

July 22, 2015

Name/Title  
State Agency  
Address  
City/State/Zip

Dear:

Since taking office as Florida's Chief Financial Officer, I have been committed to fostering greater accountability and transparency in government spending. Floridians have a right to know how their money is spent and should have comfort that it is being spent wisely.

Thanks to the cooperation with our state agencies, my office successfully launched the Florida Accountability Contract Tracking System (FACTS) in 2011. Since then, agencies have added more than 67,000 contracts and grant agreements to FACTS, which provides Floridians with more clarity about how tax dollars are spent. We've also posted information about contracts audited by my office, agency settlement agreements, and images of more than 41,000 contracts.

Equally important are the significant efforts by agencies to 1) strengthen their contract and grant agreements, 2) document the services being procured, and 3) hold our partner vendors and recipients accountable for the tax dollars they are receiving. Many agencies have asked my auditing staff for assistance in these efforts, and we are happy to provide this input because better contracts and grants make for a more efficient process. By strengthening their contracts and grants during the initial drafting process, agencies can minimize delays in payments processed by our office.

As we begin a new fiscal year, I invite you to contact my office for guidance on your new appropriations, new or renewed contracts, or the vital role of transparency in contracting for goods and services. Christina Smith, our Director of Accounting and Auditing, and her team can be reached at 850-413-5512.

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My office will also continue to provide certification for those who manage agreements valued at greater than \$100,000 and our Advancing Accountability Training.

Thank you, in advance, for your involvement and suggestions as we continue to build and grow FACTS as part of our Transparency Florida website. I look forward to partnering with you to build a more transparent state government.

Sincerely,

Jeff Atwater  
Chief Financial Officer

c: Governor Rick Scott



With this new name, we have also created a new website:  
[www.MyFloridaCFO.com/FloridaPALM](http://www.MyFloridaCFO.com/FloridaPALM). I encourage you to check back often for updates.