September 8, 2021

Tribal Member,

A key component throughout my administration is the importance of a strong financial division for both the tribal government and casinos. Having a trusted, transparent, and fiscally responsible Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Department of Treasury and Lucky Star Casino operations is very important for the Tribe’s. We have devoted numerous resources into our financial divisions, and are beginning to see great results.

Prior to 2018, the Tribe’s department of treasury routinely received adverse audit opinions for both its Single Audit (Federal) and Tribe-Wide Government Financial Statement audit. Accounting firms give audit opinions of Unqualified (best), Qualified (some misstatements, some deficiencies), Adverse (material weaknesses, bad opinion) and Disclaimer of Opinion (auditor refusing to provide an opinion due to not receiving all audit evidence).

In 2019, due to committing resources and a change in treasury management, the Tribe’s department of treasury received a Qualified Opinion for the 2018 tribal audit. This minor achievement then catapulted the treasury department to receiving an Unqualified Opinion a year later, for the 2019 audit. Prior historical records showing other Unqualified Audits are not known at this time, if at all. This was a truly historic moment for our Tribe’s department of treasury.

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Department of Treasury continues work on the 2020 Audit. Due to the Covid plagued year of 2020, the U.S. Office of Management and Budget have given governmental agencies a six-month extension to submit their 2020 audits. We look forward to continued good results from both our casino and treasury audits.

In the fall of 2019, we hired as consultants, accountants from RSM International, one of the largest multinational accountancy companies in the world. Their tribal consulting division has assisted us with several projects at the Casinos, department of treasury and gaming commission. They are lead consultants with expenses pertaining to the Tribe’s CARES Act and American Rescue Plan Act funds, ensuring the Tribe’s stay in compliance with the U.S. Department of the Treasury’s rules and regulations. This relationship signifies the importance placed on the use and reporting of the millions of dollars received thought CARES Act and American Rescue Plan Act funding.

Thank you,

Reggie Wassana,
Governor

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