



ERIC H. WOOLERY, CPA
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Meg Waters
Auditor-Controller's office
949-584-4977 - cell

INTERNAL AUDIT UNIT TO RETURN TO COUNTY AUDITOR-CONTROLLER, CLOSING ANOTHER CHAPTER OF COUNTY BANKRUPTCY

AUGUST 4, 2015 - Closing one of the last chapters of the infamous Orange County Bankruptcy, the Board of Supervisors today voted 4-0 to return internal audit to Eric Woolery, CPA, the County's elected Auditor-Controller, whose office provides accounting, audit, payroll, and property tax administration services to County government, cities, K-14 schools and special districts.

Woolery was elected County Auditor-Controller in June of 2014 and took office in January of this year. "It is unfortunate that a peculiar set of circumstances during the bankruptcy led to bifurcating the important and complementary functions of accounting and audit. After 20 years, it is in the best interest of the taxpayers to restore the Auditor-Controller's office but with proper public oversight to provide greater transparency."

Effective August 21, the Internal Audit unit will join the Auditor-Controller's department, run by Woolery. Internal Audit has a staff of 16 and a budget of \$2.8 million. Today's action will not change that amount.

The Audit Oversight Committee is made up of elected officials, private sector members and county staff who assist the Board of Supervisors in overseeing this important part of the county's fiscal control system. The committee will continue to assist the Board of Supervisors in the Board's review and approval of the annual audit plan. In addition, the County fraud hotline will be transferred to County Counsel and claims will be evaluated and investigated in conjunction with the Auditor-Controller's office.

###