

February 5, 2024

To the Honorable David Johnson Property Appraiser of Seminole County, Florida Sanford, Florida

We have audited the special purpose financial statements of the Seminole County, Florida Property Appraiser (the "Property Appraiser") for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated February 5, 2024. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information as documented in our workpapers dated November 29, 2023. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

SIGNIFICANT AUDIT FINDINGS

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the Property Appraiser are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2023. We noted no transactions entered into by the governmental unit during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the special purpose financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected.

Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. We did not note any sensitive disclosures affecting the financial statements. The disclosures in the financial statements are neutral, consistent, and clear.

DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED IN PERFORMING THE AUDIT

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

CORRECTED AND UNCORRECTED MISSTATEMENTS

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. There were no misstatements identified in our audit. In addition, there were no waived audit adjustments for management to assess.

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To the Honorable David Johnson Property Appraiser of Seminole County, Florida February 5, 2024 Page 2

DISAGREEMENTS WITH MANAGEMENT

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATIONS

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated February 5, 2024.

MANAGEMENT CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the governmental unit's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

OTHER AUDIT FINDINGS OR ISSUES

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the governmental unit's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

RESTRICTION ON USE

This information is intended solely for the use of David Johnson, Seminole County Property Appraiser, and management of the Property Appraiser and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

MSL, P.A.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ended September 30, 2023

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Honorable David Johnson Property Appraiser of Seminole County, Florida

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Seminole County, Florida Property Appraiser (the "Property Appraiser") as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Property Appraiser's basic financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the Property Appraiser, as of September 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position, and the budgetary comparison for the general fund for the fiscal year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

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. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Property Appraiser, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Emphasis-of-Matter

As described in Note 1 to the financial statements, the accompanying financial statements were prepared for the purpose of complying with Section 218.39, Florida Statutes, and Section 10.557(3), *Rules of the Auditor General for Local Governmental Entity Audits*. These financial statements are not intended to be a complete presentation of financial position of Seminole County, Florida as of September 30, 2023, and the changes in its financial position for the fiscal year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (Continued)

Responsibilities of Management 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, and for 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Property Appraiser's ability to continue as a going concern for 12 months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 Property Appraiser's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Property Appraiser's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (Concluded)

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 5, 2024, on our consideration of the Property Appraiser'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 Property Appraiser's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

MSL, P.A.

Certified Public Accountants

BALANCE SHEET - GENERAL FUND

September 30, 2023

ASSETS

Cash

	\$ 94,054
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 94,054

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable		\$ 13,445
Due to employees		3,623
Due to Board of County Commissioners		75,900
Due to other governments		 1,086
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	 94,054
FUND BALANCE		
Unassigned		 -
	TOTAL FUND BALANCE	 -
	TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	\$ 94,054

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - GENERAL FUND

Year Ended September 30, 2023

REVENUES Charges for services Miscellaneous revenue			96,758 5,694
	TOTAL UNRESTRICTED REVENUES	10	02,452
EXPENDITURES Current: General government:			
Salaries and benefits Capital outlay			50,478
Operating expenditures			74,501 80,650
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	6,85	5,629
	DEFICIENCY OF REVENUES		
	UNDER EXPENDITURES	(6,75	53,177)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) Transfers in from Board of County			
Commissioners		6,82	29,077
Transfers out to Board of County Commissioners		(7	75,900)
	TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	6,75	53,177
	NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE		-
FUND BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR			-
FUND BALANCE AT END OF YEAR		\$	-

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - GENERAL FUND - BUDGET AND ACTUAL

Year Ended September 30, 2023

	Original Budget Final Budget		Actual	Variance	
REVENUES					
Charges for services	\$ 97,844	\$ 97,844	\$ 96,758	\$ (1,086)	
Miscellaneous revenue			5,694	5,694	
TOTAL REVENUES	97,844	97,844	102,452	4,608	
EXPENDITURES					
Current:					
General government:					
Salaries and benefits	6,201,595 6,029,023		5,950,478	78,545	
Capital outlay	20,000 74,700		74,501	199	
Operating expenditures	705,150	835,550	830,650	4,900	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	6,926,745	6,939,273	6,855,629	83,644	
DEFICIENCY OF REVENUES UNDER EXPENDITURES	(6,828,901)	(6,841,429)	(6,753,177)	88,252	
	(0,020,901)	(0,011,12))	(0,700,177)	00,202	
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					
Transfers in from Board of County	<				
Commissioners	6,828,901	6,841,429	6,829,077	(12,352)	
Transfers out to Board of County Commissioners			(75,900)	(75,900)	
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING					
SOURCES (USES)	6,828,901	6,841,429	6,753,177	(88,252)	
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	-	-	-	-	
FUND BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR					
FUND BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	<u>\$ -</u>	\$ -	<u>\$ -</u>	\$ -	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ended September 30, 2023

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following is a summary of the more significant accounting policies used in the preparation of these financial statements.

Reporting Requirement

The Seminole County, Florida Property Appraiser (the "Property Appraiser") is a separately elected county official, established pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Florida. These financial statements are not intended to be a complete presentation of the financial position of Seminole County, Florida (the "County") as of September 30, 2023, and the changes in its financial position for the fiscal year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These financial statements are presented to comply with the requirements of Section 218.39, Florida Statutes, and Section 10.557(3) of the *Rules of the Auditor General for Local Governmental Entity Audits*. The Property Appraiser's General Fund is combined with the Board of County Commissioners' (the "Board") and other constitutional officers' general funds in the County's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report ("ACFR") to properly reflect the county-wide General Fund.

Description of Fund

The accounting records are organized on the basis of funds and classified for reporting purposes into one basic fund type:

<u>General Fund</u> – The General Fund is a governmental fund used to account for all revenues and expenditures applicable to the general operations of the Property Appraiser. The General Fund measurement focus is based upon a determination of financial position and changes in financial position (sources, uses and balances of financial resources, rather than upon net income determination).

Basis of Accounting and Presentation

The accounts of the General Fund are maintained on the modified accrual basis. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, expenditures are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, and revenues are recorded when received in cash or when they are considered both measurable and available and, as such, susceptible to accrual. The extent to which General Fund revenues exceed General Fund expenditures is reflected as a liability in compliance with Florida Statutes.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Transfers

In accordance with Florida Statutes, all unexpended balances at year end are owed to the Board. These excess fees are reported as transfers out. Appropriations from the Board are presented as transfers in.

Capital Assets

The tangible personal property used by the Property Appraiser is reported as capital assets in the statement of net position as part of the basic financial statements of the County. Upon acquisition, such assets are recorded as expenditures in the General Fund of the Property Appraiser and are capitalized at cost in the capital assets accounts of the County. The Property Appraiser maintains custodial responsibility for the capital assets used by its office.

NOTE 2 - CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Cash

Cash consists of various demand deposit accounts, which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or are covered by the State of Florida collateral pool, a multiple, financial institution pool with the ability to assess its members for collateral shortfalls if a member institution fails.

Investments

Florida Statutes 218.415, 219.075, and the Property Appraiser's investment policy authorize investments in repurchase agreements administered by the Florida State Board of Administration. The Property Appraiser had no investments at September 30, 2023.

NOTE 3 - PENSION PLAN

Plan Description

The Property Appraiser's employees participate in the Florida Retirement System ("FRS"), a multiple-employer, cost-sharing, retirement system, administered by the Florida Department of Management Services. The Property Appraiser's employees have the option of choosing between either a Defined Contribution plan or a Defined Benefit plan. As a general rule, membership in the FRS is compulsory for all employees working in a regularly established position for a state agency, county government, district school board, state university, community college, or a participating city or special district within the State of Florida.

For financial reporting purposes, the Property Appraiser is deemed to be part of the primary government of the County. The liability, if any, related to the Property Appraiser's proportionate share of FRS retirement benefits, along with a detailed plan description, is reported in the financial statements of the County for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

Plan Description (Continued)

The Property Appraiser has no responsibility to FRS other than to make the periodic contributions required by State Statutes. The Florida Division of Retirement issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for FRS. The report may be obtained by writing to the Florida Division of Retirement, 2639 Monroe Street, Building C, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1560.

Funding Policy

The Property Appraiser's contributions to the FRS for fiscal years ended September 30, 2021 through 2023 were: \$529,183, \$566,088, and \$667,381, respectively, which were equal to the required contribution for each fiscal year.

Employees are required to contribute 3% towards the FRS. Employee withholdings for this purpose amounted to \$86,370, \$89,334, and \$101,985, for the fiscal years ended September 30, 2021 through 2023, respectively, which were equal to the required contribution for each fiscal year.

NOTE 4 - INSURANCE COVERAGE

The County maintains a self-insurance program that provides for coverage of substantially all risks. Various excess catastrophic insurance policies with a commercial carrier are also in force for claims exceeding the amount chargeable against the loss fund. Any public liability loss, which exceeds the self-insurance coverage limit, would remain the responsibility of the County. The Property Appraiser participated in the County's self-insurance program during fiscal year 2023. For additional information related to these programs, see the County's ACFR for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

NOTE 5 - LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

The Property Appraiser incurs a liability for employees' rights to receive compensation for future absences when certain conditions are met. The Property Appraiser is not legally required and does not accumulate expendable, available financial resources to liquidate this obligation. A summary of changes in long-term liabilities for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023 is as follows:

Balance October 1,				Balance September 30,	
	2022	Additions	Retirements	2023	One Year
Compensated absences	\$ 479,671	\$ 560,405	\$ 560,738	\$ 479,338	\$ 468,034

NOTE 6 - CONTINEGENCIES

Various lawsuits and claims arising in the ordinary course of operations are pending against the Property Appraiser. These primarily relate to property assessments within the County. The ultimate effect of such litigation cannot be ascertained at this time. In the opinion of the Property Appraiser's management, the liabilities that may arise from such action would not result in losses that would materially affect the financial position of the Property Appraiser or its changes in financial position.

NOTE 7 - OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

All eligible employees of the Property Appraiser participate in the County's plan. For a detailed plan description and any liability for employees of the Property Appraiser, see the County's ACFR for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

COMPLIANCE SECTION



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 Honorable David Johnson Property Appraiser of Seminole County, Florida

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 Seminole County, Florida Property Appraiser (the "Property Appraiser") as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Property Appraisers basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated February 5, 2024.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

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

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Property Appraiser'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 over financial reporting 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.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Property Appraiser's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. 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*.

Pursuant to provisions of Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General, we reported certain matters to management of the Property Appraiser's in a separate management letter dated February 5, 2024.

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 Property Appraiser'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 Property Appraiser's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

MSL, P.A.

Certified Public Accountants



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT LETTER

To the Honorable David Johnson Property Appraiser of Seminole County, Florida

Report on Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the Seminole County, Florida Property Appraiser (the "Property Appraiser") as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated February 5, 2024.

Auditor's Responsibility

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*.

Other Reporting Requirements

We have issued our 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*, and our Independent Accountant's Report in accordance with AICPA Professional Standards, AT-C Section 315, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*. Disclosures in those reports and schedule, which are dated February 5, 2024, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

Prior Audit Findings

Section 10.554(1)(i)1., *Rules of the Auditor General*, requires that we determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial report. In connection with the preceding audit, there were no findings or recommendations.

Official Title and Legal Authority

Section 10.554(1)(i)4., *Rules of the Auditor General*, requires that the name or official title and legal authority for the primary government and each component unit of the reporting entity be disclosed in this management letter, unless disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. The legal authority is disclosed in the notes to financial statements.

Financial Management

Section 10.554(1)(i)2., *Rules of the Auditor General*, requires that we communicate any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.

Additional Matters

Section 10.554(1)(i)3., *Rules of the Auditor General*, requires us to communicate noncompliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or is likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but which warrants the attention of those charged with governance. In connection with our audit, we did not note any such findings.

Purpose of this Letter

Our management letter is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, federal and other granting agencies, the Property Appraiser, and applicable management, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

MSL, P.A.

Certified Public Accountants



INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

To the Honorable David Johnson Property Appraiser of Seminole County, Florida

We have examined the Seminole County, Florida Property Appraiser's (the "Property Appraiser") compliance with the requirements of Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023. Management is responsible for the Property Appraiser's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Property Appraiser's compliance based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Property Appraiser is in accordance with those requirements, in all material respects. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the Property Appraiser's compliance with those requirements. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks of noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the Property Appraiser's compliance with specified requirements.

We are required to be independent and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to the examination engagement. Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the Property Appraiser's compliance with the specified requirements.

In our opinion, the Property Appraiser complied, in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

MSL, P.A.

Certified Public Accountants