

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE  
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Parishes of East Carroll, Madison and Tensas, Louisiana**

**Annual Financial Statements  
With Independent Auditor's Report  
As of and for the Year Ended  
December 31, 2023  
With Supplemental Information Schedules**

DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE  
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Parishes of East Carroll, Madison and Tensas, Louisiana

Annual Financial Statements  
With Independent Auditor's Report  
As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2023  
With Supplemental Information Schedules

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SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
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Practice Limited to  
Governmental Accounting,  
Auditing and  
Financial Reporting

**Independent Auditor's Report**

HONORABLE JAMES PAXTON  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE  
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Parishes of East Carroll, Madison and Tensas, Louisiana

***Opinions***

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the major funds, and the fiduciary fund of the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District, a component unit of the East Carroll, Madison and Tensas Parish Police Juries, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the major funds, and the fiduciary fund of the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District as of December 31, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

***Basis for Opinion***

I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of my report. I am required to be independent of the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District, and to meet my other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to my audit. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my unmodified audit opinion.

***Responsibility of Management for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; and for 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

***Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinions.

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Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards, I:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in my judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

I am required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that I identified during the audit.

***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis, the Budgetary Comparison Schedules and notes to required supplementary information, the Schedule of Employer's share of the Net Pension Liability, and the Schedule of Employer Contributions, as listed in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. I have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to my inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge I obtained during my audit of the basic financial statements. I do not express an



DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE  
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Independent Auditor's Report,  
December 31, 2023

opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide me with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

***Supplementary Information***

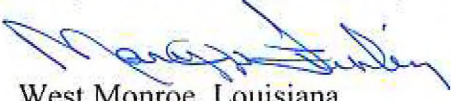
My audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of compensation, benefits and other payments to agency head, Justice System Funding Schedule for Collecting/Disbursing, and Justice System Funding Schedule for Receiving Entities, as listed in the Table of Contents, are presented for purpose of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financials statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In my opinion schedule of compensation, benefits and other payments to agency head and justice funding schedules are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

***Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, I have also issued a report dated June 26, 2024, on my consideration of the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's internal control over financial reporting and on my tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of my testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

***Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements***

In accordance with the requirements of the Louisiana Legislative Auditor, I have issued a report, dated June 26, 2024, on the results of my state wide agreed-upon procedures performed in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards*. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of testing performed on those control and compliance areas identified in the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's state side agreed-upon procedures, and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on control or compliance.

  
West Monroe, Louisiana  
June 26, 2024

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**  
**PART I**

DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE  
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Parishes of East Carroll, Madison and Tensas, Louisiana

**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
December 31, 2023

As management of the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District, I offer readers of the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023. Please read it in conjunction with the basic financial statements and the accompanying notes to the financial statements.

**Overview of the Financial Statements**

This Management Discussion and Analysis document introduces the district attorney's basic financial statements. The annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities (Government-wide Financial Statements) provide information about the financial activities as a whole and illustrate a longer-term view of the district attorney's finances. The Balance Sheet and Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance - Governmental Fund (Fund Financial Statements) tell how these services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. Fund Financial Statements also report the operations in more detail than the Government-Wide Financial Statements by providing information about the most significant funds. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

Our auditor has provided assurance in her independent auditor's report that the Basic Financial Statements are fairly stated. The auditor, regarding the Required Supplemental Information and the Supplemental Information is providing varying degrees of assurance. A user of this report should read the independent auditor's report carefully to ascertain the level of assurance being provided for each of the other parts in the Financial Section.

***Government-wide financial statements.*** The *government-wide financial statements* are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The *statement of net position* presents information on all of the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as *net position*. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District is improving or deteriorating.

The *statement of activities* presents information showing how the government's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (for example, earned, but unused, sick leave).



**Fund financial statements.** A *fund* is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District can be divided into two categories: governmental funds and fiduciary (agency) funds.

**Governmental funds.** Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

The District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District adopts an annual appropriated budget for the general fund and the special revenue fund. A budgetary comparison statement is provided for the major funds to demonstrate compliance with this budget.

**Fiduciary funds.** Fiduciary (agency) funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government. Since these resources are not available to support the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's programs, Fiduciary (agency) funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statement.

**Notes to the financial statements.** The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

**Other Information.** In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain *required supplementary information* concerning the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's performance.

### **Government-wide Financial Analysis**

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. At the close of the most recent fiscal year, liabilities of the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District exceeded assets by \$137,025. Approximately 1% of the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's net position reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g., equipment), less any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. These assets are not available for future spending.

An additional portion of the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's net position represents resources that are subject to external restrictions (e.g., debt service). The balance in unrestricted net position is affected by two factors: 1) resources expended, over time, by the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District to acquire capital assets from sources other than internally generated funds (i.e., debt), and 2) required depreciation on assets.

**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**  
Governmental Funds

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$215,384	\$304,313
Receivables	60,163	85,530
Capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation)	16,049	33,667
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>291,596</u>	<u>423,510</u>
<b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>		
Pension related	184,620	428,017
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable	47,252	44,226
Payroll withholdings payable	27,222	24,799
Net pension liability	488,274	683,130
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<u>562,748</u>	<u>752,155</u>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>		
Pension related	50,493	36,152
<b>NET POSITION</b>		
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	16,049	33,667
Unrestricted	(153,074)	29,553
<b>TOTAL NET POSITION</b>	<u>(\$137,025)</u>	<u>\$63,220</u>

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Judicial:		
Personal services	\$1,412,016	\$1,621,533
Operating services	1,210,535	1,153,063
Materials and supplies	79,311	87,235
Travel	76,513	69,372
Depreciation expense	17,618	27,818
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>	<u>2,795,993</u>	<u>2,959,021</u>
Program revenues - charges for services:		
Commissions on fines & forfeitures	1,905,701	1,892,956
Use of money - interest	7,264	2,143
Federal grants	181,590	191,427
State grants	474,075	525,538
Local grants	4,500	126,000
<b>Total program revenues</b>	<u>2,573,130</u>	<u>2,738,064</u>
<b>Net Program Expenses</b>	<u>(222,863)</u>	<u>(220,957)</u>
General revenues-		
Other revenues	22,618	98,008
<b>Change in Net Position</b>	<u>(200,245)</u>	<u>(122,949)</u>
Net Position - Beginning of year	63,220	186,169
<b>Net Position - End of year</b>	<u>(\$137,025)</u>	<u>\$63,220</u>

## **Financial Analysis of the Government's Funds**

As noted earlier, the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The focus of the governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of expendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the financing requirements. In particular, unassigned fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

As of December 31, 2023, combined governmental fund balance of \$201,073 showed a decrease of \$119,745 over December 31, 2022. The General Fund's portion of the unassigned fund balance of \$102,850 shows a decrease (of approximately \$123,197) from the prior year amount.

## **Budgetary Highlights**

The primary difference between expenditures of the original budget and the final budget of the general fund were due to an increase in estimated personal services and related benefits, travel and other charges and capital outlay and decreases in operating services and materials and supplies. The primary difference between revenues of the original budget and the final budget were due to a decrease in charges for fines and forfeitures and other revenues and an increase in federal grants and use of money - interest.

There were no budget amendments for the IV-D fund.

## **Capital Asset and Debt Administration**

**Capital assets.** The District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's investment in capital assets for its governmental activities as of December 31, 2023, amounts to \$16,049 (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment includes furniture and equipment. There were no increase in capital assets for the year. There were no deletions in capital assets for the year.

**Long-term debt.** The District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District has debt outstanding of \$488,274 at the end of the year, which consists of net pension liability.

## **Requests for Information**

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's finances for all those with an interest in the government's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District, P.O. Box 1389, Tallulah, LA 71284.



## **BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**Statement A**

DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE  
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Parishes of East Carroll, Madison and  
Tensas, Louisiana

Governmental Activities  
Statement of Net Position  
December 31, 2023

<b>Assets</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$215,384
Receivables	60,163
Capital assets (net)	<u>16,049</u>
Total Assets	<u>291,596</u>
<b>DEFERRED OUTFLOW OF RESOURCES</b>	
Pension related	184,620
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Accounts payable	47,252
Payroll withholding payable	27,222
Net pension liability	<u>488,274</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>562,748</u>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	
Pension related	50,493
<b>Net Position</b>	
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	16,049
Unrestricted	<u>(153,074)</u>
Total Net Position	<u><u>(\$137,025)</u></u>

See independent auditor's report and the related notes to the financial statements.

**Statement B**

DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE  
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Parishes of East Carroll, Madison and  
Tensas, Louisiana

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
December 31, 2023

**EXPENSES**

## Judicial:

Personal services	\$1,412,016
Operating services	1,210,535
Materials and supplies	79,311
Travel	76,513
Depreciation expense	17,618
Total Program Expenses	<u>2,795,993</u>

**REVENUES**

## Program revenues - charges for services:

Commissions on fines and forfeitures	1,905,701
Use of money - interest	7,264
Federal grants	181,590
State grants	474,075
Local funds	4,500
Total program revenues	<u>2,573,130</u>
Net Program Expenses	(222,863)

## General revenues:

Other revenues	<u>22,618</u>
Change in Net Position	(200,245)
Net Position - Beginning of year	<u>63,220</u>
Net Position - End of year	<u>(\$137,025)</u>

See independent auditor's report and the related notes to the financial statements.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE  
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Parishes of East Carroll, Madison and  
Tensas, Louisiana  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Combined Balance Sheet, December 31, 2023

	...MAJOR FUNDS...		
	GENERAL	IV-D SPECIAL REVENUE	
	FUND	FUND	TOTAL
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash	\$126,402	\$88,982	\$215,384
Receivables	38,634	21,529	60,163
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>\$165,036</u>	<u>\$110,511</u>	<u>\$275,547</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</b>			
Liabilities:			
Accounts payable	\$39,410	\$7,842	\$47,252
Payroll deductions payable	22,776	4,446	27,222
Total Liabilities	<u>62,186</u>	<u>12,288</u>	<u>74,474</u>
Fund balances:			
Restricted - other general government		98,223	98,223
Unassigned	102,850		102,850
Total Fund Balances	<u>102,850</u>	<u>98,223</u>	<u>201,073</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</b>	<u>\$165,036</u>	<u>\$110,511</u>	<u>\$275,547</u>

See independent auditor's report and the related notes to the financial statements.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE  
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Parishes of East Carroll, Madison,  
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Reconciliation of Governmental Funds  
Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Total Fund Balances at December 31, 2023 - Governmental Funds (Statement C)		<u>\$201,073</u>
Deferred outflows of resources		184,620
Cost of capital assets at December 31, 2023	\$289,878	
Less: Accumulated depreciation as of December 31, 2023	<u>(273,829)</u>	16,049
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds.		
Net pension liability		(488,274)
Deferred inflows of resources		<u>(50,493)</u>
Net Position at December 31, 2023 (Statement A)		<u><u>(\$137,025)</u></u>

See independent auditor's report and the related notes to the financial statements.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE  
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Parishes of East Carroll, Madison and  
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Governmental Funds  
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	....Major Funds....		
	General	IV-D	Total
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Intergovernmental revenues:			
Federal grants	\$12,817	\$168,773	\$181,590
State grants	387,131	86,944	474,075
Local funds	4,500		4,500
Commissions on fines & forfeitures	1,905,701		1,905,701
Use of money - interest	5,955	1,309	7,264
Other revenues	19,625	2,993	22,618
Total revenues	<u>2,335,729</u>	<u>260,019</u>	<u>2,595,748</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Current:			
Judicial:			
Personal services and related benefits	1,135,155	213,979	1,349,134
Operating services	1,183,862	26,673	1,210,535
Materials and supplies	67,298	12,013	79,311
Travel and other charges	72,611	3,902	76,513
Total expenditures	<u>2,458,926</u>	<u>256,567</u>	<u>2,715,493</u>
<b>EXCESS (Deficiency) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>(123,197)</u>	<u>3,452</u>	<u>(119,745)</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING</b>	<u>226,047</u>	<u>94,771</u>	<u>320,818</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES - ENDING</b>	<u><u>\$102,850</u></u>	<u><u>\$98,223</u></u>	<u><u>\$201,073</u></u>

See independent auditor's report and the related notes to the financial statements.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE  
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Parishes of East Carroll, Madison,  
and Tensas, Louisiana

Reconciliation of Governmental Funds  
Statement of Revenue, Expenditures, and Changes  
in Fund Balances to the Statement of Activities

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Total net change in fund balances - governmental funds (Statement D)	(\$119,745)
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:	
Capital outlays are reported in governmental funds as expenditures. However, in the statement of Activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlays exceed depreciation for the period.	(17,618)
Non-employer contributions to cost-sharing pension plan	61,365
Pension expense	<u>(124,247)</u>
Change in net position of governmental activities (Statement B)	<u>(\$200,245)</u>

See independent auditor's report and the related notes to the financial statements.

**Statement E**

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE  
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**  
Parishes of East Carroll, Madison and  
Tensas, Louisiana

Statement of Fiduciary Net Position  
December 31, 2023

**SPECIAL  
ASSET  
FORFEITURE**

**ASSETS**

Cash and cash equivalents

\$48,691

**LIABILITIES**

Deposits due others

\$48,691

See independent auditor's report and the related notes to the financial statements.



**Statement F**

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE  
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Parishes of East Carroll, Madison, and Tensas, Louisiana**

**Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position  
December 31, 2023**

	<u>SPECIAL ASSET FORFEITURE</u>
<b>UNSETTLED DEPOSITS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	\$85,739
<b>ADDITIONS</b>	2,472
<b>REDUCTIONS</b>	<u>(39,520)</u>
<b>UNSETTLED DEPOSITS AT END OF YEAR</b>	<u><u>\$48,691</u></u>

See independent auditor's report and the related notes to the financial statements.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE  
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Parishes of East Carroll, Madison and  
Tensas, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements  
As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

**I. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

As provided by Article V, Section 26 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, the district attorney has charge of every criminal prosecution by the state in his district, is the representative of the state before the grand jury in his district, and is the legal advisor to the grand jury. He performs other duties as provided by law. The district attorney is elected by the qualified electors of the judicial district for a term of six years. The judicial district encompasses the Parishes of East Carroll, Madison and Tensas, Louisiana.

The accompanying financial statements of the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District have been prepared in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The accompanying basic financial statements have been prepared in conformity with GASB Statement 34, *Basic Financial Statements-and Management's Discussion and Analysis -for State and Local Governments*, issued in June 1999.

**A. REPORTING ENTITY**

As the governing authority of the parishes, for reporting purposes, the East Carroll, Madison, and Tensas Parish Police Juries, are the financial reporting entities for the respective parishes. The financial reporting entities consist of (a) the primary government (police jury), (b) organizations for which primary government is financially accountable, and (c) other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary governments are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entities financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 14 established criteria for determining which component units should be considered part of the parish police jury for financial reporting purposes. The basic criterion for including a potential component unit within the reporting entity is financial responsibility. The GASB has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. This criteria includes:

1. Appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body, and:
  - a. The ability of the district attorney to impose its will on that organization and/or
  - b. The potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to or impose specific financial burdens on the district attorney.

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2. Organizations for which the district attorney does not appoint a voting majority but are fiscally dependent on the district attorney.
3. Organizations for which the reporting entity financial statements would be misleading if data of the organization is not included because of the nature or significance of the relationship.

Because the East Carroll, Madison, and Tensas Parish Police Juries maintain and operate the buildings in which the district attorney's offices are located and provides partial funding for equipment, furniture and supplies of the district attorney's offices, the district attorney was determined to be a component unit of the police juries, the financial reporting entities. The accompanying financial statements present information only on the funds maintained by the district attorney and do not present information on the police jury, the general government services provided by that governmental unit, or the other governmental units that comprise the East Carroll, Madison, and Tensas Parish financial reporting entities.

**B. BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENTS**

The district attorney's basic financial statements include both government-wide (reporting the district attorney as a whole) and fund financial statements (reporting the district attorney's major funds). Both government-wide and fund financial statements categorize primary activities as either governmental or business type. All activities of the district attorney are classified as governmental.

The district attorney reports the following major governmental funds:

The General Fund is the district attorney's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

The Title IV-D Fund consists of incentive payments and reimbursement grants from the Louisiana Department of Social Services, authorized by Act 117 of 1975, to establish family and child support programs compatible with Title IV-D of the Social Security Act. The purpose of the fund is to enforce the support obligation owed by absent parents to their families and children, to locate absent parents, to establish paternity, and to obtain family and child support.

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The Statement of Net Position (Statement A) and the Statement of Activities (Statement B) display information about the reporting government as a whole. These statements include all the financial activities of the district attorney.

In the Statement of Net Position, governmental activities are presented on a consolidated basis and are presented on a full accrual, economic resource basis, which recognizes all long-term assets and receivables as well as long-term obligations. Net position is reported in three parts; invested in capital assets, net of any related debt; restricted net position; and unrestricted net position. The district attorney first uses restricted resources to finance qualifying activities.

The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets and liabilities resulting from exchange or exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange occurs (regardless of when cash is received or disbursed). Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets and liabilities resulting from nonexchange transactions are recognized in accordance with the requirements of GASB Statement No. 33, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Nonexchange Transactions*.

**Program Revenues** - Program revenues included in the Statement of Activities (Statement B) are derived directly from parties outside the district attorney's taxpayers or citizenry. Program revenues reduce the cost of the function to be financed from the district attorney's general revenues.

**Allocation of Indirect Expenses** - The district attorney reports all direct expenses by function in the Statement of Activities (Statement B). Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a function. Indirect expenses of other functions are not allocated to those functions but are reported separately in the Statement of Activities. Depreciation expense, which can be specifically identified by function, is included in the direct expenses of each function.

### **C. BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial transactions of the district attorney are reported in individual funds in the fund financial statements. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities.

Fund financial statements report detailed information about the district attorney. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is presented in a separate column.



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A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues, and expenditures. Funds are classified into three categories; governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary. Each category, in turn, is divided into separate "fund types". Governmental funds are used to account for a government's general activities, where the focus of attention is on the providing of services to the public as opposed to proprietary funds where the focus of attention is on recovering the cost of providing services to the public or other agencies through service charges or user fees. The district attorney's current operations require the use of only governmental funds. The governmental fund types used by the district attorney is described as follows:

**Governmental Fund Type**

**General Fund (District  
Attorneys' Expense)**

The General Fund was established in compliance with Louisiana Revised Statute 15:571.11, which provides that twelve per cent of the fines collected and bonds forfeited be transmitted to the district attorney to defray the necessary expenditures of his office.

**Special Revenue Funds**

Special revenue funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources such as federal and state grants and fees for services. Those revenues are legally restricted, either by grant agreement or state law, to expenditures for specified purposes such as family and child support programs, and specified expenses of the district attorney's office.

**Fiduciary Fund Type - Agency Fund**

The Special Asset Forfeiture Agency Fund accounts for all transactions involving money seized during controlled substance cases, sale of property seized during controlled substance cases and later declared forfeited by the courts, and the distribution of the above funds in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statute 40:2616. The fund was created by the Seizure and Controlled Dangerous Substance Property Forfeiture Act of 1989 and became effective January 1, 1990. The agency funds are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and does not involve measurement of results of operations. Consequently, the agency funds have no measurement focus, but use the accrual basis of accounting.

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**D. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

Basis of accounting refers to the point at which revenues or expenditures/expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. It relates to the timing of the measurement made regardless of the measurement focus applied.

**1. Accrual:**

Both the governmental and fiduciary type activities in the government-wide financial statements are presented on the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred.

**2. Modified Accrual:**

The governmental fund financial statements are presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on the balance sheet. The statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances reports on the sources (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and uses (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources. This approach differs from the manner in which the governmental activities of the government-wide financial statements are prepared. Governmental fund financial statements therefore include a reconciliation with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the government-wide statements and the statements for governmental funds.

Governmental funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when susceptible to accrual (i.e., when they become both measurable and available). Measurable means the amount of the transaction can be determined and available means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. The district attorney considers all revenues available if they are collected within 60 days after the fiscal year end. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for interest and principal payments on general long-term debt which is recognized when due, and certain compensated absences and claims and judgments which are recognized when the obligations are expected to be liquidated with expendable available financial resources. The governmental funds use the following practices in recording revenues and expenditures:

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**Revenues**

Commissions on fines and bond forfeitures are recorded in the year they are collected by the parish tax collector.

Fees from the collection of worthless checks are recorded in the year they are collected. Grants are recorded when the district attorney is entitled to the funds. Interest income on time deposits is recorded when the time deposits have matured and the interest is available. Substantially all other revenues are recorded when received.

Based on the above criteria, commissions on fines and bond forfeitures, and grants have been treated as susceptible to accrual.

**Expenditures**

Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related fund liability is incurred.

**E. CAPITAL ASSETS**

Capital assets are capitalized at historical cost or estimated cost if historical cost is not available. Donated assets are recorded as capital assets at their estimated fair market value at the date of donation.

Capital assets are reported in the government-wide financial statements but not in the fund financial statements. Since surplus assets are sold for an immaterial amount when declared as no longer needed for public purposes by the district attorney, no salvage value is taken into consideration for depreciation purposes. All capital assets, other than land, are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Estimated Lives</u>
Furniture and fixtures	5 - 10 years
Vehicles	5 - 15 years
Equipment	5 - 20 years

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**F. VACATION AND SICK LEAVE**

Employees of the district attorney's office receive from 5 to 20 days of non-cumulative vacation leave each year, depending on their length of service. Each employee is allowed 10 days of sick leave each calendar year. There is a limit of 90 days of sick leave that an employee can accumulate. However, at retirement or termination, the employee forfeits all unused sick leave.

**G. RISK MANAGEMENT**

The district attorney is exposed to various risk of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and injuries to employees. To handle such risk of loss, the district attorney maintains commercial insurance policies covering his automobile, professional liability and surety bond coverage. No claims were paid on any of the policies during the past three years which exceeded the policies' coverage amounts. There were no significant reductions in insurance coverage during the year ended December 31, 2023.

**H. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

Under state law, the district attorney may deposit funds within a fiscal agent bank organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana, the laws of any other state in the union, or the laws of the United States. The district attorney may invest in certificates and time deposits of state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having principal offices in Louisiana. At December 31, 2023, the district attorney has cash and cash equivalents (book balances) totaling \$264,075.

Demand deposits	\$116,281
Time deposits	<u>147,794</u>
Total	<u>\$264,075</u>

*Custodial Credit Risk:* Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, the government will not be able to recover its deposits. Under state law, the deposits (or the resulting bank balances) must be secured by federal deposit insurance or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal agent bank. The market value of the pledged securities plus the federal deposit insurance must at all times equal or exceed the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent. These securities are held in the name of the pledging fiscal agent bank in a holding or custodial bank that is mutually



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acceptable to both parties. Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1229 imposes a statutory requirement on the custodial bank to advertise and sell the pledged securities within 10 days of being notified by the judicial expense that the fiscal agent bank has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand. Further, Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1224 states that securities held by a third party shall be deemed to be held in the district attorney's name. The district attorney does not have a policy concerning custodial risk.

Cash and cash equivalents (bank balances) at December 31, 2023, are secured as follows:

Bank balances	<u>\$290,467</u>
Federal deposit insurance	<u>\$290,467</u>
Pledged securities (uncollateralized)	<u>NONE</u>
Total	<u>\$290,467</u>

**I. PENSION PLANS**

The District Attorney's Office is a participating employer in a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan as described in Note 4. For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of each of the plans, and additions to/deductions for the plan's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the plan. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms.

**J. EQUITY CLASSIFICATIONS**

In the government-wide statements, equity is classified as net position and displayed in three components:

- a. Net investment in capital assets - Consists of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowing that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.

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- b. Restricted net position - Consists of net position with constraints placed on the use either by (1) external groups, such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (2) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- c. Unrestricted net position - All other net position that does not meet the definition of "restricted" or "net investment in capital assets."

When an expense is incurred for the purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available, management applies unrestricted resources first, unless a determination is made to use restricted resources. The policy concerning which to apply first varies with the intended use and legal requirements. This decision is typically made by management at the incurrence of the expense.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance and displayed in five components. The following classifications describe the relative strength of the spending constraints placed on the purposes for which resources can be used:

*Nonspendable* - represents amounts that are not expected to be converted to cash because they are either not in spendable form or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

*Restricted* - represents balances where constraints have been established by parties outside the district attorney's office or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

*Committed* - represents balances that can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the district attorney's highest level of decision-making authority.

*Assigned* - represents balances that are constrained by the government's intent to be used for specific purposes, but are not restricted nor committed.

*Unassigned* - represents balances that have not been assigned to other funds and that have not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes within the general fund.

The General Fund has an unassigned fund balance of \$102,850. If applicable, the district attorney would typically use restricted fund balances first, followed by committed resources and assigned resources as appropriate opportunities arise, but reserves the right

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to selectively spend unassigned resources first and to defer the use of these other classified funds. The district attorney considers restricted amounts have been spent when an expenditure has been incurred for the purpose for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available.

**K. ELIMINATION AND RECLASSIFICATIONS**

In the process of aggregating data for the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities some amounts reported as interfund activity and balances in the funds were eliminated or reclassified. Interfund receivables and payables were eliminated to minimize the "grossing up" effect on assets and liabilities within the governmental activities column.

**L. DEFERRED OUTFLOWS/INFLOWS OF RESOURCES**

The Statement of Net Position reports a separate section for deferred outflows and (or) deferred inflows of financial resources. Deferred outflows of resources represent a consumption of net position that applies to future periods and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until the applicable period. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisitions of net position that applies to future periods and will not be recognized as an inflow of resources until that time.

**M. ESTIMATES**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues, expenditures, and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**N. TOTAL COLUMN ON THE BALANCE SHEET**

The total column on the balance sheet is captioned Memorandum Only (overview) to indicate that it is presented only to facilitate financial analysis. Data in this column does not present financial position in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Neither is such data comparable to a consolidation. Interfund eliminations have not been made in the aggregation of this data.

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## 2. RECEIVABLES

The following is a summary of receivables at December 31, 2023:

	General Fund	Title IV-D Special Revenue Fund	Total
Intergovernmental revenues:			
Federal-Department of Health and Human Services		\$21,529	\$21,529
Fees, charges and commissions, etc.	\$38,634		38,634
Total	<u>\$38,634</u>	<u>\$21,529</u>	<u>\$60,163</u>

## 3. CHANGES IN CAPITAL ASSETS

A summary of changes in office equipment follows:

Balance, January 1, 2023	\$289,878
Additions	NONE
Deletions	<u>NONE</u>
Balance at December 31, 2023	<u>289,878</u>
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(273,829)</u>
Net capital assets	<u>\$16,049</u>

Depreciation expense of \$17,618 was charged to the judicial function.

## 4. PENSION PLAN

### District Attorney's Retirement System of Louisiana (System)

#### *Plan Description*

The District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District contributes to the District Attorneys' Retirement System (System) which is a cost sharing multiple employer defined benefit pension plan. The System was established on August 1, 1956, by Act 56 of the 1956 session of the Louisiana Legislature, for the purpose of providing allowances and other benefits for district attorneys and their assistants in each parish. The fund is administered by a Board of Trustees. Benefits, including normal retirement, early retirement, disability retirement, and death benefit are provided as specified in the plan.

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The District Attorneys' Retirement System prepares its employer schedules in accordance with the standards established by the Governmental Accounting Statement No. 68 - *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions - an amendment of GASB Statement No. 27*. GASB Statement No. 68 established standards for measuring and recognizing liabilities, deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflows of resources, and expenses/expenditures. It also provides methods to calculate participating employers' proportionate share of net pension liability, deferred inflows, deferred outflows, pension expense, and amortization periods for deferred inflows and deferred outflows. GASB Statement No. 67 - *Financial Reporting for Pension Plans - an amendment of GASB Statement No. 25* provides methods and assumptions that should be used to project benefit payments, discount projected benefit payments to their actuarial present value, and attribute that present value to periods of employee service.

The District Attorneys' Retirement System's employer pension schedules are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Employer contributions, for which the employer allocations are based, is recognized in the period in which the employee is compensated for services performed.

The deferred outflows and deferred inflows of resources resulting from differences between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments recorded in different years are netted to report only a deferred outflow or inflow on the schedule of pension amounts. The remaining categories of deferred outflows and deferred inflows are not presented on a net basis.

Plan fiduciary net position is a significant component of the System's collective net pension liability. The System's plan fiduciary net position was determined using the accrual basis of accounting. The System's assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenses were recorded with the use of estimates and assumptions in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Such estimates primarily relate to unsettled transactions and events as of the date of the financial statements and estimates over the determination of the fair market value of the System's investments. Accordingly, actual results may differ from estimated amounts.

Any member of the Plan who was hired prior to July 1, 1990, and who have elected not to be covered under the new provisions, are eligible to receive normal retirement benefit if one of the following criteria is met:

1. Age 62 after 10 or more years of creditable service.
2. Age 60 after 18 or more years of creditable service.
3. Age 55 after 23 or more years of creditable service.
4. Any age after 30 or more years of creditable service.

The normal retirement benefit is equal to three percent of the member's final compensation for each year of creditable service. However, under certain conditions as outlined in the statutes, the benefits are limited to specified amounts. Retirement benefits may not exceed 100% of final average compensation.



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Any member of the Plan who was hired after July 1, 1990, or who have elected to be covered under the new provisions, are eligible to receive normal retirement benefit if one of the following criteria is met:

1. Age 60 after 10 or more years of creditable service.
2. Age 55 after 24 or more years of creditable service.
3. Any age after 30 or more years of creditable service.

The normal retirement benefit is equal to 3.5% of the member's final average compensation multiplied by years of membership service. However, under certain conditions as outlined in the statutes, the benefits are limited to specified amounts. Retirement benefits may not exceed 100% of final average compensation.

The System also provides death and disability benefits. Benefits are established or amended by state statute.

For the year ended December 31, 2023, the District Attorney's total payroll for all employees was \$848,555. Total covered payroll was \$378,241. Covered payroll refers to all compensation paid by the District Attorney to active employees covered by the Plan.

The District Attorneys' Retirement System issued a stand-alone audit report on their financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2023. Access to the report can be found on the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's website, [www.la.la.gov](http://www.la.la.gov).

### *Contributions*

According to state statute, contribution requirements for all employers are actuarially determined each year. For the year ended June 30, 2023, the actual employer contribution rate 9.5%, actuarially determined as an amount that, when combined with employee contributions, is expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year, with an additional amount to finance any unfunded accrued liability. In accordance with state statute, the System receives ad valorem taxes and state revenue sharing funds. These additional sources of income are used as employer contributions and are considered support from non-employer contributing entities, but are not considered special funding situations.

Members are required by state statute to contribute 8.00% of their annual covered salary. The contributions are deducted from the employee's wages or salary and remitted by the District Attorney to the System monthly. The District Attorney's contributions to the System for the year ending December 31, 2023 were \$35,933

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*Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources, and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions*

At December 31, 2023 and 2022, the Employer reported a liability of \$488,274 and \$683,130, respectively, for its proportionate share of the Net Pension Liability. The Net Pension Liability was measured as of June 30, 2023 and 2022 and the total pension liability used to calculate the Net Pension Liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The District Attorney's proportion of the Net Pension Liability was based on a projection of the District Attorney's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating employers, actuarially determined. At June 30, 2023, the District Attorney's proportion was 0.569%, which was an increase of 0.065% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2022.

For the year ended December 31, 2023, the District Attorney recognized pension expense of \$167,539 plus employer's amortization of change in proportionate share and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions, which was \$(43,292). Total pension expense for the District Attorney for the year ended December 31, 2023 was \$124,247.

At December 31, 2022, the District Attorney reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$30,380	\$16,128
Changes in assumptions	74,789	
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan	56,209	
Changes in employer's proportion of beginning NPL	3,750	33,594
Difference between employer and proportionate share of contributions		774
Employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date	19,492	
Total	\$184,620	\$50,496

\$19,492 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from the District Attorneys' contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended December 31, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year ended December 31,	
2024	\$39,943
2025	31,194
2026	73,196

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2027	(\$29,701)
TOTAL	\$114,632

*Actuarial Assumptions*

A summary of the actuarial methods and assumptions used in determining the total pension liability as of June 30, 2023, are as follows:

Valuation Date	June 30, 2022
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry age normal costs
Actuarial Assumptions:	
Investment Rate of Return	6.10%, net of Pension Plan investment expense including inflation
Salary increases	5.00% (2.20% inflation, 2.80% merit)
Mortality rates	<p>Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for General Above-Median Employees multiplied by 115% for males and females for current employees, each with full generational projection using the MP2019 scale.</p> <p>Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for General Disabled Retirees multiplied by 115% for males and females for current employees, each with full generational projection using the MP2019 scale.</p> <p>Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for General Above-Median Employees multiplied by 115% for males and females for current employees, each with full generational projection using the MP2019 scale.</p>
Expected remaining service lives	5 years
Cost of Living Adjustments	Only those previously granted

The estimated long-term rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimates ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of



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return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The resulting long-term rate of return is 7.70% for the year ended June 30, 2023. Best estimates of real rates of return for each major asset class included in the System's target asset allocation as of June 30, 2023 are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Long-Term Target Asset Allocation	Rates of Return
Equities	50.11%	10.66%
Fixed income	32.82%	3.81%
Alternatives	16.90%	6.50%
Cash	.20%	2.31%
Totals	100%	
Inflation		2.68%
Expected arithmetic nominal return	7.70%	

*Discount Rate*

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 6.10%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current contribution rate and that contributions from participating employers will be made at actuarially determined rates approved by PRSAC taking into consideration the recommendation of the System's actuary. Based on those assumptions, the System's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability.

*Sensitivity of the District Attorney's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate*

The following presents the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District 's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 6.10%, as well as what the District Attorney's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage-point lower (5.10%) or one percentage-point higher (7.10%) than the current rate:

	1.0% Decrease (5.10%)	Current Discount Rate (6.10%)	1.0% Increase (7.10%)
Employer's proportionate share of net pension liability	\$912,498	\$488,274	\$132,382

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*Plan Fiduciary Net Position*

Detailed information about the System's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued District Attorneys' Retirement System of Louisiana Audit Report at [www.ladars.org](http://www.ladars.org).

*Payables to the Pension Plan*

The financial statements include a payable to the pension plan of \$5,178, which is the legally required contribution due at December 31, 2023. This amount is recorded in accrued expenses.

**5. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSIONS**

The District Attorney's office does not pay retirees group insurance upon retirement.

**6. LITIGATION AND CLAIMS**

At December 31, 2023, the district attorney is not involved in any lawsuits.

**7. EXPENDITURES OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
NOT INCLUDED IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The accompanying financial statements do not include certain expenditures of the district attorney paid out of the funds of the criminal court, the parish police jury, or directly by the state.

*Required Supplemental Information (Part II)*

## Schedule 1

DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE  
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Parishes of East Carroll, Madison and  
Tensas, Louisiana

Budgetary Comparison Schedule - General Fund  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance With Final Budget Positive (Negative)
<b>Revenues</b>				
Intergovernmental revenues:				
Federal grants		\$12,850	\$12,817	(\$33)
State grants	\$357,131	357,131	387,131	30,000
Local funds	4,500	4,500	4,500	
Charges for fines & forfeitures	2,075,850	1,992,275	1,905,701	(86,574)
Use of money - interest	650	2,059	5,955	3,896
Other revenues	12,500		19,625	19,625
Total revenues	<u>2,450,631</u>	<u>2,368,815</u>	<u>2,335,729</u>	<u>(33,086)</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Current:				
Judicial:				
Personal services and related benefits	1,142,646	1,188,186	1,135,155	53,031
Operating services	1,244,450	1,087,216	1,183,862	(96,646)
Materials and supplies	38,000	27,709	67,298	(39,589)
Travel and other charges	14,500	44,233	72,611	(28,378)
Capital outlay	8,500	9,856		9,856
Total expenditures	<u>2,448,096</u>	<u>2,357,200</u>	<u>2,458,926</u>	<u>(101,726)</u>
<b>Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues over Expenditures</b>	<u>2,535</u>	<u>11,615</u>	<u>(123,197)</u>	<u>(134,812)</u>
<b>Fund Balance - Beginning</b>	<u>NONE</u>	<u>NONE</u>	<u>226,047</u>	<u>226,047</u>
<b>Fund Balance - Ending</b>	<u>\$2,535</u>	<u>\$11,615</u>	<u>\$102,850</u>	<u>\$91,235</u>

(Continued)

## Schedule 1

DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE  
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Parishes of East Carroll, Madison and  
Tensas, Louisiana

Budgetary Comparison Schedule  
IV-D Fund  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Original/ Final Budget	Actual	Variance With Final Budget Positive (Negative)
<b>Revenues</b>			
Intergovernmental revenues -			
Federal	\$168,773	\$168,773	
State	86,944	86,944	
Use of money - interest	1,309	1,309	
Other revenues	2,993	2,993	
Total revenues	<u>260,019</u>	<u>260,019</u>	<u>NONE</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Current:			
Judicial:			
Personal services and related benefits	213,979	213,979	
Operating services	26,673	26,673	
Materials and supplies	12,013	12,013	
Travel and other charges	3,902	3,902	
Total expenditures	<u>256,567</u>	<u>256,567</u>	<u>NONE</u>
<b>Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues over Expenditures</b>	<u>3,452</u>	<u>3,452</u>	
<b>Fund Balance - Beginning</b>	<u>94,771</u>	<u>94,771</u>	<u>NONE</u>
<b>Fund Balance - Ending</b>	<u>\$98,223</u>	<u>\$98,223</u>	<u>NONE</u>

See independent auditor's report and the related notes to the financial statements.

(Concluded)

**District Attorney for the 6<sup>th</sup> Judicial District  
Parishes of East Carroll, Madison and Tensas, Louisiana**

**Required Supplementary Information  
Budgetary Comparison Schedules for Major Funds  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023**

The proposed budget, prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting, is made available for public inspection at least fifteen days prior to the beginning of each fiscal year. The budget is then legally adopted by the district attorney and amended during the year, as necessary. The budget is established and controlled by the district attorney at the object level of expenditure. The district attorney does not utilize encumbrance accounting. Appropriations lapse at year-end and must be reappropriated for the following year to be expended. All changes in the budget must be approved by the district attorney.

Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year. Budgeted amounts included in the accompanying financial statement include the original adopted budget amounts.

**District Attorney of the  
Sixth Judicial District  
Schedule of Employer's Share of Net Pension Liability  
December 31, 2023**

<u>Fiscal Year *</u>	<u>Employer Proportion of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)</u>	<u>Employer Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)</u>	<u>Employer's Covered Employee Payroll</u>	<u>Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered Employee Payroll</u>	<u>Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability</u>
2014	0.479705%	\$29,042	\$285,678	3.35%	99.45%
2015	0.539159%	\$113,290	\$322,181	9.01%	98.56%
2016	0.591879%	\$183,996	\$338,420	33.48%	95.09%
2017	0.682170%	\$214,349	\$354,224	51.94%	93.57%
2018	0.666110%	\$214,349	\$414,098	51.76%	92.92%
2019	0.722753%	\$232,512	\$424,934	54.72%	93.13%
2020	0.628837%	\$498,210	\$390,102	127.71%	84.86%
2021	0.630425%	\$112,236	\$395,143	28.40%	96.79%
2022	0.634165%	\$683,130	\$410,352	166.47%	81.47%
2023	0.569382%	\$488,274	\$378,241	129.09%	85.85%

\* - Amounts presented were determined as of the measurement date (6/30/2023)

See independent auditor's report and the related notes to the financial statements.

**Schedule 3**

**District Attorney of the  
Sixth Judicial District  
Schedule of Employer Contributions  
December 31, 2023**

<b>Fiscal Year *</b>	<b>Contractually Required Contribution</b>	<b>Contributions in Relations to Contractual Required Contributions</b>	<b>Contribution Deficiency (Excess)</b>	<b>Employer's Covered Employee Payroll</b>	<b>Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll</b>
2014	\$27,009	\$27,009	\$0	\$285,678	9.45%
2015	\$22,553	\$22,553	\$0	\$322,181	7.00%
2016	\$11,845	\$11,845	\$0	\$338,420	3.50%
2017	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$354,224	0.00%
2018	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$414,098	0.00%
2019	\$5,312	\$5,312	\$0	\$424,934	1.25%
2020	\$15,603	\$15,603	\$0	\$390,102	4.00%
2021	\$15,806	\$15,806	\$0	\$395,143	4.00%
2022	\$38,984	\$38,984	\$0	\$410,352	9.50%
2023	\$35,933	\$35,933	\$0	\$378,241	9.50%

\* - Amounts presented were determined as of the end of the measurement date (6/30/2023).

See independent auditor's report and the related notes to the financial statements.



**OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**PART III**

DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Parishes of East Carroll, Madison and  
Tensas, Louisiana

Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

JAMES PAXTON, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

PURPOSE	AMOUNT
Salary	\$119,030
Salary - IV-D fund	25,678
Salary-State	53,982
Salary-Police Juries	4,500
Benefits - retirement	21,856
Benefits-insurance - Police Jury	26,279
Auto Allowance	24,000
Housing	633
Registration fees	750

See independent auditor's report.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE -  
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Parishes of East Carroll, Madison  
and Tensas, Louisiana  
JUSTICE SYSTEM FUNDING SCHEDULE  
COLLECTING/DISBURSING ENTITY  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

CASH BASIS PRESENTATION	First Six Month Period Ended 6/30/2023	Second Six Month Period Ended 12/31/2023
<b>Beginning Balance of Amounts Collected</b>	\$104,181	\$58,564
<b>Add: Collections</b>		
Asset Forfeiture/Sale	2,472	NONE
Pre-Trial Diversion Program Fees	228,531	204,725
Criminal Court Costs/Fees	353,524	322,620
Criminal Court Fines - Contempt	18,300	16,650
Criminal Court Fines - Other	132,166	118,345
<b>Subtotal Collections</b>	734,993	662,340
<b>Less: Disbursements to Governments and Non Profits</b>		
East Carroll Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees	52,985	40,373
East Carroll Parish Sheriff - Criminal Fines - Other	18,504	14,525
East Carroll Parish Sheriff - Criminal Fines - Contempt	2,000	1,150
East Carroll Parish Sheriff - Pre-Trial Diversion Program Fees	1,351	NONE
Madison Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees	260,387	242,861
Madison Parish Sheriff - Criminal Fines - Other	101,712	92,220
Madison Parish Sheriff - Criminal Fines - Contempt	16,300	15,550
Madison Parish Sheriff - Pre-Trial Diversion Program Fees	16,171	13,318
Tensas Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees	40,152	39,386
Tensas Parish Sheriff - Criminal Fines - Other	11,950	11,600
Tensas Parish Sheriff - Asset forfeiture/Sale	3,913	NONE
Tensas Parish Sheriff - Pre-Trial Diversion Program Fees	12,716	18,665
Louisiana State Police - Asset forfeiture/Sale	19,562	NONE
Louisiana State Police - Pre-Trial Diversion Program Fees	35,501	53,602
Village of Delta - Pre-Trial Diversion Program Fees	5,155	6,086
D.A.R.T. - Asset forfeiture/Sale	395	NONE
Tensas Parish Criminal Court Fund - Asset forfeiture/Sale	7,825	1,035
<b>Less: Amounts Retained by Collecting Agency</b>		
Amounts "Self-Disbursed" to Collecting Agency-Asset forfeiture/Sale	7,825	NONE
Amounts "Self-Disbursed" to Collecting Agency- Pre-Trial Diversion Program Fees	157,637	113,052
Amounts "Self-Disbursed" to Collecting Agency- Probation/Parole/Supervision Fees	8,569	7,916
Amounts "Self-Disbursed" to Collecting Agency-Interest Earnings		
<b>Subtotal Disbursement/Retainage</b>	780,610	671,339
<b>Total: Ending Balance of Amounts collected but not Disbursed/Retained</b>	\$58,564	\$49,565
See independent auditor's report.		

DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE -  
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Parishes of East Carroll, Madison  
and Tensas, Louisiana

JUSTICE SYSTEM FUNDING SCHEDULE  
RECEIVING ENTITY  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

CASH BASIS PRESENTATION	First Six Month Period Ended 6/30/2023	Second Six Month Period Ended 12/31/2023
<b>Receipts From:</b>		
East Carroll Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees	\$14,086	\$14,221
East Carroll Parish Sheriff - Criminal Fines	7,506	8,892
East Carroll Parish - Bond Fees	2,738	3,324
Tensas Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees	28,752	27,014
Tensas Parish Sheriff - Criminal Fines	9,756	8,917
Tensas Parish Sheriff - Bond Fees	9,252	2,223
Madison Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees	71,913	61,228
Madison Parish Sheriff - Criminal Fees	21,900	28,130
Madison Parish Sheriff - Bond Fees	17,799	6,536
LA Department of Public Safety- Criminal Court Costs/ Fees	1,550	1,938
<b>Subtotal Receipts</b>	<u>\$185,252</u>	<u>\$162,423</u>
<b>Total: Ending Balance of Amounts collected but not Received</b>	<u>NONE</u>	<u>NONE</u>

See independent auditor's report.

**REPORTS REQUIRED BY  
GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS  
PART III**



**Independent Auditor's Report Required  
by *Government Auditing Standards***

The following independent auditor's report on compliance with laws, regulations, contracts and internal control is presented in compliance with the requirements of *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*, issued by the Society of Louisiana Certified Public Accountants and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor.

Member:  
American Institute of  
Certified Public Accountants  
Society of Louisiana Certified  
Public Accountants

**MARY JO FINLEY, CPA, INC.**  
*A PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTING CORPORATION*  
116 Professional Drive - West Monroe, LA 71291  
Phone (318) 329-8880 - Fax (318) 239-8883

Practice Limited to  
Governmental Accounting,  
Auditing and  
Financial Reporting

**Independent Auditors Report on Internal Control Over Financial  
Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters  
Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed  
in Accordance With *Government Auditing Standards***

HONORABLE JAMES PAXTON  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE  
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Parishes of East Carroll, Madison and Tensas, Louisiana

I have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the major funds and the fiduciary fund of the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District, a component unit of the East Carroll, Madison and Tensas Parish Police Juries as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023 and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's basic financial statements, and have issued my report thereon dated June 26, 2024.

**Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing my audit of the financial statements, I considered the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's internal control over financial reporting(internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing my opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's internal control. Accordingly, I do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's internal control.

*A deficiency in internal control* exist 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. *A material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control 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 significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

My consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies, and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified. Given these limitations, during my audit I did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that I consider to be material weaknesses.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE  
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
PARISHES OF EAST CARROLL, MADISON,  
AND TENSAS PARISHES  
Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance  
And Internal Control Over Financial Reporting, etc.  
December 31, 2023

**Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, I performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of my audit and, accordingly, I do not express such an opinion. The results of my tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

**Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of my testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.



West Monroe, Louisiana  
June 26, 2024

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE  
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**  
Parishes of East Carroll, Madison and Tensas, Louisiana  
Schedule of Audit Results  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

**A. SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS**

1. The auditor's report expresses an unmodified opinion on the financial statements of District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District.
2. No instances of noncompliance material to the financial statements of District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District were disclosed during the audit.
3. No material weaknesses relating to the audit of the financial statements are reported in the Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control.

**B. FINDINGS - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AUDIT**

None

DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE  
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Parishes of East Carroll, Madison and Tensas, Louisiana

Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

There were no findings reported in the audit report for the year ended December 31, 2022.



Independent Accountant's Report  
on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

Sixth Judicial District Attorney  
PO Box 1389  
Tallulah, LA 71284

To the Sixth Judicial District Attorney

I have performed the procedures enumerated below on the control and compliance (C/C) areas identified in the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's (LLA's) Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs) for the fiscal period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. Management of Sixth Judicial District Attorney is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

Sixth Judicial District Attorney has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of the engagement, which is to perform specified procedures on the C/C areas identified in LLA's SAUP's for the fiscal period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. Additionally, LLA has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate for its purposes. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

The procedures and associated findings are as follows:

**AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES**

**1) WRITTEN POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

- A. Obtain and inspect the entity's written policies and procedures and observe whether they address each of the following categories and subcategories if applicable to public funds and the entity's operations:
  - i. **Budgeting**, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget.
  - ii. **Purchasing**, including (1) how purchases are initiated; (2) how vendors are added to the vendor list; (3) the preparation and approval process of purchase requisitions and purchase orders; (4) controls to ensure compliance with the public bid law; and (5) documentation required to be maintained for all bids and price quotes.
  - iii. **Disbursements**, including processing, reviewing, and approving,

- iv. **Receipts/Collections**, including receiving, recording, and preparing deposits. Also, policies and procedures should include management's actions to determine the completeness of all collections for each type of revenue or agency fund additions (e.g., periodic confirmation with outside parties, reconciliation to utility billing after cutoff procedures, reconciliation of traffic ticket number sequences, agency fund forfeiture monies confirmation)
- v. **Payroll/Personnel**, including (1) payroll processing, and (2) reviewing and approving time and attendance records, including leave and overtime worked, and (3) approval process for employee rates of pay or approval and maintenance of pay rate schedules.
- vi. **Contracting**, including (1) types of services requiring written contracts, (2) standard terms and conditions, (3) legal review, (4) approval process, and (5) monitoring process.
- vii. **Travel and Expense Reimbursement** , including (1) allowable expenses, (2) dollar thresholds by category of expense, (3) documentation requirements, and (4) required approvers.
- viii. **Credit Cards (and debit cards, fuel cards, purchase cards, if applicable)** , including (1) how cards are to be controlled, (2) allowable business uses, (3) documentation requirements, (4) required approvers of statement, and (5) monitoring card usage (e.g., determining the reasonableness of fuel card purchases).
- ix. **Ethics**, including (1) the prohibitions as defined in Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 42:1111-1121, (2) actions to be taken if an ethics violation takes place, (3) system to monitor possible ethics violations, and (4) a requirement documentation is maintained to demonstrate that all employees and officials were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy.
- x. **Debt Service**, including (1) debt issuance approval, (2) continuing disclosure/EMMA reporting requirements, (3) debt reserve requirements, and (4) debt service requirements.
- xi. **Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity** , including (1) identification of critical data and frequency of data backups, (2) storage of backups in a separate physical location isolated from the network, (3) periodic testing/verification that backups can be restored, (4) use of antivirus software on all systems, (5) timely application of all available system and software patches/updates, and (6) identification of personnel, processes, and tools needed to recover operations after a critical event.
- xii. **Prevention of Sexual Harassment** , including R.S. 42:342-344 requirements for (1) agency responsibilities and prohibitions, (2) annual employee training, and (3) annual reporting.

Written policies and procedures were obtained and address the function noted above.

## **2) BOARD OR FINANCE COMMITTEE**

There is no board or committee, so this section is not applicable.

- A. Obtain and inspect the board/finance committee minutes for the fiscal period, as well as the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or equivalent document in effect during the fiscal period, and:
- i. Observe that the board/finance committee met with a quorum at least monthly, or on a frequency in accordance with the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or other equivalent document.
  - ii. For those entities reporting on the governmental accounting model, observe whether the minutes referenced or included monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the General Fund, quarterly budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on all proprietary funds, and semi-annual budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on all special revenue funds.
  - iii. For governmental entities, obtain the prior year audit report and observe the unassigned fund balance in the general fund. If the general fund had a negative ending unassigned fund balance in the prior year audit report, observe that the minutes for at least one meeting during the fiscal period referenced or included a formal plan to eliminate the negative unassigned fund balance in the general fund.
  - iv. Observe whether the board/finance committee received written updates of the process of resolving audit finding(s), according to management's corrective action plan at each meeting until the findings are considered fully resolved.

The prior year audit report contained no audit findings.

## **3) BANK RECONCILIATIONS**

- A. Obtain a listing of entity bank accounts for the fiscal period from management and management's representation that the listing is complete. Ask management to identify the entity's main operating account. Select the entity's main operating account and randomly select 4 additional accounts (or all accounts if less than 5). Randomly select one month from the fiscal period, obtain and inspect the corresponding bank statement and reconciliation for each selected account, and observe that:
- i. Bank reconciliations include evidence that they were prepared within 2 months of the related statement closing date (e.g., initialed and dated, electronically logged);
  - ii. Bank reconciliations include evidence that a member of management or a board member who does not handle cash, post ledgers, or issue checks has reviewed each bank reconciliation within 1 month of the date the reconciliation was prepared (e.g., initialed and dated, electronically logged); and,

- iii. Management has documentation reflecting that it has researched reconciling items that have been outstanding for more than 12 months from the statement closing date, if applicable.

The agency provided me with a certified list of all bank accounts. June, 2023 was randomly selected to be tested. For the 5 bank accounts selected for testing it was determined that all 5 bank reconciliations were performed by the office administrator and reviewed by the District Attorney. There was evidence that the reconciliations are performed within 60 days of the bank statement date. Three of the 5 accounts selected to test had outstanding reconciling items over 12 months. Agency is researching outstanding items to clean up reconciliations.

#### 4) COLLECTIONS

- A. Obtain a listing of deposit sites for the fiscal period where deposits for cash/checks/money orders (cash) are prepared and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 deposit sites (or all deposit sites if less than 5).

The agency provided me with a certified list of deposit sites and I verified that it was complete.

- B. For each deposit site selected, obtain a listing of collection locations and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one collection location for each deposit site (i.e. 5 collection locations for 5 deposit sites), obtain and inspect written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if no written policies or procedures, then inquire of employees about their job duties) at each collection location, and observe that job duties are properly segregated at each collection location such that:

- i. Employees responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers/registers.
- ii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not responsible for preparing/making bank deposits, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling collection documentation (e.g. pre-numbered receipts) to the deposit.
- iii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for posting collection entries to the general ledger or subsidiary ledgers, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling ledger postings to each other and to the deposit.
- iv. The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or agency fund additions is (are) not also responsible for collecting cash, unless another employee/official verifies the reconciliation.

The agency has 3 collection locations with 5 cash drawers. The District Attorney's office does not accept cash. The clerk in each department receives the payments for their department and they each make the appropriate entries in the court system and then the office administrator makes weekly deposits and posts the receipts to the accounting software. At the end of the month, the office administrator reconciles the bank accounts, except for the non support. The non support administrator reconciles her accounts.



- C) Obtain from management a copy of the bond or insurance policy for theft covering all employees who have access to cash. Observe the bond or insurance policy for theft was in force during the fiscal period.

The District Attorney's office does not have employee theft insurance on the employees.

- D) Randomly select two deposit dates for each of the 5 bank accounts selected for Bank Reconciliations procedure #3A (select the next deposit date chronologically if no deposits were made on the dates randomly selected and randomly select a deposit if multiple deposits are made on the same day). *Alternately, the practitioner may use a source document other than bank statements when selecting the deposit dates for testing, such as a cash collection log, daily revenue report, receipt book, etc.* Obtain supporting documentation for each of the 10 deposits and:

- i. Observe that receipts are sequentially pre-numbered.
- ii. Trace sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.
- iii. Trace the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.
- iv. Observe that the deposit was made within one business day of receipt at the collection location (within one week if the depository is more than 10 miles from the collection location or the deposit is less than \$100 and the cash is stored securely in a locked safe or drawer).
- v. Trace the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.

The District Attorney does not use pre-numbered receipts. Deposit documentation was traced to the supporting documentation for the deposits. The deposit slips selected were traced to the bank statement. The deposits were traced to the posting in the Quickbooks accounting software. Deposits are made weekly.

**5) NON-PAYROLL DISBURSEMENTS (EXCLUDING CARD PURCHASES, TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENTS, AND PETTY CASH PURCHASES)**

- A. Obtain a listing of locations that process payments for the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 locations (or all locations if less than 5).

The agency provided a complete list of locations that process payments and represented that the list was complete.

- B. For each location selected under #5A above, obtain a listing of those employees involved with non-payroll purchasing and payment functions. Obtain written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if the agency has no written policies and procedures, then inquire of employees about their job duties), and observe that job duties are properly segregated such that:



- i. At least two employees are involved in initiating a purchase request, approving a purchase, and placing an order/making the purchase.
- ii. At least two employees are involved in processing and approving payments to vendors.
- iii. The employee responsible for processing payments is prohibited from adding/modifying vendor files, unless another employee is responsible for periodically reviewing changes to vendor files.
- iv. Either the employee/official responsible for signing checks mails the payment or gives the signed checks to an employee to mail who is not responsible for processing payments; and
- v. Only employee/officials authorized to sign checks approve the electronic disbursement (release) of funds, whether through automated clearinghouse (ACH), electronic funds transfer (EFT), wire transfer, or some other electronic means.

The Sixth Judicial District Attorney does not use purchase orders or requisitions. The employees initiate purchases and the office administrator or the District Attorney approves them and then authorizes the purchases. Of the disbursements selected to be tested, all were processed with all of the required support. The office administrator adds all new vendors. The office administrator prepares all invoices and enters into the quickbooks accounting system and gives them to the District Attorney who reviews and approves them. The office administrator initiates the checks and the District Attorney signs the checks. The office administrator mails all check payments. The District Attorney reviews the financial reports and all invoices. The non support administrator initiates all non support expenditures, signs all non support checks and reconciles the bank account. All expenditures for non support must be approved by the state for reimbursement.

- C. For each location selected under #5A above, obtain the entity's non-payroll disbursement transaction population (excluding cards and travel reimbursements) and obtain management's representation that the population is complete. Randomly select 5 disbursements for each location, obtain supporting documentation for each transaction and:
  - i. Observe whether the disbursement, whether by paper or electronic means, matched the related original itemized invoice and supporting documentation indicates that deliverables included on the invoice were received by the entity, and
  - ii. Observe that the disbursement documentation included evidence (e.g., initial/date, electronic logging) of segregation of duties tested under #5B above, as applicable.

All disbursements selected to be tested had the proper support documentation. The office administrator prepares all invoices and gives to the District Attorney for approval. The office administrator initiates the disbursements and the District Attorney signs all checks. The office administrator reconciles all bank statements and the District Attorney reviews the reconciliations. The District Attorney reviews financial reports and invoices. The non

support administrator initiates all non support expenditures, signs all non support checks and reconciles the bank account. All expenditures for non support must be approved by the state for reimbursement.

- D. Using the entity's main operating account and the month selected in Bank Reconciliations procedure #3A, randomly select 5 non-payroll-related electronic disbursements (or all electronic disbursements if less than 5) and observe that each electronic disbursement was (a) approved by only those persons authorized to disburse funds (e.g., sign checks) per the entity's policy, and (b) approved by the required number of authorized signers per the entity's policy. Note: If no electronic payments were made from the main operating account during the month selected the practitioner should select an alternative month and/or account for testing that does include electronic disbursements.

5 electronic disbursements from the test month were randomly selected and were properly approved by the district attorney, no exceptions noted.

## **6) CREDIT CARDS/DEBIT CARDS/FUEL CARDS/PURCHASE CARDS (CARDS)**

- A. Obtain from management a listing of all active credit cards, bank debit cards, fuel cards, and purchase cards (cards) for the fiscal period, including the card numbers and the names of the persons who maintained possession of the cards. Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete.

The agency provided me with a certified statement that there is 2 active credit card accounts, and several fuel cards, etc.

- B. Using the listing prepared by management, randomly select 5 cards, (or all cards if less than 5) that were used during the fiscal period. Randomly select one monthly statement or combined statement for each card (for a debit card, randomly select one monthly bank statement). Obtain supporting documentation, and
- i. Observe that there is evidence that the monthly statement or combined statement and supporting documentation (e.g., original receipts for credit/debit card purchases, exception reports for excessive fuel card usage) were reviewed and approved, in writing, (or electronically approved), by someone other than the authorized card holder (those instances requiring such approval that may constrain the legal authority of certain public officials, such as the mayor of a Lawrason Act municipality, should not be reported); and .
  - ii. Observe that finance charges and late fees were not assessed on the selected statements.

The District Attorney has 2 credit card accounts with 8 cards on the Chase account and 1 fuel card account with 8 cards. The District Attorney and office administrator review all credit card and fuel card statements, then the office administrator initiates the checks and the District Attorney signs the checks. The District Attorney and other employees are the authorized card holders. There were no finance charges or interest charges noted on the credit card accounts.

- C. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under procedure #7B above, excluding fuel cards, randomly select 10 transactions (or all transactions if less than 10) from each statement, and obtain supporting documentation for the transactions (i.e. each card should have 10 transactions subject to inspection). For each transaction, observe that it is supported by (1) an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased, (2) written documentation of the business/public purpose, and (3) documentation of the individuals participating in meals (for meal charges only). For missing receipts, the practitioner should describe the nature of the transaction and observe whether management had a compensating control to address missing receipts, such as a "missing receipt statement" that is subject to increased scrutiny.

All transactions tested had the proper documentation. The District Attorney and office administrator review all credit card and fuel card statements, then the office administrator prepares the statements and then initiates the checks and the District Attorney signs the checks. The District Attorney is an authorized card holder on several of the cards.

## **7) TRAVEL AND EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT**

- A. Obtain from management a listing of all travel and travel-related expense reimbursements during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing or general ledger is complete. Randomly select 5 reimbursements and obtain the related expense reimbursement forms/prepaid expense documentation of each selected reimbursement, as well as the supporting documentation. For each of the 5 reimbursements selected:

The agency provided me with a certified list of travel or related expense reimbursements during the testing period and represented that the list was complete. I randomly selected 5 reimbursements to be tested.

- i. If reimbursed using a per diem, observe the approved reimbursement rate is no more than those rates established either by the State of Louisiana or the U.S. General Services Administration ([www.gsa.gov](http://www.gsa.gov)).
- ii. If reimbursed using actual costs, observe that the reimbursement is supported by an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased.
- iii. Observe that each reimbursement is supported by documentation of the business/public purpose (for meal charges, observe that the documentation includes the names of those individuals participating) and other documentation required by written policies and procedures #1A(vii); and
- iv. Observe that each reimbursement was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving reimbursement.

The agency has written policies or procedures for travel. The 5 randomly selected reimbursements for travel were tested against the policy - no exceptions noted. It was noted

the expenditures were for business purposes. All reimbursements were supported by proper documentation. The District Attorney reviews and approves all travel reimbursements.

## 8) CONTRACTS

- A. Obtain from management a listing of all agreements/contracts for professional services, materials and supplies, leases, and construction activities that were initiated or renewed during the fiscal period. *Alternately, the practitioner may use an equivalent selection source, such as an active vendor list.* Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 contracts (or all contracts if less than 5) from the listing, excluding the practitioner's contract, and:

The agency provided a certified statement that there were no contracts initiated or renewed during the test period.

- i. Observe whether the contract was bid in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law (e.g., solicited quotes or bids, advertised), if required by law.
- ii. Observe whether the contract was approved by the governing body/board, if required by policy or law (e.g., Lawrason Act, Home Rule Charter).
- iii. If the contract was amended (e.g., change order), observe the original contract terms provided for such an amendment and that amendments were made in compliance with the contract terms (e.g., if approval is required for any amendment, the documented approval);
- iv. Randomly select one payment from the fiscal period for each of the 5 contracts, obtain the supporting invoice, agree the invoice to the contract terms, and observe the invoice and related payment agreed to the terms and conditions of the contract.

The agency provided a certified statement that there were 4 contracts in effect during the test period, none were initiated or renewed during the test period. None of the contracts tested required compliance with the public bid law. The agency did solicit quotes to get the best deal for the District Attorney's office. The contracts selected were not amended. The contract payments that were tested were in compliance with the contract terms and conditions. All contracts are approved by the District Attorney.

## 9) PAYROLL AND PERSONNEL

- A. Obtain a listing of employees and officials employed during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 employees or officials, obtain related paid salaries and personnel files, and agree paid salaries to authorized salaries/pay rates in the personnel files.



The agency provided a certified list of all employees with their authorized salaries. I randomly selected 5 employees and agreed them to authorized salaries. No exceptions were noted.

- B. Randomly select one pay period during the fiscal period. For the 5 employees or officials selected under procedure #9A above, obtain attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and:
- i. Observe that all selected employees or officials documented their daily attendance and leave (e.g., vacation, sick, compensatory).
  - ii. Observe whether supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees or officials;
  - iii. Observe that any leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's cumulative leave records; and
  - iv. Observe the rate paid to the employees or officials agree to the authorized salary/pay rate found within the personnel file.

Of the 5 employees selected, all employees that are eligible to earn leave time documented their leave time taken. The agency tracks leave time earned and used. The employees are allowed to accumulate sick leave time and carry forward, but are not compensated upon termination. The 5 employees of the District Attorney that were chosen to be tested were paid in accordance with the terms and conditions of their employment. All changes to the salaries of the 5 employees chosen were approved by the District Attorney in writing.

- C. Obtain a listing of those employees or officials that received termination payments during the fiscal period and management's representation that the list is complete. Randomly select two employees or officials and obtain related documentation of the hours and pay rates used in management's termination payment calculations and the entity's policy on termination payments. Agree the hours to the employee's or officials' cumulative leave records, agree the pay rates to the employee's or officials' authorized pay rates in the employee's or officials' personnel files, and agree the termination payment to entity policy.

The agency provided a certified list noting that 5 employees were terminated during the test period. Two employees were randomly selected to be tested. They were not paid for any excess time or unauthorized pay rates. The termination pay appeared to agree with agency policies and procedures.

- D. Obtain management's representation that employer and employee portions of third-party payroll related amounts (e.g., payroll taxes, retirement contributions, health insurance premiums, garnishments, workers' compensation premiums, etc.) have been paid, and any associated forms have been filed, by required deadlines.

During testing of the agency it was determined that the Sixth Judicial District Attorney is submitting payroll tax, retirement contributions, and required forms by the required deadlines.

## **10) ETHICS (EXCLUDING NONPROFITS)**

- A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A obtain ethics documentation from management and:
- i. Observe whether the documentation demonstrates that each employee/official completed one hour of ethics training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:1170; and.
  - ii. Observe whether the entity maintains documentation which demonstrates that each employee and official were notified of any changes to the entity's ethic policy during the fiscal period, as applicable.

The agency provided support for ethics training for the 5 employees. There were no changes to the ethics policy during the fiscal period.

- B. Inquire and/or observe whether the agency has appointed an ethics designee as required by R.S. 42:1170.

The agency provided documentation that an ethics designee has been appointed.

## **11) DEBT SERVICE**

- A. Obtain a listing of bonds/notes and other debt instruments issued during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Select all debt instruments on the listing, obtain supporting documentation, and observe State Bond Commission approval was obtained for each debt instrument issued as required by Article VII, Section 8 of the Louisiana Constitution.

The Sixth Judicial District Attorney had no bonds/notes or other debt instruments issued during the fiscal period that required bond commission approval.

- B. Obtain a listing of bonds/notes outstanding at the end of the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one bond/note, inspect debt covenants, obtain supporting documentation for the reserve balance and payments, and agree actual reserve balances and payments to those required by debt covenants (including contingency funds, short-lived asset funds, or other funds required by the debt covenants).

The Sixth Judicial District Attorney had no outstanding debt during at the end of the fiscal period.

## **12) FRAUD NOTICE**

- A. Obtain a listing of misappropriations of public funds and assets during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Select all misappropriations on the listing,



obtain supporting documentation, and observe that the entity reported the misappropriation(s) to the legislative auditor and the district attorney of the parish in which the entity is domiciled as required by R.S. 24:523.

The Sixth Judicial District Attorney has no known misappropriation of funds during the test period.

- B. Observe that the entity has posted, on its premises and website, the notice required by R.S. 24:523.1 concerning the reporting of misappropriation, fraud, waste, or abuse of public funds.

I observed the fraud hotline notice posted on the premises and the agency website.

### 13) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DISASTER RECOVERY/BUSINESS CONTINUITY

- A. Perform the following procedures, **verbally discuss the results with management, and report “We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.”**

- i. Obtain and inspect the entity’s most recent documentation that it has backed up its critical data (if there is no written documentation, then inquire of personnel responsible for backing up critical data) and observe evidence that such backup (a) occurred within the past week, (b) was not stored on the government’s local server or network, and (c) was encrypted.
- ii. Obtain and inspect the entity’s most recent documentation that it has tested/verified that its backups can be restored (if no written documentation, then inquire of personnel responsible for testing/verifying backup restoration) and observe evidence that the test/verification was successfully performed within the past 3 months.
- iii. Obtain a listing of the entity’s computers currently in use and their related locations, and management’s representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 computers and observe while management demonstrates that the selected computers have current and active antivirus software and that the operating system and accounting system software in use are currently supported by the vendor.

I performed the procedure and discussed the results with management. It appears agency is in compliance with attributes above.

- B. Randomly select 5 terminated employees (or all terminated employees if less than 5) using the list of terminated employees obtained in procedure #9C. Observe evidence that the selected terminated employees have been removed or disabled from the network.

The agency provided a certified list noting that 2 employees were terminated during the test period. I observed evidence that the terminated employees had been removed or disabled from the network.

C. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A, obtain cybersecurity training documentation from management, and observe that the documentation demonstrates that the following employees/officials with access to the agency's information technology assets have completed cybersecurity training as required by R.S. 42:1267. The requirements are as follows:

- Hired before June 9, 2020 - completed the training; and
- Hired on or after June 9, 2020 - completed the training within 30 days of initial service or employment

I randomly selected 5 employees/officials and verified that all of the 5 employees have completed cybersecurity training.

#### **14) PREVENTION OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from procedure #9A under "Payroll and Personnel" above, obtain sexual harassment training documentation from management, and observe that the documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed at least one hour of sexual harassment training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:343.

The agency provided support for sexual harassment training for the 5 employees randomly selected to be tested.

B. Observe that the entity has posted its sexual harassment policy and complaint procedure on its website (or in a conspicuous location on the entity's premises if the entity does not have a website).

I observed the sexual harassment policy posted on the premises and on the agency website.

C. Obtain the entity's annual sexual harassment report for the current fiscal period, observe that the report was dated on or before February 1, and observe it includes the applicable requirements of R.S. 42:344;

- i. Number and percentage of public servants in the agency who have completed the training requirements;
- ii. Number of sexual harassment complaints received by the agency;
- iii. Number of complaints which resulted in a finding that sexual harassment occurred;
- iv. Number of complaints in which the finding of sexual harassment resulted in discipline or corrective action; and

V. Amount of time it took to resolve each complaint.

For the current fiscal period the district prepared an annual report in February, 2024 for fiscal period 2023. The agency did not have any complaints noted during the test period.

I was engaged by Sixth Judicial District Attorney to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted my engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and applicable standards of *Government Auditing Standards*. I was not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

Accordingly, I do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had I performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to my attention that would have been reported to you.

I am required to be independent of Sixth Judicial District Attorney and to meet my other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to my agreed-upon procedures engagement.

This report is intended solely to describe the scope of testing performed on those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs, and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on control or compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the LLA as a public document.



Mary Jo Finley, CPA  
June 26, 2024



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June 26, 2024

Louisiana Legislative Auditor  
P. O. Box 94397  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9397

RE: 2023 Application of Agreed-Upon Procedures

Dear Sir:

We respond to the application of the AUPs as follows, to wit:

- 3.A. We are in the process of cleaning up these outstanding items
- 4.C. There is no law which states we are required to have an employee theft policy.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James E. Paxton". The signature is stylized, with the first name "James" written in a cursive script and the last name "Paxton" in a more formal, slightly cursive script.

James E. Paxton  
6<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Attorney