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## **Audit Preparation Roundtable**

#### Sarah Loghin / February 2024

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"We need to prepare for our audit. Organize a game of dodge ball!"





#### Sarah Loghin, CPA CMA CFE

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Interactions Use the chat feature Raise your hand Share constructively Ask for advice



# Let's Talk About Audit Prep



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### Agenda

- What's Your Biggest Audit Prep Time Commitment?
- Auditor/Client Communication
- Documenting Controls
- Begin With the End in Mind



# What Takes the Most Time?

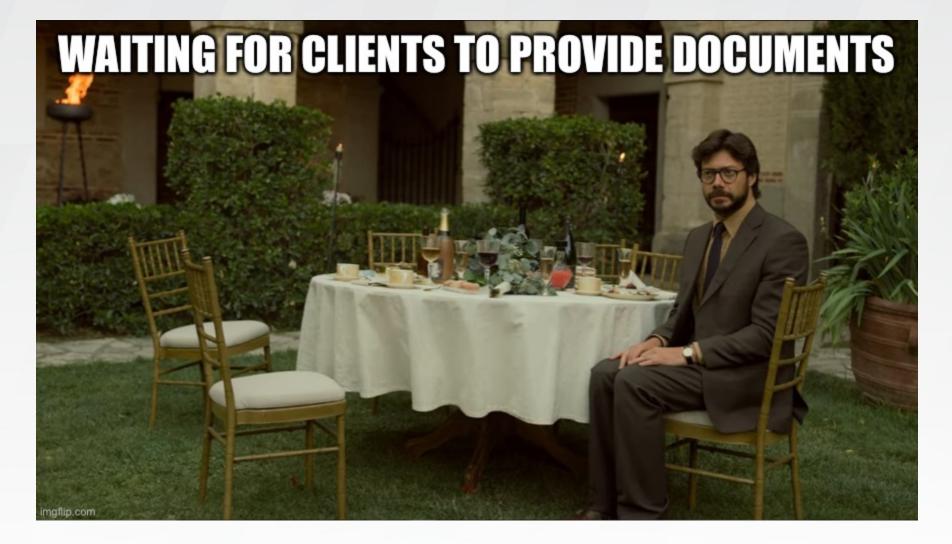


#### **Survey Results**

Insert results after registrations>



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#### Things to Consider for FY 2024

- ERC
- Crypto Assets (ASU 2023-08, eff FYB after 12/15/2024)
- Reference Rate Reform (ASU 2022-06)
- Updating Lease Schedules (FASB)







# What to Communicate & When



### **Things to Tell Your Auditor About**

- New/discontinued programs
- Strategic plans
- Economic impacts
- Political impacts
- Turnover of key management
- Debt covenants
- Federal/state grants
- Desk reviews/monitoring reports

- Valuation of investments
- Significant or unusual transactions
- Lawsuits
- Insurance claims
- Bylaw changes
- Fraud

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#### When to Tell Them

Early & often!

- Timely email
- Pre-audit planning meeting
- Interim fieldwork
- Fieldwork

Don't wait until you get a draft!

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# Documenting Controls



#### **Common Control Documentation Formats**

Control Matrix

Process Flowchart

Narrative



#### **Good Times to Update Them**

- Turnover/reorganization
- New systems or processes
- New transaction cycles
- During audit prep



#### What Should You Document?

- Focus on major transaction cycles
- Document
  - Origin of transaction
  - Steps in process & who does them
  - What could go wrong?
  - What prevents it from going wrong?
  - Who is monitoring? How?



#### Auditors Can't Rely on Controls They Can't Test

So don't forget ...

#### Document the PERFORMANCE of the controls

- Audit trails recorded by software
- Positive evidence of the monitoring controls
- Documentation of review







# Begin With the End in Mind



#### Get (& Keep) Your Stuff Together!

- Changes to bylaws
- Board packets, agendas, & minutes
- Debt agreements
- Leases
- Construction contracts
- Grant agreements & budgets
- Other significant contracts
- Major fundraising solicitations
- P&L from special events

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#### Leverage Your Periodic Close Processes

Start with PY audit schedules

Roll forward each period

Gather third-party reports & statements

Maintain documentation in a central place



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#### **Sample Close Process List**

#### Monthly

- Balance Sheet
   Accounts
- Depreciation
- Contracted Revenues
- Significant Contributions
- Payroll Expenses

#### Quarterly

- Expense Allocations
- Search for Unrecorded Pledges
- Net Asset Releases
- Form 941 Reconciliation

#### Annually

- Bad Debt
   Allowance
- Lease Obligations
- Endowment Distributions
- Functional Expenses

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#### **Examine Estimates**

- Allowance for Bad Debt
- Depreciation
- Amortization
- Prepaid Expenses
- Deferred Rent
- Investment Values
- In-Kind Revenue/Expense







## Summary

- Plan ahead
- Gather your stuff
- Communicate early & often
- Leverage your close processes
- Have a great audit!



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Accounting Operations Consulting
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# Thank you!

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