

## NICOLE R. GALLOWAY, CPA Missouri State Auditor

May 22, 2017

Dr. Sam Page, Chairman St. Louis County Council 41 South Central Avenue Clayton, Missouri 63105

Dear Chairman Page:

Last week I received a letter from County Executive Steven Stenger in which he stated that the St. Louis County Council may consider requesting my office to conduct an audit of St. Louis County. I am writing this letter to outline the process should the County Council decide to make such a request.

First class charter counties, such as St. Louis County, may request that the State Auditor audit the county as an exercise of their legislative powers under provisions of their charter. In these situations, the State Auditor's Office must receive a resolution or ordinance passed by the county's governing body requesting the State Auditor audit the county in whole or in part.

The receipt of such a request then permits the State Auditor to determine whether the State Auditor's Office shall conduct the audit. My office will review the request and communicate our decision to the Council.

Please be aware that all expenses incurred in performing the audit shall be paid by the county. The final cost will depend on many factors, including but not limited to the scope of the audit, number and severity of audit findings, and the availability of documents.

If you would like to discuss the process further, please contact my General Counsel, Paul Harper, at (573) 751-4213.

Sincerely,

Nicole R. Galloway, CPA

State Auditor

cc: Steven Stenger, St. Louis County Executive

