



**U.S. COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL**

Three Lafayette Centre  
1155 21st Street, NW, Washington, DC 20581

**TO:** Rostin Behnam, Acting Chairman  
Dawn Stump, Commissioner

**FROM:** Miguel A. Castillo, *CPA, CRMA*  
Assistant Inspector General for  
Auditing

**DATE:** October 26, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Audit of the CFTC Customer Protection Fund Financial Statements  
(Fiscal Year 2021)

Annually the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) engages an independent public accountant (IPA) to perform a required audit of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) Customer Protection Fund (Fund) financial statements. We contracted Williams Adley & Company, LLP (Williams Adley) to audit the financial statements of the Fund as of September 30, 2021, and for the year then ended, to provide negative assurance on internal control and compliance with laws and regulations for financial reporting. We required that the audit be done in accordance with *U.S. Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards (GAGAS)*.

In its audit of the Fund, Williams Adley found:

- The financial statements were fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with *U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles*.

In connection with the contract, we reviewed Williams Adley's report and related documentation and inquired of its representatives. Our review, as differentiated from an audit of the financial statements in accordance with GAGAS, was not intended to enable us to express, and we do not express, opinions on CFTC's financial statements or internal control over financial reporting, or on compliance with laws and other matters. Williams Adley is responsible for the attached auditor's report dated October 29, 2021 and the conclusions expressed therein. However, our review disclosed no instances where Williams Adley did not comply, in all material respects, with GAGAS.

Attached is a copy of Williams Adley's unmodified (clean) opinion. The Williams Adley's audit report that follows makes reference to other information that is included in the CFTC Fiscal Year 2021 Agency Financial Report that is not included herein. Please call me if any questions at (202) 418-5084.

**Cc:**

David Gillers, Chief of Staff  
Summer Mersinger, Chief of Staff  
Christopher Ehrman, Director, Whistleblower Office  
Anthony C. Thompson, Chief Administrative Officer and Executive Director  
Joel Mattingley, Chief Financial Officer  
Keith A. Ingram, Accounting Officer  
John Rogers, Senior Advisor  
A. Roy Lavik, Inspector General  
Judith A. Ringle, Deputy Inspector General and Chief Counsel



## Independent Auditor's Report

Chairman  
U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission

Inspector General  
U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission

In our audit of the fiscal year 2021 financial statements of the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission Customer Protection Fund (CPF), we found

- CPF's financial statements as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021 (fiscal year 2021), are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles;
- no material weaknesses in internal control over financial reporting based on the limited procedures we performed;<sup>1</sup> and
- no reportable noncompliance for fiscal year 2021 with provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements we tested.

The following sections discuss in more detail (1) our report on the financial statements, which includes other information included with the financial statements;<sup>2</sup> (2) our report on internal control over financial reporting; and (3) our report on compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements.

### Report on the Financial Statements

In accordance with the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Bulletin No. 21-04, *Audit Requirements for Federal Financial Statements*, we have audited the CPF's fiscal year 2021 financial statements. CPF's fiscal year 2021 financial statements comprise the balance sheet as of September 30, 2021, the related statement of net cost,

---

<sup>1</sup>A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting, 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 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.

<sup>2</sup>Other information consists of the Cash Flow Analysis.

changes in net position, and budgetary resources for the fiscal year then ended; and the related notes to the financial statements.

We conducted our audit of the fiscal year 2021 financial statements in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the U.S.; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Bulletin No. 21-04. We believe that the audit evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

#### Management's Responsibility

CPF management is responsible for (1) the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles; (2) preparing and presenting other information included in documents containing the audited financial statements and auditor's report, and ensuring the consistency of that information with the audited financial statements; and (3) maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, including 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.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. U.S. generally accepted auditing standards, U.S. generally accepted government auditing standards, and OMB 21-04 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. We are also responsible for applying certain limited procedures to other information included with the financial statements.

An audit of financial statements 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 auditor's 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 of financial statements also involves evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. Our audits also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

#### Opinion on Financial Statements

In our opinion, CPF's financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, CPF's financial position as of September 30, 2021, and its net cost of operations, changes in net position, and budgetary resources for the fiscal year then ended in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

## Other Matters

### Prior Year Financial Statements

CPF's financial statements as of and for the year ended September 30, 2020 were audited by other auditors, whose Independent Auditor's Report dated October 14, 2020, expressed an unmodified opinion on those financial statements.

### Other Information

The Other Information (e.g., Cash Flow Analysis for the period October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021) is not a required part of the basic financial statements, but are supplementary information required by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. We read the other information included with the financial statements in order to identify material inconsistencies, if any, with the audited financial statements. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on CPF's financial statements. We did not audit and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the other information.

## **Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

In connection with our audit of CPF's fiscal year 2021 financial statements, we considered CPF's internal control over financial reporting, consistent with our auditor's responsibility discussed below. We performed our procedures related to the CPF's internal control over financial reporting in accordance with U.S. generally accepted government auditing standards.

### Management's Responsibility

CPF management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, including 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.

### Auditor's Responsibility

In planning and performing our audit of CPF's financial statements as of and for the year ended September 30, 2021, in accordance with U.S. generally accepted government auditing standards, we considered CPF's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing 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 CPF's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on CPF's internal control over financial reporting. We are required to report all deficiencies that are considered to be significant deficiencies<sup>3</sup> or material weaknesses. We did not consider all internal controls relevant to operating objectives, such as those controls relevant to preparing performance information and ensuring efficient operations.

---

<sup>3</sup>A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

### Definition and Inherent Limitations of Internal Control over Financial Reporting

An entity's internal control over financial reporting is a process effected by those charged with governance, management, and other personnel, the objectives of which are to provide reasonable assurance that (1) transactions are properly recorded, processed, and summarized to permit the preparation of financial statements in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, and assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition, and (2) transactions are executed in accordance with provisions of applicable laws, including those governing the use of budget authority, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements due to fraud or error.

### Results of Our Consideration of Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described above, and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses and significant deficiencies or to express an opinion on the effectiveness of CPF's internal control over financial reporting. Given these limitations, during our audit, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

### Intended Purpose of Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our consideration of CPF's internal control over financial reporting and the results of our procedures, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of CPF's internal control over financial reporting. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with U.S. generally accepted government auditing standards in considering internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, this report on internal control over financial reporting is not suitable for any other purpose.

## **Report on Compliance with Laws, Regulations, Contracts, and Grant Agreements**

In connection with our audit of CPF's fiscal year 2021 financial statements, we tested compliance with selected provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements consistent with our auditor's responsibility discussed below. We caution that noncompliance may occur and not be detected by these tests. We performed our tests of compliance in accordance with U.S. generally accepted government auditing standards.

### Management's Responsibility

CPF management is responsible for complying with laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements applicable to CPF.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to test compliance with selected provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements applicable to the CPF that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in CPF's financial statements, and perform certain other

limited procedures. Accordingly, we did not test compliance with all laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements applicable to CPF.

#### Results of Our Tests for Compliance with Laws, Regulations, Contracts, and Grant Agreements

Our tests for compliance with selected provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements disclosed no instances of noncompliance for fiscal year 2021 that would be reportable under U.S. generally accepted government auditing standards. However, the objective of our tests was not to provide an opinion on compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements applicable to the CPF. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

#### Intended Purpose of Report on Compliance with Laws, Regulations, Contracts, and Grant Agreements

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of compliance with selected provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with U.S. generally accepted government auditing standards in considering compliance. Accordingly, this report on compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements is not suitable for any other purpose.

*Williams, Adley & Company - DC, LLP*

Washington, D.C.

October 19, 2021