July 14, 2010

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.
State Surgeon General
4052 Bald Cypress Way
Tallahassee, Florida  32399

Dear Dr. Viamonte Ros:

Pursuant to Section 20.055(5)(g), Florida Statutes, our office is to update you on the status of corrective actions taken since January 29, 2010 when OPPAGA published its Report Number 10-14, Since Implementing Statutory Changes, Board of Nursing Has Approved More Nursing Programs; Legislature Should Address Implementation Issues. Management’s assessment of the current status of corrective actions is included in the enclosed document.

At six months after publication, management reports they have initiated all corrective actions made in response to recommendations from OPPAGA’s report. Two corrective actions are completed and one remains in progress.

If I may answer any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

James D. Boyd, C.P.A., M.B.A.
Inspector General

JDB/kir
Attachment
cc:  Kathy DuBose, Staff Director
     Joint Legislative Auditing Committee
     Michael J. Bennett, C.I.A.
     Director of Auditing
## Status of Findings

### Since Implementing Statutory Changes, Board of Nursing Has Approved More Nursing Programs; Legislature Should Address Implementation Issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Finding</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Corrective Action Plan</th>
<th>Status of Finding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Finalize and publish a nursing program application consistent with statute.</td>
<td>The board should ensure that it addresses all concerns raised by the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee (JAPC), and it should make its revised application available to nursing program applicants by posting the application on the board's website. The current application available on its website is not consistent with the statutory requirements.</td>
<td>Technical changes by Board Counsel are undergoing the rule promulgation process, which may take up to six months. The revised application is on the February 2010 agenda for the Board's review and consideration of the recent JAPC letters and response from Board Counsel.</td>
<td>Completed. The new application was approved by the Board on March 12, 2010, during a telephone conference. The new application is published on the Board's website for use while also in the Rulemaking process.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Clarify the directions for submitting the annual report and affidavit.</td>
<td>The board should modify its instructions for programs to submit the annual report and specify which questions are statutorily required for programs to remain compliant with statute and avoid probation.</td>
<td>Although no statutory requirement has been overlooked, the Department does concur with the recommendation of clarifying the directions for the completion of the joint Annual Report and Workforce Survey collected collectively with the Florida Center for Nursing.</td>
<td>The Annual Report form was approved by the Board on May 11, 2010 which includes the variables required by statute. The nursing education programs will complete and submit to the Board directly. JAPC has a concern about including the new changes required by House Bill (HB) 1337 (2010), and Board Counsel is still finalizing this issue with JAPC.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Modify its interactive website to include all required data elements and allow users to compare data points across nursing programs.</td>
<td>The board should incorporate all required data elements into one database that enables users to conduct interactive searches to compare required data elements across nursing programs.</td>
<td>The Department is working on a data base system enhancement to add a tab to the basic licensure verification screen to include the data elements which compose the Annual Report. The affidavit/summary of compliance as well as the nursing program application documents if applicable will remain on the initial license verification screen.</td>
<td>Completed. The new interactive website is complete. Feedback from staff, users and a focus group helped to make changes for the effectiveness of the site. The website went live on July 6, 2010. You can access the website at <a href="http://ww2.doh.state.fl.us/MQANEP">http://ww2.doh.state.fl.us/MQANEP</a> C. There are also several links from Medical Quality Assurance and Department of Health locations.</td>
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