

**HILL COUNTY, TEXAS**

**SINGLE AUDIT REPORT**

**For the Year Ended  
September 30, 2023**



**HILL COUNTY, TEXAS**

SINGLE AUDIT REPORT

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

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**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 County Judge  
and Members of the Commissioners’ Court  
Hill County, Texas

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 governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Hill County, Texas (the “County”), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County’s basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 13, 2025.

***Report on Control Over Financial Reporting***

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the County’s internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for determining 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 the County’s internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County’s internal control.

*A deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity’s financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We identified a deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as Item 2023-001, that we consider to be a material weakness.

**OFFICE LOCATIONS**

**TEXAS** | Waco | Temple | Hillsboro | Houston  
**NEW MEXICO** | Albuquerque



**Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the County’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 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 instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*, and which are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as Item 2023-001.

**Hill County, Texas’ Response to Findings**

*Government Auditing Standards* requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the County’s response to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. The County’s response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

**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 County’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 County’s internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Pattillo, Brown & Hill, L.L.P.

Waco, Texas  
March 13, 2025

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR  
FEDERAL PROGRAM AND REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER  
COMPLIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE *UNIFORM GUIDANCE***

Honorable County Judge  
and Members of the Commissioners' Court  
Hill County, Texas

**Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program**

***Opinion on Each Major Federal Program***

We have audited Hill County, Texas' (the "County") compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the County's major federal programs for the year ended September 30, 2023. The County's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditors' results section of the accompanying *Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs*.

In our opinion, the County complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended September 30, 2023.

***Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program***

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*); the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance)*. Our responsibilities under those standards and the *Uniform Guidance* are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the County and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with 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 opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the County's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

***Responsibilities of Management for Compliance***

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the County's federal programs.

## **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the County's compliance based on our audit. 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 GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, the *Uniform Guidance* will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about County's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the *Uniform Guidance*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, 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 County's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of the County's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the *Uniform Guidance*, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

## **Report on Internal Control Over Compliance**

A *deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance* section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

**Report on Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Required by the *Uniform Guidance***

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the County as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements. We issued our report thereon, dated March 13, 2025, which contained unmodified opinions on those financial statements. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the basic financial statements. The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by the *Uniform Guidance* and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the *Uniform Guidance*. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

*Pattillo, Brown & Hill, L.L.P.*

Waco, Texas  
March 13, 2025

**HILL COUNTY, TEXAS**

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Federal Grantor/Pass-through Grantor/Program or Cluster Title	Assistance Listing Number	Pass-through Entity Identifying Number	Total Federal Expenditures
<b>FEDERAL AWARDS</b>			
<b><u>U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE</u></b>			
Direct:			
State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (FY22)	16.606	N/A	\$ 11,531
State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (FY23)	16.606	N/A	<u>12,704</u>
Subtotal 16.606			<u>24,235</u>
Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program	16.607	N/A	6,544
Equitable Sharing Program	16.922	N/A	<u>14,517</u>
Total Direct			<u>45,296</u>
Passed through the Texas Office of the Governor:			
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program	16.738	4025602	<u>474</u>
Total U. S. Department of Justice			<u>45,770</u>
<b><u>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY</u></b>			
Direct:			
COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027	N/A	2,533,780
COVID-19 Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund	21.032	N/A	<u>102,151</u>
Total U.S. Department of the Treasury			<u>2,635,931</u>
<b><u>U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES</u></b>			
Passed through the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services:			
Child Support Enforcement Title IV-D	93.563	N/A	15,490
Child Support Enforcement Title IV-D	93.563	N/A	<u>3,445</u>
Total Passed through the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services			<u>18,935</u>
Total Federal Expenditures			<u>\$ 2,700,636</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.

**HILL COUNTY, TEXAS**

NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

**1. GENERAL**

The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards presents the activity of all applicable federal awards programs of the County. The County's reporting entity is defined in Note 1 of the basic financial statements. Federal awards received directly from federal agencies, as well as federal awards passed through other government agencies, are included on the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards.

**2. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is presented using the modified accrual basis of accounting. The modified accrual basis of accounting is described in Note 1 of the basic financial statements. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance)*. Therefore, some of the amounts presented in this schedule may differ from amounts presented in, or used in the preparation of, the financial statements.

**3. INDIRECT COST RATE**

The County has elected not to use the de minimis indirect cost rate allowed in the *Uniform Guidance*.

**HILL COUNTY, TEXAS**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

**Summary of Auditor's Results**

Financial Statements:

Type of auditor's report issued Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:

Material weakness(es) identified? 2023-001

Significant deficiency(ies) identified? None reported

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? 2023-001

Federal Awards:

Internal control over major programs:

Material weakness(es) identified? No

Significant deficiency(ies) identified? None reported

Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major programs Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a) of Uniform Guidance None

Identification of major programs:

Assistance Listing Number: 21.027 Name of Federal Program or Cluster: COVID-19 - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between type A and type B programs \$750,000

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee? No

**HILL COUNTY, TEXAS**

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS  
(Continued)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

**Findings Relating to the Financial Statements Which Are  
Required to be Reported in Accordance With Generally  
Accepted Government Auditing Standards**

**Finding 2023-001 - Material Weakness in Internal Control over Financial Reporting and  
Noncompliance Material to the Financial Statements**

**Criteria:**

Management of the County is responsible for establishing and maintaining internal controls to achieve timely financial reporting. Additionally, the Uniform Guidance requires local governments that expend \$750,000 or more in federal grant awards in a fiscal year to submit the single audit reporting package to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse (FAC) within nine months of its fiscal year-end.

**Condition:**

The County did not complete its annual financial statement audit in a timely manner or submit its single audit reporting package to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse (FAC) within nine months of its fiscal year-end.

**Cause:**

The County Auditor resigned subsequent to fiscal year-end before the audit fieldwork started. The County had fallen behind in performing some basic accounting functions necessary to issue timely and accurate financial statements.

**Effect:**

The County did not provide management and County stakeholders with timely financial information on which to base their decisions. The County is also not in compliance with the requirements of the federal single audit, which could jeopardize federal funding.

**Recommendation:**

The County should establish and maintain internal controls to ensure timely financial reporting and completion of its annual audit in a timely manner.

**Management's Response:**

Management acknowledges the delayed issuance of the fiscal year 2023 audited financial statements and submission of the single audit reporting package to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse (FAC). The majority of the issues that caused the delay have been resolved and the County expects to be able to issue timely audited financial statements beginning in the next fiscal year.

**Findings and Questioned Costs for Federal Awards**

None

**HILL COUNTY, TEXAS**

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS

For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

**Item 2022-001: Revenue Recognition**

Material Weakness in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Current Status: This matter has been resolved.