November 30, 2010

To the Board of Directors
Novato Fire Protection District

We have audited the financial statements of the Novato Fire Protection District for the year ended June 30, 2010, and have issued our report thereon November 30, 2010. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information related to our audit.

**Our Responsibility under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards**

As stated in our engagement letter dated November 1, 2010, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to express opinions about whether the financial statements prepared by management with your oversight are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities.

**Significant Audit Findings**

**Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices**

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by Novato Fire Protection District are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during year. We noted no transactions entered into by the governmental unit during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. There are no significant transactions that have been recognized in the financial statements in a different period than when the transaction occurred.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management’s knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimate(s) affecting the financial statements were:

Management’s estimate of uncollectible accounts receivable is based on actual amounts collected after the balance sheet date and estimated amounts to be collected in light of historical collection rates. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the uncollectible accounts receivable in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.
Management’s estimate of the portion of accrued compensated absences to be paid within one year was based on the amount of compensated absences actually paid during fiscal 2009-10.

**Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit**

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

**Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements**

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. The following material misstatement detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management:

- Record a liability (approximately $391,000) owed to Fireman’s Fund as a result of property reassessment.

Management maintains accounting records on a basis that is essentially the modified accrual basis traditionally used by governmental entities. Various adjustments were made to provide for presentation of the financial statements according to the full-accrual method of accounting required by Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statements. Those adjustments are disclosed on pages 9 and 11 of the audited financial statements.

**Disagreements with Management**

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor’s report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

**Management Representations**

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated November 30, 2010.

**Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants**

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a “second opinion” on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the governmental unit’s financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor’s opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.
Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the governmental unit’s auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

This information is intended solely for the use of Board of Directors and management of Novato Fire Protection District and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

Maher Accountancy