Martha S. Mavredes, CPA Auditor of Public Accounts

Commonwealth of Virginia

Auditor of Public Accounts

P.O. Box 1295 Richmond, Virginia 23218

September 22, 2016

Randy Foley Mayor P. O. Box 869 Salem, VA 24153

City of Salem

Dear Mr. Foley:

We have reviewed the Commonwealth collections and remittances of the Treasurer, Commissioner of the Revenue, Sheriff, and Commonwealth's Attorney of the locality indicated for the year ended June 30, 2016. Our primary objectives were to determine that the officials have maintained accountability over Commonwealth collections, established internal controls, and complied with state laws and regulations.

The results of our tests found the Treasurer, Commissioner of the Revenue, Sheriff, and Commonwealth's Attorney complied, in all material respects, with state laws, regulations and other procedures relating to the receipt, disbursement, and custody of state funds, except as follows.

The Treasurer did not comply with state laws and regulations as described below.

Perform Monthly Reconciliations

The Treasurer did not perform adequate monthly reconciliations of the accounting records to the Commonwealth Accounting and Reporting System (CARS) reports provided by the Department of Accounts. Timely and complete monthly reconciliations are a significant internal control and are essential for determining the reliability of information.

The Treasurer should reconcile assessments, collections (including Sheriff's fees), and uncollected balances to CARS on a monthly basis as required by Section 58.1-3168 of the <u>Code of Virginia</u> and submit correction requests timely. Proper procedures will ensure complete and accurate recording of tax assessments and collections.

Randy Foley Mayor September 22, 2016 Page Two

We discussed this comment with the Treasurer on September 21, 2016 and we acknowledge the cooperation extended to us during this review.

Sincerely,

Auditor of Public Accounts

MSM:alh

cc: Kevin Boggess, City Manager
Bonnie C. McCormack, Treasurer
Linda M. Carroll, Commissioner of the Revenue
Eric A. Atkins, Sheriff
Thomas E. Bowers, Commonwealth's Attorney