(A GOVERNMENTAL FUND OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

YEARS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2017 AND 2016

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Honorable Carl B. Ingram Chief Justice of the High Court Republic of the Marshall Islands:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Marshall Islands Judiciary Fund, a governmental fund of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, which comprise the balance sheets as of September 30, 2017 and 2016, and the related statements of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with 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. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

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Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Marshall Islands Judiciary Fund as of September 30, 2017 and 2016, and the results of its operations for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Emphasis-of-Matter

Reporting Entity

As discussed in Note 1 to the financial statements, the financial statements referred to above present only the Marshall Islands Judiciary Fund and are not intended to present fairly the financial position and results of operations of the Republic of the Marshall Islands in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The Other Supplementary Information, as set forth in Section III of the foregoing table of contents, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. The Other Supplementary Information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Other Supplementary Information set forth in Section III of the foregoing table of contents is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 7, 2018, on our consideration of the Marshall Islands Judiciary Fund's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financing reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Marshall Islands Judiciary Fund's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

May 7, 2018

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Balance Sheets September 30, 2017 and 2016

	 2017		2016
<u>ASSETS</u>			
Cash Accounts receivable	\$ 432,457 4,269	\$	314,664 9,099
	\$ 436,726	\$_	323,763
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE			
Liabilities: Other liabilities and accruals	\$ 5,605	\$_	6,803
Contingency			
Fund balance: Committed	431,121		316,960
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$ 436,726	\$	323,763

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Statements of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance Years Ended September 30, 2017 and 2016

	_	2017	_	2016
Revenues:				
Nitijela appropriation	\$	950,281	\$	916,908
Court fines and fees		95,884		67,897
Interest		1,829		934
Other	_	40,007	_	34,132
Total revenues	_	1,088,001		1,019,871
Expenditures:				
Salaries, wages and benefits		638,398		573,620
Leased housing		71,250		56,250
Travel		53,578		64,451
Supplies and materials		44,559		119,585
Utilities		39,033		39,870
Communications		37,873		48,443
Professional services		28,515		23,931
POL		11,110		7,967
Repairs and maintenance		8,190		8,938
Capital outlay		8,069		44,801
Miscellaneous	_	33,265	. <u>-</u>	30,634
Total expenditures	_	973,840	. <u> </u>	1,018,490
Net change in fund balance		114,161		1,381
Fund balance at the beginning of the year	_	316,960	. <u>.</u>	315,579
Fund balance at the end of the year	\$ _	431,121	\$_	316,960

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Notes to Financial Statements September 30, 2017 and 2016

(1) Organization

The Marshall Islands Constitution vests the country's judicial power in an independent judiciary. The Marshall Islands judiciary (the Judiciary) includes a supreme court, high court, traditional rights court, district court, and community courts as well as a judicial service commission and court staff. The Judiciary officially commenced operation on March 3, 1982, assuming judicial functions in the Marshall Islands that had been discharged by the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands courts.

The Marshall Islands Judiciary Fund (the Judiciary Fund), a governmental fund of the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RepMar), was established pursuant to the Judiciary Fund Act 1989, as amended. The objective of the Judiciary Fund is to establish a more efficient means for administration of funds received by the Judiciary and for related purposes. The Judiciary Fund is primarily funded through operational appropriations from the Nitijela (the RepMar Legislature).

The Chief Justice of the High Court and the Clerk of the Courts acting together are responsible for opening and maintaining bank accounts as is necessary for the efficient operation of the Judiciary and for setting policy, strategy and financial guidelines for the day-to-day operations of the Judiciary.

The accompanying financial statements relate solely to those accounting records maintained by the Judiciary, and do not incorporate any accounts related to any other departments or agencies of RepMar that may be accounted for by RepMar's Treasury. The Judiciary Fund is considered to be a blended component unit (a governmental fund) of RepMar.

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the recognized standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant of the Judiciary Fund's accounting policies are described below.

Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The Judiciary Fund reports its financial position and the results of operations in one governmental fund. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. They are concerned only with the measurement of financial position and are not involved with measurement of results of operations. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities. Governmental funds are used to account for all or most of a government's general activities, including the collection and disbursement of earmarked monies (special revenue funds).

Governmental funds are used to account for all or most of a government's general activities, including the collection and disbursement of earmarked monies (special revenue funds). The Judiciary Fund's special revenue fund consists of the following:

i. Operations Fund - This fund was established to account for monies received by the Judiciary Fund for operational purposes appropriated by RepMar as well as general fees, fines or other sums collected by the Court.

Notes to Financial Statements September 30, 2017 and 2016

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, Continued

Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting, Continued

ii. Legal Aid Fund - This fund was established to account for monies received by the Judiciary Fund for the provision of legal aid services to those who cannot afford the cost of legal representation.

No external restrictions are imposed with respect to fund balance amounts recorded by the Legal Aid Fund. Instead, fund balance amounts of the Legal Aid Fund are considered committed for designated purposes internally imposed by the Court.

Basis of Presentation

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. All governmental funds are accounted for using a current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities generally are included in the balance sheet. Operating statements of these funds present increases (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) in fund balance.

The modified accrual basis of accounting is used by all governmental fund types. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when susceptible to accrual (i.e. when they become both measurable and available). "Measurable" means the amount of the transaction can be determined and "available" means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the Judiciary Fund considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 90 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred.

Budget

An annual appropriated budget has not been formally adopted on a legal basis or a basis consistent with GAAP. Accordingly, a budget to actual presentation is not required or presented.

Cash

The deposit and investment policies of the Judiciary Fund are governed by 3 MIRC 7, *Investments of Public Funds*, and 11 MIRC 1, *Financial Management*. Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the Judiciary Fund's deposits may not be returned to it. Such deposits are not covered by depository insurance and are either uncollateralized or collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution or held by the pledging financial institution but not in the depositor-government's name. The Judiciary Fund does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk.

For purposes of the balance sheets, cash is defined as cash on hand and cash held in demand accounts. As of September 30, 2017 and 2016, the carrying amounts of cash were \$432,457 and \$314,664, respectively, and the corresponding bank balances were \$432,790 and \$314,742, respectively. Of the bank balances, \$168 and \$66,386, respectively, are maintained in a financial institution subject to Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insurance with the remaining amounts of \$432,622 and \$248,356, respectively, being maintained in a financial institution not subject to depository insurance. As of September 30, 2017 and 2016, bank deposits in the amount of \$168 and \$66,386, respectively, were FDIC insured. The Judiciary Fund does not require collateralization of its cash deposits; therefore, deposit levels in excess of FDIC insurance coverage are uncollateralized. Accordingly, these deposits are exposed to custodial credit risk.

Notes to Financial Statements September 30, 2017 and 2016

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, Continued

Compensated Absences

The Judiciary Fund recognizes expenditures for annual leave and sick leave when leave is actually taken. Accordingly, unused annual leave and sick leave are not included as an obligation within the balance sheet unless such leave is expected to be liquidated with expendable available financial resources, at which time expenditures and related fund liabilities would be recognized.

Fund Balance

Fund balance classifications are based on the extent to which the Judiciary Fund is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in those funds can be spent and are reported under the following fund balance classifications:

- Non-spendable includes fund balance amounts that cannot be spent either because it is not in spendable form or because of legal or contractual constraints.
- Restricted includes fund balance amounts that are constrained for specific purposes which are externally imposed by providers, such as creditors or amounts constrained due to constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- Committed includes fund balance amounts that are constrained for specific purposes that are internally imposed by the government through formal action of the highest level of decision making authority and does not lapse at year-end.
- Assigned includes fund balance amounts that are intended to be used for specific purposes that are neither considered restricted nor committed.
- Unassigned includes negative fund balances in other governmental funds.

Restricted/committed amounts are spent first when both the restricted and unrestricted fund balance are available unless there are legal documents/contracts that prohibit doing this. In addition, committed, then assigned, and lastly unassigned amounts of the unrestricted fund balance are expended in that order.

A formal minimum fund balance policy has not been adopted.

Taxes

The Judiciary Fund and related transactions are not subject to any tax, rate, charge, or impost under any other law.

Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Reclassifications

Certain balances in the 2016 presentation has been reclassified to conform to the 2017 presentation.

Notes to Financial Statements September 30, 2017 and 2016

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, Continued

New Accounting Standards

During the year ended September 30, 2017, the Judiciary Fund implemented the following pronouncements:

- GASB Statement No. 73, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions and Related Assets That Are Not Within the Scope of GASB Statement 68, and Amendments to Certain Provisions of GASB Statements 67 and 68, which aligns the reporting requirements for pensions and pension plans not covered in GASB Statements 67 and 68 with the reporting requirements in Statement 68.
- GASB Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans, which replaces Statements No. 43, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans, as amended, and No. 57, OPEB Measurements by Agent Employers and Agent Multiple-Employer Plans, and addresses financial reporting requirements for governments whose employees are provided with postemployment benefits other than pensions (other postemployment benefits or OPEB).
- GASB Statement No. 77, *Tax Abatement Disclosures*, which requires governments that enter into tax abatement agreements to disclose certain information about the agreements.
- GASB Statement No. 78, Pensions Provided through Certain Multiple-Employer Defined Benefit Pension Plans, which addresses a practice issue regarding the scope and applicability of Statement No. 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions.
- GASB Statement No. 80, Blending Requirements for Certain Component Units an amendment of GASB Statement No. 14, which improves financial reporting by clarifying the financial statement presentation requirements for certain component units.
- GASB Statement No. 82, Pension Issues an amendment of GASB Statements No. 67, No. 68, and No. 73, which addresses issues regarding (1) the presentation of payroll-related measures in required supplementary information, (2) the selection of assumptions and the treatment of deviations from the guidance in an Actuarial Standard of Practice for financial reporting purposes, and (3) the classification of payments made by employers to satisfy employee (plan member) contribution requirements.

The implementation of these statements did not have a material effect on the accompanying financial statements.

In June 2015, GASB issued Statement No. 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions, which replaces the requirements of Statements No. 45, Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions, as amended, and No. 57, OPEB Measurements by Agent Employers and Agent Multiple-Employer Plans, and provides guidance on reporting by governments that provide OPEB to their employees and for governments that finance OPEB for employees of other governments. The provisions in Statement No. 75 are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2017. Management does not believe that the implementation of this statement will have a material effect on the financial statements.

Notes to Financial Statements September 30, 2017 and 2016

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, Continued

New Accounting Standards, Continued

In March 2016, GASB issued Statement No. 81, *Irrevocable Split-Interest Agreements*, which improves accounting and financial reporting for irrevocable split-interest agreements by providing recognition and measurement guidance for situations in which a government is a beneficiary of the agreement. The provisions in Statement No. 81 are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016. Management does not believe that the implementation of this statement will have a material effect on the financial statements.

In November 2016, GASB issued Statement No. 83, Certain Asset Retirement Obligations, which addresses accounting and financial reporting for certain asset retirement obligations (AROs) associated with the retirement of a tangible capital asset. The provisions in Statement No. 83 are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2018. Management does not believe that the implementation of this statement will have a material effect on the financial statements.

In January 2017, GASB issued Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*, which establishes criteria for identifying fiduciary activities of all state and local governments. The provisions in Statement No. 84 are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2018. Management does not believe that the implementation of this statement will have a material effect on the financial statements.

In March 2017, GASB issued Statement No. 85, *Omnibus 2017*, which address practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements including issues related to blending component units, goodwill, fair value measurement and application, and postemployment benefits (pensions and other postemployment benefits. The provisions in Statement No. 85 are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2017. Management does not believe that the implementation of this statement will have a material effect on the financial statements.

In May 2017, GASB issued Statement No. 86, Certain Debt Extinguishment Issues, which improves consistency in accounting and financial reporting for in-substance defeasance of debt. The provisions in Statement No. 86 are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2017. Management does not believe that the implementation of this statement will have a material effect on the financial statements.

In June 2017, GASB issued Statement No. 87, *Leases*, which establishes a single model for lease accounting based on the foundational principle that leases are financings of the right to use an underlying asset. The provisions in Statement No. 87 are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019. Management has yet to determine whether the implementation of this statement will have a material effect on the financial statements.

(3) Risk Management

The Judiciary Fund is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The Judiciary Fund has elected to purchase commercial insurance from independent third parties for the risks of loss to which it is exposed with respect to the use of motor vehicles. For other risks of loss to which it is exposed, the Judiciary Fund has elected not to purchase commercial insurance. Instead, the Judiciary Fund believes it is more economical to manage its risks internally. Claims expenditures and liabilities are reported when it is probable that a loss has occurred and the amount of that loss can be reasonably estimated. These losses include an estimate of claims that have been incurred but not reported. No material losses have resulted from the Judiciary Fund's risk management activities for the past years.

Notes to Financial Statements September 30, 2017 and 2016

(4) Related Party Transactions

The Judiciary Fund is a governmental fund of RepMar and is thus affiliated with all RepMar-owned and affiliated entities. During the years ended September 30, 2017 and 2016, the Judiciary Fund recognized on-behalf payments as contributions from RepMar, totaling \$638,398 and \$573,620, respectively, representing payroll and related expenditures that RepMar paid directly on behalf of the Judiciary Fund.

During the years ended September 30, 2017 and 2016, the operations of the Judiciary Fund were funded by appropriations from RepMar of \$950,281 and \$916,908, respectively, of which \$311,883 and \$343,288, respectively, represented cash payments received by the Judiciary Fund.

(5) Contingency

The Judiciary Fund receives a substantial amount of its revenue from annual RepMar appropriations. A significant reduction in the level of budgetary support from RepMar, if this were to occur, may have an effect on the Judiciary Fund's programs and activities. For the year ended September 30, 2018, RepMar appropriated funding to the Judiciary Fund in the amount of \$1,082,860 for the purpose of funding programs and activities of the Judiciary Fund.

Combining Balance Sheet September 30, 2017

	Operations	 Legal Aid	_	Total
<u>ASSETS</u>				
Cash Accounts receivable	\$ 216,010 4,269 220,279	\$ 216,447 - 216,447	\$ \$ \$	432,457 4,269 436,726
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE				
Liabilities: Other liabilities and accruals	\$ 5,605	\$ -	\$_	5,605
Fund balance: Committed	214,674	 216,447	_	431,121
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$ 220,279	\$ 216,447	\$_	436,726

See accompanying independent auditors' report.

Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance Year Ended September 30, 2017

	Operations		Aid		Elimination	Total
Revenues:						
Nitijela appropriation \$	926,692	\$	23,589	\$	- \$	950,281
Court fines and fees	53,799		42,085		-	95,884
Interest	898		931		-	1,829
Other	40,007		-		-	40,007
Total revenues	1,021,396		66,605			1,088,001
Expenditures:					_	
Salaries, wages and benefits	638,398		-		-	638,398
Leased housing	71,250		-		-	71,250
Travel	53,578		-		-	53,578
Supplies and materials	44,559		-		-	44,559
Utilities	39,033		-		-	39,033
Communications	37,873		-		-	37,873
Professional services	28,515		-		-	28,515
POL	11,110		-		-	11,110
Repairs and maintenance	8,190		-		-	8,190
Capital outlay	8,069		-		-	8,069
Miscellaneous	26,942		6,323		_	33,265
Total expenditures	967,517		6,323	ı		973,840
Excess of revenues over						
expenditures	53,879		60,282			114,161
Other financing sources (uses):						
Transfers in	-		6,000		(6,000)	-
Transfers out	(6,000)		_		6,000	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	(6,000)		6,000		-	-
Net change in fund balance	47,879		66,282		-	114,161
Fund balance at the beginning of the year	166,795	_	150,165			316,960
Fund balance at the end of the year \$	214,674	\$	216,447	\$	- \$	431,121

See accompanying independent auditors' report.



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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' 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

Honorable Carl B. Ingram Chief Justice of the High Court Republic of the Marshall Islands:

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 Marshall Islands Judiciary Fund, which comprise the balance sheet as of September 30, 2017, and the related statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated May 7, 2018.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Marshall Islands Judiciary Fund's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Marshall Islands Judiciary Fund's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Marshall Islands Judiciary Fund'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. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

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Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Marshall Islands Judiciary Fund'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 determination of financial statement amounts. 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 no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

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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 entity'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 entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

May 7, 2018

Unresolved Prior Year Findings Year Ended September 30, 2017

There are no unresolved prior year findings from prior year audits of the Marshall Islands Judiciary Fund.