## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 20, 2019

## The OIG Finds Good Cause to Believe that the Village of Lazy Lake is Not Properly Governed

The Broward Office of the Inspector General (OIG) released a <u>closing memorandum</u> today concluding that it found good cause to believe that individuals are governing the Village of Lazy Lake, Florida, in violation of the state constitution, state statutes, and village charter. We also concluded that, if the village holds a proper election in March 2020, it will then be governed in accordance with the law.

The memorandum reported the village's progress in complying with Sunshine and public records requirements about which the OIG had been concerned, reported the OIG's good cause to believe that the village failed to hold an election in March 2016 and thereafter improperly seated its "officials," and reported that the village intends to "minimally operate" until the next general municipal election in March 2020.

The OIG is forwarding an electronic copy of the memorandum to the current resident email list maintained by the village in an effort to inform the village's residents of the current state of affairs and the critical need to hold an election in March 2020 with properly qualified, elected, and seated officials. Once that occurs, the public should also require that those officials establish protocols and an accountability process to ensure this grave error is never repeated.