



CITY OF TAMPA

Pam Iorio, Mayor

Internal Audit Department

Wayne Boytim, Acting Internal Audit Director

January 18, 2005

Honorable Pam Iorio
Mayor, City of Tampa
1 City Hall Plaza
Tampa, FL 33602

RE: Solid Waste Safety, Audit 05-22

Dear Mayor Iorio:

At the request of the Solid Waste Director, we reviewed available data regarding accidents and injuries in the industry in order to determine if the Department's safety program was in line with other similar operations.

We contacted a number of other cities, the Solid Waste Association of North America (an industry group) and the City's Risk Management Division. We also conducted internet searches for statistical data.

Based on the results of the preliminary survey stage of this audit, we decided that performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards would not be beneficial. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to afford a reasonable basis for our judgments and conclusions regarding the organization, program, activity or function under audit. An audit also includes assessments of applicable internal controls and compliance with requirements of laws and regulations when necessary to satisfy the audit objectives.

Results of the Preliminary Survey

- None of the organizations we contacted had data in a format that would lend itself to comparison with the City's experience, nor were they aware of any industry wide statistical data.
- U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes tables listing various types of injury and illness rates specific to private sector waste collection. In addition to being private sector, it did not include data we consider necessary to make valid comparisons, nor did it include accidents that did not result in bodily injury to the employee.

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- The City's Solid Waste Department does not currently maintain data in a format that is usable. The Department has ordered Microsoft SQL[®], a database program used by other City Departments. This should allow it to track its own safety record once it is implemented. Without industry wide data, comparisons will not be possible.

We thank the management and staff of Solid Waste Department and the Risk Management Division for their assistance and cooperation during this audit. We will consider this report to be final unless directed to continue our audit.

Sincerely,

Wayne Boytim
Acting Director of Internal Audit

cc: David McCary, Solid Waste Director
Richard Swann, Risk Manager