MUNICIPAL EXCESS LIABILITY

JOINT INSURANCE FUND

AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON

ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL,

COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021



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May 20, 2022

The Honorable Chairperson and Members of the Board of Fund Commissioners Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund Parsippany, New Jersey

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, audit requirements prescribed by the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey, and *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund (the "Fund") for the year ended December 31, 2021, and have issued our report thereon dated May 20, 2022.

As part of our audit, we performed procedures required by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services, and the findings and results thereof are disclosed on the following pages. This letter does not affect our report dated May 20, 2022 on the financial statements of the Fund.

We will review the status of comments, if any, made during our next audit engagement. We have already discussed any comments and suggestions made with various management personnel, and we will be pleased to discuss them in further detail at your convenience or to perform any additional study of these matters.

Nisivoccia LLP

## MUNICIPAL EXCESS LIABILITY JOINT INSURANCE FUND COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

## **Suggestions to Management:**

## Economic Conditions and their Effect on Fund Operations

The period of low interest rates we are experiencing during Covid has negatively affected the Fund's investment yield and Net Position. Investment income has declined from \$1,754,444 in 2019 to (\$168,038) for 2021. The Fund had taken action to improve investment income prior to the start of the Covid epidemic by forming the Joint Cash Management and Investment Program (the "JCMI"). The Fund's proactive strategy mitigated the effect of the swift decline in interest rates and improved the Fund's financial position had such actions not been taken. In addition, the Fund has created a group to handle Covid work related claims throughout the MEL and affiliated Joint Insurance Funds in order to uniformly manage these claims and efficiently and effectively provide information to reinsurers. Finally, challenges the Fund has experienced include Cyber risk issues, legislative and regulatory changes.

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Status of Prior Year Comments and Recommendations

None.