

**Twentieth Judicial District Court -
Judicial Expense Fund
Clinton, Louisiana
Financial Report
December 31, 2024**

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**HAWTHORN
WAYMOUTH
& CARROLL, L.L.P.**
Certified Public Accountants

Louis C. McKnight, III, CPA
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Independent Accountant's Review Report

Honorable Kathryn E. "Betsy" Jones
Twentieth Judicial District Court - Judicial Expense Fund
Clinton, Louisiana

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of Twentieth Judicial District Court - Judicial Expense Fund, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Twentieth Judicial District Court - Judicial Expense Fund's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of management. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting; this includes determining that the modified cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible 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.

Accountant's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to conduct the review engagement in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. Those standards require us to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance as a basis for reporting whether we are aware of any material modifications that should be made to the financial statements for them to be in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting. We believe that the results of our procedures provide a reasonable basis for our conclusion.

We are required to be independent of Twentieth Judicial District Court - Judicial Expense Fund and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our review.

Accountant's Conclusion

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting.

Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1B of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our conclusion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Required Supplementary Information

The budgetary comparison schedule on page 17 is presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is presented for purposes of additional analysis and, although not a required 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 and for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Management has omitted management's discussion and analysis that the Governmental Accounting Standards Board requires to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a required 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. Such information is the responsibility of management. We have not audited, reviewed, or compiled the required supplementary information and we do not express an opinion, a conclusion, nor provide any assurance on it.

Supplementary Information

The supplementary information included in the schedules of compensation, benefits and other payments to agency head or chief executive officer and justice system funding schedule – receiving entity – cash basis as required by Act 87 of the 2020 regular legislative session are presented for purposes 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 financial statements. The supplementary information has been subjected to the review procedures applied in our review of the basic financial statements. We are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the supplementary information. We have not audited the supplementary information and do not express an opinion on such information.

Other Reporting Required

In accordance with the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide* and the provisions of state law, we have also issued our report dated May 22, 2025 on the performance of agreed-upon procedures on compliance with certain laws and regulations contained in the accompanying Louisiana Attestation Questionnaire.

Hawthorn, Waymouth & Carroll, L.L.P.

May 22, 2025

Government-wide Financial Statements

Twentieth Judicial District Court - Judicial Expense Fund
Statement of Assets and Net Position – Modified Cash Basis
December 31, 2024
(See Independent Accountant’s Review Report)

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Assets	
Cash	\$ 318,178
Certificates of deposit	299,880
Capital assets, net of depreciation	<u> 4,224</u>
Total assets	<u><u>\$ 622,282</u></u>
Net Position	
Net investment in capital assets	\$ 4,224
Unrestricted	<u> 618,058</u>
Total net position	<u><u>\$ 622,282</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Twentieth Judicial District Court - Judicial Expense Fund
Statement of Revenue and Expenses – Modified Cash Basis
Year Ended December 31, 2024
(See Independent Accountant's Review Report)

		<u>Program Revenues</u>	
	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Charges for Services</u>	<u>Revenues over Expenses</u>
Functions and Programs			
Governmental activities			
Judicial	\$ 193,290	\$ 224,721	\$ 31,431
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 193,290</u>	<u>\$ 224,721</u>	31,431
		General Revenue	
		Interest	<u>17,942</u>
		Change in Net Position	49,373
		Net Position	
		Beginning of year	<u>572,909</u>
		End of year	<u>\$ 622,282</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Fund Financial Statements

Twentieth Judicial District Court - Judicial Expense Fund
Statement of Assets and Fund Balance – Modified Cash Basis
Governmental Fund
December 31, 2024
(See Independent Accountant’s Review Report)

	<u>General Fund</u>
Assets	
Cash	\$ 318,178
Certificates of deposit	<u>299,880</u>
Total assets	<u><u>\$ 618,058</u></u>
Fund Balance	
Unassigned	<u>\$ 618,058</u>
Total fund balance	<u><u>\$ 618,058</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Twentieth Judicial District Court - Judicial Expense Fund
Reconciliation of the Governmental Fund Statement of Assets and
Fund Balance – Modified Cash Basis to the Statement of Assets and
Net Position – Modified Cash Basis
December 31, 2024
(See Independent Accountant's Review Report)

Total governmental fund balance	\$	618,058
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Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of assets and net position – modified cash basis are different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental fund:

Governmental capital assets	\$	307,485	
Accumulated depreciation		<u>(303,261)</u>	<u>4,224</u>
Net position of governmental activities	\$		<u><u>622,282</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Twentieth Judicial District Court - Judicial Expense Fund
Statement of Revenue, Expenditures and Change in Fund Balance – Modified Cash Basis
Governmental Fund
Year Ended December 31, 2024
(See Independent Accountant's Review Report)

	General Fund
Revenue	
Charges for services	\$ 224,721
Interest	<u>17,942</u>
Total revenue	<u>242,663</u>
Expenditures	
Current	
Judicial	185,934
Capital outlay	<u>1,099</u>
Total expenditures	<u>187,033</u>
Net Change in Fund Balance	<u>55,630</u>
Fund Balance	
Beginning of year	<u>562,428</u>
End of year	<u><u>\$ 618,058</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Twentieth Judicial District Court - Judicial Expense Fund
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenue, Expenditures
and Change in Fund Balance – Modified Cash Basis – Governmental Fund
to the Statement of Revenue and Expenses – Modified Cash Basis
Year Ended December 31, 2024
(See Independent Accountant's Review Report)

Net change in fund balance – governmental fund	\$	55,630
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Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of revenue and expenses – modified cash basis are different because:

Governmental funds report capital outlay as expenditures, however, in the statement of revenue and expenses – modified cash basis, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense:

Capital outlay	\$	1,099	
Depreciation expense		<u>(7,356)</u>	<u>(6,257)</u>
Change in net position of governmental activities	\$		<u><u>49,373</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Twentieth Judicial District Court - Judicial Expense Fund
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2024

Introduction

The Twentieth Judicial District Court ("the Court") Judicial Expense Fund ("the Judicial Expense Fund") was established by Louisiana Revised Statute ("R.S.") 13:996.60 for the administration of the Court and the offices of the Court's individual judges. The parishes of East Feliciana and West Feliciana compose the Twentieth Judicial District.

Note 1-Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Reporting Entity

The accompanying financial statements reflect financial activity of the Court relating only to the Judicial Expense Fund and do not present any other information on the Court or the governing bodies of East Feliciana Parish and West Feliciana Parish.

B. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting. Modifications to the cash basis of accounting include recording capital assets and their related depreciation. Accordingly, revenue is recognized when received and expenditures are recognized when paid.

Government-wide Financial Statements – The Statement of Assets and Net Position – Modified Cash Basis and the Statement of Revenue and Expenses – Modified Cash Basis display information about the reporting entity as a whole. The Statement of Revenue and Expenses – Modified Cash Basis presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for the judicial function of the Judicial Expense Fund's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function. Program revenues include fees and charges paid by the recipient for goods or services offered by the program. Revenue that is not classified as program revenue, including interest income, is presented as general revenue.

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, all assets and liabilities, whether current or noncurrent, are included in the statement of assets and net position and the operating statement presents increases (revenue) and decreases (expenses) in net position.

Fund Financial Statements – The governmental fund Statement of Assets and Fund Balance – Modified Cash Basis and the governmental fund Statement of Revenue, Expenditures and Change in Fund Balance – Modified Cash Basis are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus. The Judicial Expense Fund maintains one governmental fund, the general fund. The general fund is the judicial operating fund that is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

C. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits, interest bearing demand deposits, and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisitions. Under the state law, the Judicial Expense Fund may deposit funds in demand deposits, interest bearing demand deposits, money market accounts, or time deposits with state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having their principal office in Louisiana. As of December 31, 2024, the Judicial Expense Fund had no cash equivalents.

Twentieth Judicial District Court - Judicial Expense Fund
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2024

Note 1-Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

D. Capital Assets

In the government-wide financial statements, capital assets purchased or acquired with an original cost of \$500 or more are capitalized and reported at historical cost. Additions, improvements and other capital outlays that significantly extend the useful life of an asset are capitalized. Costs incurred for repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred. Depreciation on all assets is provided on the straight-line basis over the asset's estimated useful lives. The estimated useful lives for office furniture and equipment is between 3 and 7 years.

In the fund financial statements, capital assets are accounted for as capital outlay expenditures of the fund upon acquisition

E Equity Classifications

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

- a. Net investment in capital assets – consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets
- 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 – consists of the net amount of assets and liabilities that do not meet the definition of the above two components and is available for general use by the Judicial Expense Fund

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the Judicial Expense Fund's policy to first use restricted resources then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

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.

- a. Nonspendable fund balance – amounts that are not in a spendable form (such as prepaid expenses) or are required to be maintained intact;
- b. Restricted fund balance – amounts constrained to specific purposes by their providers (such as grantors, bondholders, and higher levels of government), through constitutional provisions, or by enabling legislation;
- c. Committed fund balance – amounts constrained to specific purposes by a government itself, using the Judicial Expense Fund's highest level of decision-making authority (the East Feliciana and West Feliciana Parish Judges), to be reported as committed, amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the government takes the same highest-level action to remove or change the constraint;
- d. Assigned fund balance – amounts a government intends to use for a specific purpose; intent can be expressed by the governing body or by an official or body to which the governing body delegates the authority; and
- e. Unassigned fund balance – amounts that are available for any purpose.

Twentieth Judicial District Court - Judicial Expense Fund
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2024

Note 1-Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

E. Equity Classifications (Continued)

When an expenditure is incurred for which committed, assigned, or unassigned fund balances are available, the Fund considers amounts to have been spent first out of committed funds, then assigned funds, and finally, unassigned funds, as needed, unless the Judicial Expense Fund has provided otherwise in its commitment or assignment actions.

F. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting requires 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 and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Note 2-Capital Assets

Capital assets consisted of the following:

	Balance December 31, 2023	Additions	Deletions	Balance December 31, 2024
Office furniture and equipment	\$ 312,659	\$ 1,099	\$ (6,273)	\$ 307,485
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(302,178)</u>	<u>(7,356)</u>	<u>6,273</u>	<u>(303,261)</u>
Capital assets, net of depreciation	<u>\$ 10,481</u>	<u>\$ (6,257)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 4,224</u>

Note 3-Pension Plan

The Judicial Expense Fund contributes to the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System ("LASERS"). As of December 31, 2024, the Judicial Expense Fund's proportionate share of the net pension liability of LASERS was \$525,713. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2024.

Note 4-Subsequent Events

Management of the Judicial Expense Fund has evaluated subsequent events through May 22, 2025, the date on which the financial statements were available to be issued. As a result, the Fund noted no subsequent events that required adjustment to, or disclosure in, these financial statements.

Required Supplementary Information

Twentieth Judicial District Court - Judicial Expense Fund
Budgetary Comparison Schedule – General Fund
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Final
	Original	Final	(Budgetary	Variance
			Basis)	Favorable
				(Unfavorable)
Revenue				
Charges for services	\$ 220,606	\$ 220,606	\$ 224,721	\$ 4,115
Interest	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>17,942</u>	<u>16,942</u>
Total revenue	<u>221,606</u>	<u>221,606</u>	<u>242,663</u>	<u>21,057</u>
Expenditures				
Current				
Judicial	184,500	184,500	185,934	(1,434)
Capital outlay	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,099</u>	<u>(1,099)</u>
Total expenditures	<u>184,500</u>	<u>184,500</u>	<u>187,033</u>	<u>(2,533)</u>
Change in Fund Balance	37,106	37,106	55,630	18,524
Fund Balance				
Beginning of year	<u>562,428</u>	<u>562,428</u>	<u>562,428</u>	<u>-</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 599,534</u>	<u>\$ 599,534</u>	<u>\$ 618,058</u>	<u>\$ 18,524</u>

See accompanying note to required supplementary information and independent accountant's review report.

Twentieth Judicial District Court - Judicial Expense Fund
Note to Required Supplementary Information
December 31, 2024

Note 1-Budgetary Basis of Accounting

The annual budget is prepared in accordance with the cash basis of accounting.

Supplementary Information

**Twentieth Judicial District Court - Judicial Expense Fund
Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other
Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer
Year Ended December 31, 2024**

Agency Head Name: Kathryn E. Jones, Chief Judge

Purpose	Amount
Salary	\$ -
Benefits - insurance	-
Benefits - retirement	-
Car allowance	-
Vehicle provided by government	-
Per diem	-
Reimbursements	-
Travel	-
Registration fees	-
Conference travel	-
Continuing professional education fees	-
Housing	-
Unvouchered expenses	-
Special meals	-

Chief Judge Jones is paid by the Louisiana Supreme Court and did not receive any compensation from Twentieth Judicial District Court - Judicial Expense Fund for the year ended December 31, 2024.

Twentieth Judicial District Court - Judicial Expense Fund
Justice System Funding Schedule – Receiving Entity – Cash Basis
As Required by Act 87 of the 2020 Regular Legislative Session
Cash Basis Presentation
Six Month Periods Ended June 30 and December 31, 2024

	Six Month Period Ended <u>June 30, 2024</u>	Six Month Period Ended <u>December 31, 2024</u>
Receipts From:		
East Feliciana Parish Clerk of Court, Civil Fees	\$ 4,245	\$ 4,170
West Feliciana Parish Clerk of Court, Civil Fees	2,160	2,220
West Feliciana Parish Sheriff's Office, Criminal Court Costs/Fees	7,875	5,340
East Feliciana Parish Sheriff's Office, Criminal Court Costs/Fees	16,665	11,574
East Feliciana Parish Sheriff's Office, Bond Fees	<u>13,421</u>	<u>6,465</u>
 Total receipts	 <u>\$ 44,366</u>	 <u>\$ 29,769</u>
 Ending Balance of Amounts Assessed but Not Received	 <u>\$ -</u>	 <u>\$ -</u>



**HAWTHORN
WAYMOUTH
& CARROLL, L.L.P.**
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**Independent Accountant's Report
on Applying Agreed-upon Procedures**

Twentieth Judicial District Court - Judicial Expense Fund and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor:

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the Judicial Expense Fund's compliance with certain laws and regulations contained in the accompanying Louisiana Attestation Questionnaire during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024, as required by Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513 and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*. The Judicial Expense Fund's management is responsible for its financial records and compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

The Judicial Expense Fund 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 Judicial Expense Fund's compliance with the laws and regulations contained in the accompanying Louisiana Attestation Questionnaire during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024. Additionally, the Louisiana Legislative Auditor 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:

Public Bid Law

- 1) Obtain documentation for all expenditures made during the year for materials and supplies exceeding \$60,000, and public works exceeding \$250,000. Compare the documentation for these expenditures to Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 39:1551-39:1775 (the state procurement code) or R.S. 38:2211-2296 (the public bid law), or the regulations of the Division of Administration and the State Purchasing Office, whichever is applicable; and report whether the expenditures were made in accordance with these laws.

No expenditures for materials and supplies were made during the year that exceeded \$60,000, nor were there any expenditures for public works made during the year that exceeded \$250,000.

Code of Ethics for Public Officials and Public Employees

- 2) Obtain a list of the immediate family members of each board member as defined by R.S. 42:1101-1124 (the ethics law).

Management provided us with the requested information.

- 3) Obtain a list of all employees paid during the fiscal year.

Management asserted that the entity had no employees during the year ended December 31, 2024; therefore, this procedure is not applicable.

- 4) Report whether any employees' names appear on both lists obtained in Procedures 2 and 3.

Management asserted that the entity had no employees during the year ended December 31, 2024; therefore, this procedure is not applicable.

- 5) Obtain a list of all disbursements made during the year and a list of outside business interests of board members, employees, and board members' and employees' immediate families. Report whether any vendors appear on both lists.

Management provided the requested information. None of the businesses of the judges or the judges' immediate family appeared as vendors on the list of disbursements.

Budgeting

- 6) Obtain a copy of the legally adopted budget and all amendments.

Management provided the requested information. Management represented that there were no amendments to the budget during the year.

- 7) Trace documentation for the adoption of the budget and approval of any amendments to the minute book, and report whether there are any exceptions.

Management provided a copy of the letters authorizing the adoption of the original budget.

- 8) Compare the revenues and expenditures of the final budget to actual revenues and expenditures. Report whether actual revenues failed to meet budgeted revenues by 5% or more, and whether actual expenditures exceeded budgeted amounts by 5% or more. (For agencies that must comply with the Licensing Agency Budget Act only, compare the expenditures of the final budget to actual expenditures, and report whether actual expenditures exceeded budgeted amounts by 10% or more per category or 5% or more in total).

Actual revenues did not fail to meet budgeted revenues by 5% or more, and actual expenditures did not exceed budgeted amounts by 5% or more.

Accounting and Reporting

- 9) Obtain the list of all disbursements made during the fiscal year. Randomly select six disbursements, and obtain documentation from management for these disbursements. Compare the selected disbursements to the supporting documentation, and:

- a. Report whether the six disbursements agree to the amount and the payee in the supporting documentation.

Each of the six selected disbursements agreed with the amount and payee in the supporting documentation.

- b. Report whether the six disbursements were coded to the correct fund and general ledger account.

Each of the six selected disbursements was properly coded to the correct fund and general ledger account.

- c. Report whether the six disbursements were approved in accordance with management's policies and procedures.

Documentation supporting each of the six selected disbursements demonstrated approval in accordance with policies and procedures.

Meetings

- 10) Obtain evidence from management to support that agendas for meetings recorded in the minute book were posted or advertised as required by R.S. 42:11 through 42:28 (the open meetings law); and report whether there are any exceptions.

Not applicable

Debt

- 11) Obtain bank deposit slips for the fiscal year, and scan the deposit slips in order to identify and report whether there are any deposits that appear to be proceeds of bank loans, bonds, or like indebtedness. If any such proceeds are identified, obtain from management evidence of approval by the State Bond Commission, and report any exceptions.

We scanned copies of all bank deposit slips for the fiscal year and noted no deposits appearing to be proceeds of bank loans, bonds, or like indebtedness.

Advances and Bonuses

- 12) Obtain the list of payroll disbursements and meeting minutes of the governing board, if applicable. Scan these documents to identify and report whether there are any payments or approval of payments to employees that may constitute bonuses, advances, or gifts.

Management asserted that the entity had no employees during the year ended December 31, 2024; therefore, this procedure is not applicable.

State Audit Law

- 13) Report whether the agency provided for a timely report in accordance with R.S. 24:513.

The Judicial Expense Fund's report was timely submitted in accordance with R.S. 24:513.

- 14) Inquire of management and report whether the agency entered into any contracts that utilized state funds as defined in R.S. 39:72.1 A. (2); and that were subject to the public bid law (R.S. 38:2211, et seq.), while the agency was not in compliance with R.S. 24:513 (the audit law).

Management represented that the Judicial Expense Fund was not on the noncompliance list at any time during the fiscal year. Management further represented that the Judicial Expense Fund did not enter into any contracts during the fiscal year that were subject to the public bid law.

Prior-Year Comments

- 15) Obtain and report management's representation as to whether any prior-year suggestions, exceptions, recommendations, and or comments have been resolved.

Our prior year report, dated May 6, 2024, did not include any suggestions, exceptions, or comments.

We were engaged by the Judicial Expense Fund to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement 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*, issued by the United States Comptroller General. We were 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 the Judicial Expense Fund's compliance with the foregoing matters. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of the Judicial Expense Fund and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

This report is intended solely to describe the scope of testing performed on the Judicial Expense Fund's compliance with certain laws and regulations contained in the accompanying Louisiana Attestation Questionnaire, as required by Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513 and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*, 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 Louisiana Legislative Auditor as a public document.

Hawthorn, Weymouth & Carroll, LLP.

May 22, 2025

**Twentieth Judicial District Court - Judicial Expense Fund
Schedule of Findings and Responses
Year Ended December 31, 2024**

Findings – Financial Statement Review

No current year findings.

**Twentieth Judicial District Court - Judicial Expense Fund
Summary of Prior Year Findings
Year Ended December 31, 2024**

Findings – Financial Statement Review

No prior year findings.

LOUISIANA ATTESTATION QUESTIONNAIRE
(For Attestation Engagements of Governmental Agencies)

2/5/25 (Date Transmitted)

Hawthorn, Waymouth & Carroll, L.L.P.

8545 United Plaza Blvd., Suite 200

Baton Rouge, La 70809

In connection with your engagement to apply agreed-upon procedures to the control and compliance matters identified below, as of December 31, 2023 and for the year then ended, and as required by Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 24:513 and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*, we make the following representations to you.

Public Bid Law

It is true that we have complied with the state procurement code (R.S. 39:1551 – 39:1755); the public bid law (R.S. 38:2211-2296), and, where applicable, the regulations of the Division of Administration and the State Purchasing Office.

Yes [] No [] N/A [☒]

Code of Ethics for Public Officials and Public Employees

It is true that no employees or officials have accepted anything of value, whether in the form of a service, loan, or promise, from anyone that would constitute a violation of R.S. 42:1101-1124.

Yes [☒] No [] N/A []

It is true that no member of the immediate family of any member of the governing authority, or the chief executive of the governmental entity, has been employed by the governmental entity after April 1, 1980, under circumstances that would constitute a violation of R.S. 42:1119.

Yes [☒] No [] N/A []

Budgeting

We have complied with the state budgeting requirements of the Local Government Budget Act (R.S. 39:1301-15), R.S. 39:33, or the budget requirements of R.S. 39:1331-1342, as applicable.

Yes [☒] No [] N/A []

Accounting and Reporting

All non-exempt governmental records are available as a public record and have been retained for at least three years, as required by R.S. 44:1, 44:7, 44:31, and 44:36.

Yes [☒] No [] N/A []

We have filed our annual financial statements in accordance with R.S. 24:514, and 33:463 where applicable.

Yes [☒] No [] N/A []

We have had our financial statements reviewed in accordance with R.S. 24:513.

Yes [☒] No [] N/A []

We did not enter into any contracts that utilized state funds as defined in R.S. 39:72.1 A. (2); and that were subject to the public bid law (R.S. 38:2211, et seq.), while the agency was not in compliance with R.S. 24:513 (the audit law).

Yes [☒] No [] N/A []

We have complied with R.S. 24:513 A. (3) regarding disclosure of compensation, reimbursements, benefits and other payments to the agency head, political subdivision head, or chief executive officer.

Yes [☒] No [] N/A []

We have complied with R.S. 24:515.2 regarding reporting of pre- and post- adjudication court costs, fines and fees assessed or imposed; the amounts collected; the amounts outstanding; the amounts retained; the amounts disbursed, and the amounts received from disbursements.

Yes [☒] No [☐] N/A [☐]

Meetings

We have complied with the provisions of the Open Meetings Law, provided in R.S. 42:11 through 42:28.

Yes [☐] No [☐] N/A [☒]

Debt

It is true we have not incurred any indebtedness, other than credit for 90 days or less to make purchases in the ordinary course of administration, nor have we entered into any lease-purchase agreements, without the approval of the State Bond Commission, as provided by Article VII, Section 8 of the 1974 Louisiana Constitution, Article VI, Section 33 of the 1974 Louisiana Constitution, and R.S. 39:1410.60-1410.65.

Yes [☒] No [☐] N/A [☐]

Advances and Bonuses

It is true we have not advanced wages or salaries to employees or paid bonuses in violation of Article VII, Section 14 of the 1974 Louisiana Constitution, R.S. 14:138, and AG opinion 79-729.

Yes [☒] No [☐] N/A [☐]

Prior-Year Comments

We have resolved all prior-year recommendations and/or comments.

Yes [☐] No [☐] N/A [☒]

General

We acknowledge that we are responsible for the Agency's compliance with the foregoing laws and regulations and the internal controls over compliance with such laws and regulations.

Yes [☒] No [☐] N/A [☐]

We acknowledge that we are responsible for determining that the procedures performed are appropriate for the purposes of this engagement.

Yes [☒] No [☐] N/A [☐]

We have evaluated our compliance with these laws and regulations prior to making these representations.

Yes [☒] No [☐] N/A [☐]

We have provided you with all relevant information and access under the terms of our agreement.

Yes [☒] No [☐] N/A [☐]

We have disclosed to you all known noncompliance of the foregoing laws and regulations, as well as any contradictions to the foregoing representations.

Yes [☒] No [☐] N/A [☐]

We are not aware of any material misstatements in the information we have provided to you.

Yes [☒] No [☐] N/A [☐]

We have disclosed to you any communications from regulatory agencies, internal auditors, other independent practitioners or consultants, and others concerning noncompliance with the foregoing laws and regulations, including communications received during the period under examination; and will disclose


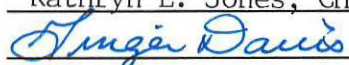
to you any such communication received between the end of the period under examination and the date of your report.

Yes [☒] No [☐] N/A [☐]

We will disclose to you, the Legislative Auditor, and the applicable state grantor agency/agencies all known noncompliance and other events subsequent to the date of this representation and the date of your report that could have a material effect on our compliance with laws and regulations and the internal controls with such laws and regulations, or would require adjustment or modification to the results of the agreed-upon procedures.

Yes [☒] No [☐] N/A [☐]

The previous responses have been made to the best of our belief and knowledge.

	Secretary	2/5/25	Date
Kathryn E. Jones, Chief Judge	Treasurer		Date
	President	2/5/25	Date
Ginger Davis, Judicial Administrator			