in the IRF.

The Fund also purchases insurance coverage for employee fidelity bond insurance coverage arising from theft or misappropriations.

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

-CONTINUED-

**14. Net Deficit**

The Fund has experienced operating losses in prior years, which has resulted in a net deficit of \$59,617,433. The operating losses were attributable to large amounts of paid and reported claims, which have substantially affected the actuarial determination of claims liabilities. Also, other contributing factors are that: (1) until recently, the Fund's coverage was unlimited, (2) prior to 2001, the Fund did not maintain reserves for unreported claims, and (3) the Fund does not purchase reinsurance to help defray the effect of large individual claims.

There are certain factors that help to mitigate the effects of the large deficit. The first is that the Fund can assess members' additional fees if needed. This authority to assess has been exercised in the past such as an April 1998 special assessment which approximated \$7,450,000. Also in September 2000, the Fund exercised a special assessment, which amounted to approximately \$16,000,000. Additionally, to conserve cash, if necessary, the Fund can restrict payment of claims as discussed in *Note 10*. Also as noted in *Note 1*, the threshold for covered losses has increased to \$200,000 and \$600,000. Also, in 2003 the fund began allowing members to purchase, at lower rates, policies with reduced coverage limits of up to \$10,000,000 instead of unlimited coverage. Finally, during 2009, the Board voted to discontinue offering unlimited coverage.

Due to the actions above, the Fund has successfully reduced the deficit by over \$164,000,000 over the last 11 years.

**15. Capital Assets**

The following is a schedule of capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2015:

	<u>July 1, 2014</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>June 30, 2015</u>
Software development in progress	\$ 687,284	\$ 257,204	\$ (944,488)	\$ -
Software	<u>465,748</u>	<u>944,488</u>	<u>(465,748)</u>	<u>944,488</u>
	1,153,032	1,201,692	(1,410,236)	944,488
Less: accumulated amortization software	<u>(279,449)</u>	<u>(93,257)</u>	<u>364,836</u>	<u>(7,870)</u>
	<u>\$ 873,583</u>	<u>\$ 1,108,435</u>	<u>\$ (1,045,400)</u>	<u>\$ 936,618</u>

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

-CONTINUED-

**16. Enterprise Fund Information**

Charges for services	\$	11,142,183
Non-operating contributions, net		86,497
Less: expenses		<u>(7,156,330)</u>
Change in net position		4,072,350
Net position - beginning, as restated		<u>(63,695,654)</u>
Net deficit - ending	\$	<u><u>(59,623,304)</u></u>

This information is included only for the State of South Carolina GAAP reporting purposes and includes terminology and classifications which are not consistent with the financial statements.

**17. Restatement**

The Fund implemented the provisions of GASB 68 during the current year. The implementation requires the Fund to restate its beginning net position. The balances that were affected are as follows:

Audited net position as of June 30, 2014	\$	(63,194,408)
Contributions made in fiscal year 2014		28,417
Pension liability		(529,663)
Restated net position as of June 30, 2014	\$	<u><u>(63,695,654)</u></u>

**18. Subsequent Events**

Subsequent events were evaluated through August 24, 2015, which is the date the financial statements were available for issue. Events occurring after that date have not been evaluated to determine whether a change in the financial statements would be required.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND  
SCHEDULE OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF  
THE SOUTH CAROLINA RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
NET PENSION LIABILITIES

LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS\*

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Fund's proportion of the net pension liability	0.2953%	0.2953%
Fund's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 508,409	\$ 529,663
Fund's covered-employee payroll	\$ 259,958	\$ 263,131
Fund's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	195.57%	201.29%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	59.92%	56.39%

\* - The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of July 1 of two years prior, using membership data as of the day, projected forward to June 30 of the previous year. Additionally, the Fund implemented GASB 68 during fiscal year 2015. As such, only the last two years of information is available

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE PATIENTS' COMPENSATION FUND  
SCHEDULE OF SOUTH CAROLINA RETIREMENT SYSTEM CONTRIBUTIONS

LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Contractually required contributions	\$ 28,335	\$ 28,417	\$ 30,713	\$ 26,702	\$ 26,287	\$ 25,858	\$ 25,355	\$ 24,757	\$ 21,128	\$ 20,242
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	(28,335)	(28,417)	(30,713)	(26,702)	(26,287)	(25,858)	(25,355)	(24,757)	(21,128)	(20,242)
Contribution deficiency/(excess)	<u>\$ -</u>									
Fund covered-employee payroll	\$ 259,958	\$ 263,131	\$ 289,737	\$ 280,196	\$ 279,944	\$ 275,374	\$ 270,018	\$ 268,808	\$ 257,665	\$ 262,885
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	10.90%	10.80%	10.60%	9.53%	9.39%	9.39%	9.39%	9.21%	8.20%	7.70%

# THE BRITTINGHAM GROUP, L.L.P.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

501 STATE STREET  
POST OFFICE BOX 5949  
WEST COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29171

---

PHONE: (803) 739-3090

FAX: (803) 791-0834

## **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***

Mr. Richard H. Gilbert, Jr., CPA  
Deputy State Auditor  
South Carolina Office of the State Auditor  
1401 Main Street, Suite 1200  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

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 business-type activities, of South Carolina Medical Malpractice Patients' Compensation Fund (the "Fund"), a non-major enterprise fund of the State of South Carolina as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Fund's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated August 24, 2015.

### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Fund'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 Fund's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Fund'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. 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 Fund'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.

*The Brittingham Group LLP*

West Columbia, South Carolina  
August 24, 2015