UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

GENERAL LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE ON INTERNAL AUDITORS' CODE OF ETHICS IN FIVE MALAYSIAN LISTED GOVERNMENT LINKED COMPANIES

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Applied research project submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

Master in Forensic Accounting and Financial Criminology

Faculty of Accountancy

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Candidate's Declaration

I declare that the work in this applied research was carried out in accordance with the regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA. It is original and is the result of my own work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledged as referenced work. This research has not been submitted to any other academic institution or non-academic institution for any other degree or qualification.

In the event that my applied research is found to violate the conditions mentioned above, I voluntarily waive the right of conferment of my degree and agree to be subjected to the disciplinary rules and regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA.

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this applied research is primarily to identify the level of compliance of internal auditors in five selected listed Government Linked Companies (GLCs) to the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) Code of Ethics in detecting unethical behaviour and their awareness on unethical practices in the organisation they are working in. Corporate scandals involved GLCs in Malaysia have increased the public queries on the competencies of internal auditors in reviewing the business process of the organisation. Hence, the research will try to identify whether the internal auditors in selected listed GLCs are competent in conducting audit engagement. The researcher also attempted identify whether the internal auditors in selected listed GLCs are aware on unethical practices/behaviour in the organisation they are working in. The results of the research shows that there is some evidence to indicate that internal auditors of the five selected listed GLCs are aware about the unethical practices in their organisation. The conclusion of this study shows that the internal auditors in five elected listed GLCs hold high level of compliance to the IIA's Code of Ethics in conducting audit engagement and identifying unethical practices. However, the findings suggest that the internal auditors should attend training and courses organised by the IIA, MACC and ACFE to increase and improve their knowledge on ethics and fraud in corporate sector.

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