

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
A Component Unit of the DeSoto Parish Police Jury
Frierson, Louisiana

Annual Financial Statements
with Independent Auditor's Report

As of and For the Year Ended
December 31, 2019
with Supplemental Information Schedules

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Independent Auditor's Report

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9, a component unit of the DeSoto Parish Police Jury, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

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

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our 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.

Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9, as of December 31, 2019, and the respective changes in financial position, and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the budgetary comparison information, the schedule of employer's share of 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, 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. We 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 our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Management has omitted the management's discussion and analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, 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 the financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9's basic financial statements. The Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to Agency Head is presented for the purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to Agency Head 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. Such 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 financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to Agency Head is 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, we have also issued our report dated September 30, 2020, on our consideration of the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on 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 DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Kenneth D. Falden & Co., CPAs

Jonesboro, Louisiana
September 30, 2020

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**GOVERNMENT-WIDE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Statement of Net Position
As of December 31, 2019

		Governmental Activities
Assets		
Cash and equivalents	\$	609,537
Investments		7,631,021
Accounts receivable		2,210,640
Cash and equivalents - restricted		125
Capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation)		<u>4,280,615</u>
Total Assets		<u><u>14,731,938</u></u>
 Deferred Outflows of Resources		
Pension		<u>677,758</u>
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources		<u><u>677,758</u></u>
 Liabilities		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts payable		57,563
Payroll liabilities		33,461
Non-Current Liabilities:		
Net pension liability		<u>1,171,935</u>
Total Liabilities		<u><u>1,262,959</u></u>
 Deferred Inflows of Resources		
Pension		<u>111,870</u>
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources		<u><u>111,870</u></u>
 Net Position		
Net investment in capital assets		4,280,615
Unrestricted		<u>9,754,252</u>
Total Net Position	\$	<u><u>14,034,867</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	Major Funds			Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position	
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
<u>Functions/Programs</u>					
Primary government					
Governmental activities					
Public safety - fire	\$ 2,164,309	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	(2,164,309)
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 2,164,309</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>(2,164,309)</u>
<u>General Revenues</u>					
Taxes:					
Property taxes					2,303,828
Intergovernmental					58,266
Interest earnings					140
Investment earnings					132,323
Rental income					1,861
Other revenue					58,699
Total general revenues					<u>2,555,117</u>
Change in net position					390,808
Net position - December 31, 2018					13,644,060
Net position - December 31, 2019					<u>\$ 14,034,868</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds
As of December 31, 2019

		Governmental Funds
Assets		
Cash and equivalents	\$	609,537
Investments		7,631,021
Accounts receivable		2,210,640
Cash and equivalents - restricted		125
Total Assets	\$	10,451,323
Liabilities & Fund Balances		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$	57,563
Payroll liabilities		33,461
Total Liabilities		91,024
Fund balances:		
Unassigned		10,360,299
Total Fund Balances		10,360,299
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$	10,451,323

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position
As of December 31, 2019

Total Fund Balances at December 31, 2019 - Governmental Funds (Statement C)	\$	10,360,299
Total Net Position reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position (Statement A) are different because:		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in governmental funds, net of depreciation.		4,280,615
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.		
Net pension liability		(1,171,935)
Deferred outflows of resources		677,758
Deferred inflows of resources		(111,870)
		(111,870)
Net Position at December 31, 2019	\$	14,034,867

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance - Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	Governmental Funds
Revenues	
Taxes:	
Ad valorem tax	\$ 2,303,828
Intergovernmental	58,266
Rent, royalty, and commission	1,861
Total revenues	2,363,955
Expenditures	
Current:	
Public safety	
Personnel services	1,290,551
Supplies	47,825
Utilities	34,790
Repairs and maintenance	63,068
Contractual services	38,625
Miscellaneous	10,720
Insurance	100,177
Legal and accounting	23,714
Office	17,243
Taxes and licenses	196
Training, education, and travel	19,906
Capital outlay	72,680
Total expenditures	1,719,495
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	644,460
Other financing sources (uses)	
Interest earnings	140
Investment earnings	132,323
Miscellaneous	8,528
Total other financing sources (uses)	140,991
Net changes in fund balances	785,451
Fund balances - December 31, 2018	9,574,848
Fund balances - December 31, 2019	\$ 10,360,299

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures,
and Changes in Funds Balances to the Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Total net change in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds (Statement E)	\$	785,452
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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 capitalized over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlay differs from depreciation for the period.

Depreciation		(297,546)
Capital outlay		72,680

Payment of long-term obligation, including contributions to the pension obligation, is considered an expenditure on the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance (Statement E), but it is a reduction of long-term obligation on the Government-Wide Statements. Proceeds of long-term debt, which is considered an other financing source on the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance (Statement E), is an increase in long-term debt on the Government-Wide Statements.

Net pension liability decrease (increase)		(169,778)
Change in net position of governmental activities (Statement B)	\$	390,808

**NOTES TO THE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended December 31, 2019

INTRODUCTION

The DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9 is located in DeSoto Parish in northwest Louisiana. As provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 40:1495, the District is governed by a Board of Commissioners consisting of five members appointed by the DeSoto Parish Police Jury. The members of the Board of Commissioners do not receive compensation. The District was created to provide proper fire prevention and control within the District, which is approximately one hundred and sixty-five square miles. The District has acquired land, buildings, and equipment in the effort to achieve its goals. The DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9 employs a combination of volunteer firefighters and full-time and part-time paid firefighters (including the Fire Chief).

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying financial statements of the District have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (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 District applies all relevant GASB pronouncements, and GAAP, as applicable to governmental entities. Also, the District's financial statements are prepared in accordance with the requirements of Louisiana R.S. 24:513 and Audits of State and Local Government Units, published by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

B. Reporting Entity

GASB Statement No. 14, The Financial Reporting Entity, established criteria for determining the governmental reporting entity and component units that should be included within the reporting entity. As the governing authority of the parish, for reporting purposes, the DeSoto Parish Police Jury is the financial reporting entity for DeSoto Parish. The financial reporting entity consists of (a) the primary government (police jury), (b) organizations for which the government is financially accountable, and (c) other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

GASB Statement No. 39, Determining Whether Certain Organizations are Component Units, establishes criteria for determining which, if any, component units should be considered part of the DeSoto Parish Police Jury for financial reporting purposes. GASB Statement No. 61 provides additional criteria for classifying entities as component units. The basic criterion for including a potential component unit within the reporting entity is financial accountability, which includes:

1. Appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body, and:
 - i. The ability of the government to impose its will on that organization and/or
 - ii. The potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to or impose specific financial burdens on the government.
2. Organizations for which the government does not appoint a voting majority but are fiscally dependent on the government and there is a potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or to impose specific financial burdens on, the government regardless of whether the organization has a separately elected governing board, a governing board appointed by a higher level of government, or a jointly appointed board.

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended December 31, 2019

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 DeSoto Parish Police Jury approves the organization's governing body, and the potential for the organization to provide specific benefits to or impose specific financial burdens on the police jury, the District was determined to be a component unit of the DeSoto Parish Police Jury, the financial reporting entity. The accompanying financial statements present information only on the funds maintained by the District 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 financial reporting entity.

C. Government-Wide Financial Statements

The District's government-wide financial statements include the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities. These statements present summaries of the governmental activities for the District. Fiduciary activities of the District are not included in these statements.

These statements are presented on an "economic resources" measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Accordingly, all of the District's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, including capital assets and long-term liabilities, are included in the accompanying Statement of Net Position. The Statement of Activities presents changes in Net Position. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized in the period in which they are earned while expenses are recognized in the period in which the liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. 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.

The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9's governmental activities.

Program Revenues - Program revenues included in the Statement of Activities (Statement B) derive directly from parties outside the District's taxpayers or citizenry, including (a) fees and charges paid by the recipient for goods or services offered by the program, and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program; program revenues reduce the cost of the function to be financed from the District's general revenues.

Direct Expenses - The District reports all direct expenses by function in the Statement of Activities (Statement B). Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a function. Depreciation expense, which can be specifically identified by function, is included in the direct expenses of each function.

Indirect Expenses - The District reports all indirect expenses separately on the Statement of Activities (Statement B). Indirect expenses are those expenses that are not clearly identifiable with a function. Interest on long-term debt is considered an indirect expense.

General revenues are taxes and other items that are not properly included among program revenues.

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended December 31, 2019

D. Fund Financial Statements

The accounts of the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9 are organized on the basis of funds, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, fund equity, revenues, expenditures or expenses, as appropriate, additions, and deductions. Fund accounting segregates funds according to their intended purpose and is used to aid management in demonstrating compliance with finance-related legal and contractual provisions. The minimum number of funds maintained is consistent with legal and managerial requirements. Funds of the District are classified into one category: governmental.

Governmental Funds

Governmental fund financial statements include a Balance Sheet and a Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances for all major governmental funds. An accompanying schedule is presented to reconcile and explain the differences in fund balances and changes in fund balances as presented in these statements to the net position and changes in net position presented in the Government-Wide financial statements. The District has presented all major funds.

All governmental funds are accounted for on a spending or "current financial resources" measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Accordingly, only current assets, deferred outflows of resources, current liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources are included on the Balance Sheets. Amounts recorded as assets exclude capital assets and the acquisition of capital assets is treated as an expenditure. Long-term debts are reported as an other financing source, and repayment of long-term debt is reported as an expenditure. The Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances presents increases (revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (expenditures and other financing uses) in fund balance.

Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized in the accounting period in which they become both measurable and available to finance expenditures of the current period.

"Measurable" means the amount of the transaction can be determined, and "available" means collectible within the current period or soon thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. Accordingly, revenues are recorded when received in cash and when collected within 60 days after year-end. Expenditures are recorded in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, which are recognized when due.

The DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9 reports the following major governmental funds:

General Fund - The primary operating fund of the District, the General Fund accounts for all financial resources, except those required to be accounted for in other funds. The General Fund is available for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred in accordance with state and federal laws and according to District policy.

Revenues

The governmental funds use the following practices in recording revenues:

Those revenues susceptible to accrual are property taxes and charges for services.

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended December 31, 2019

Entitlements and shared revenues are recorded as unrestricted grants-in-aid at the time of receipt or earlier if the susceptible-to-accrual criteria are met. Expenditure-driven grants are recognized when the qualifying expenditures have been incurred, all other grant requirements have been met, and the susceptible-to-accrual criteria have been met.

Interest earnings are recorded when the investments have matured and the interest is available.

Expenditures

The governmental funds use the following practices in recording expenditures:

Purchases of various operating supplies, etc. are recorded as expenditures when the related fund liability is incurred.

Principal and interest on long-term debt are recognized when due.

Other Financing Sources (Uses)

The governmental funds use the following practices in recording other financing sources (uses):

Sales of fixed assets and long-term debt proceeds and payments are accounted for as other financing sources (uses). These other financing sources (uses) are recognized at the time the underlying events occur.

E. Equity Classifications

The DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9 has implemented GASB Statement No. 63, Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position.

In the Government-Wide Financial Statements, the difference between (a) assets and deferred outflows of resources and (b) liabilities and deferred inflows of resources is classified as net position and reported in three components:

Net investment in capital assets: This classification 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 borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of these assets.

Restricted net position: This classification consists of net position with constraints placed on its use either by external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments, or law through constitutional provision or enabling legislation.

Unrestricted net position: Any 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 are available, management applies unrestricted net position first, unless a determination is made to use restricted net position. 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.

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended December 31, 2019

The Governmental Fund Financial Statements present fund balances based on classifications that comprise a hierarchy that is based primarily on the extent to which the District is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in the respective governmental funds can be spent. The classifications used in the governmental fund financial statements are as follows:

Nonspendable: This classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form or (b) are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The District did not have any nonspendable funds for the year ended December 31, 2019.

Restricted: This classification includes amounts for which constraints have been placed on the use of the resources either (a) externally imposed by creditors (such as through a debt covenant), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments, or (b) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. The District did not have any restricted funds for the year ended December 31, 2019.

Committed: This classification includes amounts that can be used only for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the Board of Commissioners. These amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Board of Commissioners removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action (resolution) that was employed when the funds were initially committed. This classification also includes contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements. The Board typically establishes commitments through the adoption and amendment of the budget. The District did not have any committed funds for the year ended December 31, 2019.

Assigned: This classification includes amounts that are constrained by the District's intent to be used for a specific purpose but are neither restricted nor committed. This intent can be expressed by the Board of Commissioners or through the Board delegating this responsibility to a body or official (Fire Chief) for specific purposes. This classification also includes the remaining positive fund balance for all governmental funds except for the General Fund. The District has no assigned funds for year ended December 31, 2019.

Unassigned: This classification includes the residual fund balance for the General Fund. The Unassigned classification also includes negative residual fund balance of any other governmental fund that cannot be eliminated by offsetting of Assigned fund balance amounts. All funds of the District are designated as unassigned.

The District would typically use Restricted fund balances first, followed by Committed resources, and then Assigned resources, as appropriate opportunities arise, but reserves the right to selectively spend Unassigned resources first to defer the use of these other classified funds.

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended December 31, 2019

F. Budgets

The Fire Chief prepares a proposed budget and submits it to the Board of Commissioners no later than fifteen days prior to the beginning of each fiscal year. A summary of the proposed budget is published and the public notified that the proposed budget is available for public inspection. At the same time, a public hearing is called. A public hearing is held on the proposed budget at least ten days after publication of the call for the hearing. After the holding of the public hearing and completion of all action necessary to finalize and implement the budget, the budget is adopted through passage of a formal motion and vote by the Board prior to the commencement of the fiscal year for which the budget is being adopted. The Board of Commissioners may revise or amend the budget at its discretion during legally convened sessions. The District utilizes formal budgetary integration as a management control device for all funds.

The 2019 general fund budget was published in the official journal and made available for public inspection. A public hearing for the proposed budget was held on December 10, 2018, and the budget was adopted by the Board of Commissioners. The budget was amended on December 16, 2019.

G. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash includes amounts in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, and money market accounts. Cash equivalents include amounts in time deposits and those investments with original maturities of 90 days or less. Under state law, the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9 may deposit funds in demand deposits in stock-owned federally insured depository institutions organized under the laws of the state of Louisiana or of any other state of the United States, or under the laws of the United States. The District may invest in certificates and time deposits with state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having their principal offices in Louisiana.

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash equivalents include all highly liquid investments with a maturity date of 90 days or less when purchased.

Under state law, the District may invest in United States bonds, treasury notes, or certificates. Those with maturities of 90 days or less would be classified as cash equivalents and all other reported as investments.

H. Investments

The DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9's investments comply with Louisiana Revised Statute 33:2955. Under state law, the District may deposit funds with a fiscal agent organized under the laws of Louisiana, the laws of any other state in the union, or the laws of the United States. The District may invest in United States bonds, treasury notes and bills, or government-backed agency securities or certificates, and time deposits of state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having principal offices in Louisiana. These deposits are classified as investments if their original maturities exceed 90 days. Investments are stated at fair value except for those which are permitted under GASB Statement No. 31 to use a different valuation measurement.

In accordance with paragraph 69 of GASB Statement No. 72, the District reports at amortized cost money market investments and participating interest-bearing investment contracts that have a remaining maturity at the time of purchase of one year or less. Money market investments are short-term, highly liquid debt instruments that include U.S. Treasury obligations.

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended December 31, 2019

I. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant, and equipment, are recorded in the governmental column of the government-wide financial statements, but are not reported in the governmental fund financial statements. Acquisitions of property and equipment 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. The District maintains a threshold level of \$500 or more for capitalizing capital assets.

Improvements and replacements of property and equipment are capitalized. Maintenance and repairs that do not improve or extend the lives of property and equipment are charged to expense as incurred. When assets are sold or retired, their cost and related accumulated depreciation are removed from the accounts and any gain or loss is reported in the Statement of Activities.

Furniture, fixtures, equipment	5-10 years
Kitchen equipment	12 years
Motor vehicles - cars and light trucks	5 years
Motor vehicles - fire trucks	15 years
Buildings	40 years

J. Deferred Outflows of Resources

The District reports decreases in net position that relate to future periods as deferred outflows of resources in a separate section of its government-wide statement of net position. The District will not recognize the related expenses until a future event occurs. The District reported deferred outflows of resources of \$677,758 in relation to net pension liability in the government-wide financial statements, and no deferred outflows of resources affect the governmental funds financial statements.

K. Deferred Inflows of Resources

The District reports increases in net position that relate to future periods as deferred inflows of resources in a separate section of its government-wide statement of net position. The District will not recognize the related revenues until a future event occurs. The District reported deferred inflows of resources of \$111,870 in relation to net pension liability in the government-wide financial statements, and no deferred outflows of resources affect the governmental funds financial statements.

L. 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.

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended December 31, 2019

2. Ad Valorem Tax

Ad Valorem taxes are collected by the DeSoto Parish Tax Collector (DeSoto Parish Sheriff) and remitted to the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9. Ad Valorem taxes are assessed on a calendar year basis by the DeSoto Parish Tax Assessor. Billed taxes become delinquent on December 31 of the current year. Ad Valorem taxes attach as an enforceable lien on property on December 31 of each year. The taxes are generally collected in December of the current year and January and February of the ensuing year. The following is a summary of the authorized and levied Ad Valorem taxes.

This millage was approved by the Board of Commissioners on July 8, 2019. This millage is the maximum millage that can be assessed without the approval of the voters of the District.

	<u>Authorized Millage</u>	<u>Levied Millage</u>
Maintenance	18.390	18.390

3. Cash and Cash Equivalents

At December 31, 2019, the District had cash and cash equivalents (book balances) totaling \$609,537, details shown below. These deposits are stated at cost, which approximates market. Under state law, these 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 the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent.

At December 31, 2019, the District had \$596,491 in deposits (collected bank balances). These deposits are secured from risk by \$346,483 federal deposit insurance and \$277,759 in pledged securities. Even though the pledged securities are considered uncollateralized under the provisions of GASB Statement No. 40, Louisiana Revised Statute 30:1229 imposes a statutory requirement on the custodial bank to advertise and sell the pledged securities within 10 days of being notified that the fiscal agent has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand. Louisiana R.S. 39:1224 requires bonds, or other such instruments furnished as security, to be deposited with the depositing authority or with an unaffiliated bank or trust company, Federal Reserve Bank, or any Federal Home Loan Bank or its successor. This security is deemed to be under the control and in the possession of the public entity and deemed to be held in its name. The DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9 has complied with these requirements of state law.

Cash and equivalents are categorized to give an indication of the level of risk assumed by the District at December 31, 2019. Deposits are considered to be exposed to custodial credit risk if they are not covered by depository insurance and the deposits are (a) uncollateralized, (b) collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution, or (c) collateralized with securities held by the the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent but not in the depositor-government's name. The DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9 has cash and cash equivalents that are covered by \$346,483 of federal depository insurance. The remaining balance is exposed to custodial credit risk because it is uninsured and collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution. The District does not have a policy on custodial credit risk.

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended December 31, 2019

	Amount
Cash on hand	\$ 100
Interest-bearing demand deposits	603,353
Savings deposits	6,083
Total	\$ 609,537

4. Investments

The DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9 maintains investment accounts as authorized by the Louisiana Revised Statutes. Under state law, the District may invest in obligations of the U.S. Treasury and U.S. Agencies, or certificates of deposit. The District has investments that are only certificates of deposits with less than one year of maturity and money markets, and these investments are valued using amortized cost as described in Paragraph 69 of GASB Statement No. 72.

At December 31, 2019, the District had \$7,631,021 in deposits (collected bank balances). These deposits are secured from risk by \$177,104 federal deposit insurance and \$8,500,000 in pledged securities. Even though the pledged securities are considered uncollateralized under the provisions of GASB Statement No. 40, Louisiana Revised Statute 30:1229 imposes a statutory requirement on the custodial bank to advertise and sell the pledged securities within 10 days of being notified that the fiscal agent has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand. Louisiana R.S. 39:1224 requires bonds, or other such instruments furnished as security, to be deposited with the depositing authority or with an unaffiliated bank or trust company, Federal Reserve Bank, or any Federal Home Loan Bank or its successor. This security is deemed to be under the control and in the possession of the public entity and deemed to be held in its name. The DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9 has complied with these requirements of state law.

There are three fair valuation techniques that are prescribed in GASB Statement No. 72: the market approach, the cost approach, or the income approach. However, the District values all investments using the amortized cost.

The fair value hierarchy categorizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value into three levels. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) for identical assets in active markets that a government can access at the measurement date. Level 2 inputs are inputs-other than quoted prices included within Level 1-that are observable for an asset, either directly or indirectly. Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs for an asset, and the government should measure fair value using another valuation technique that maximizes the use of relevant observable inputs and minimizes the use of unobservable inputs. Below are the fair value measurements of the investments held by the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9 at December 31, 2019.

Type of Investment	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Other	Total
Money market accounts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	4,118,702	\$ 4,118,702
Certificates of deposit	-	-	-	3,512,319	3,512,319
Total	\$	\$	\$	\$ 7,631,021	\$ 7,631,021

Investment earnings at December 31, 2019 were \$132,323 for interest.

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended December 31, 2019

5. Receivables

The receivables of \$2,210,640 at December 31, 2019, are as follows:

	Amount
Ad valorem taxes	\$ 2,210,640
Total	\$ 2,210,640

6. Capital Assets

A summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended December 31, 2019, is as follows:

	Balance, January 01, 2019	Additions	Deletions	Balance, December 31, 2019
Capital assets not being depreciated				
Land	\$ 75,000	\$ -	\$ -	75,000
Construction in progress	9,720	9,720	-	19,440
Total capital assets not being depreciated	84,720	9,720	-	94,440
Capital assets being depreciated				
Buildings	3,417,833	8,900	-	3,426,733
Vehicles	2,587,480	4,025	-	2,591,505
Equipment	604,627	50,035	-	654,662
Total capital assets being depreciated	6,609,939	62,960	-	6,672,900
Less accumulated depreciation				
Buildings	423,705	86,323	-	510,028
Vehicles	1,441,157	157,127	-	1,598,284
Equipment	324,316	54,096	-	378,412
Total accumulated depreciation	2,189,178	297,546	-	2,486,724
Capital assets, net	\$ 4,505,481	\$ (224,866)	\$ -	4,280,616

Depreciation expense of \$297,546 was charged to the public safety function.

7. Payables

The payables of \$91,024 at December 31, 2019, are as follows:

	Amount
Accounts	\$ 57,563
Payroll liabilities	33,461
Total	\$ 91,024

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended December 31, 2019

8. Retirement Systems - Firefighters' Retirement System

Plan Description

The DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9 contributes to the Firefighters' Retirement System of Louisiana (System) which is a cost sharing multiple employer defined benefit pension plan. Membership in the System is mandatory for all full-time firefighters who earn more than \$375 per month and are employed by any municipality, parish, or fire protection district of the State of Louisiana.

Any member of the Plan can retire providing the member meets one of the following criteria:

1. Any age with 25 years of creditable service.
2. Age 50 with a minimum of 20 years of creditable service.
2. Age 55 with a minimum of 12 years of creditable service.

The monthly amount of benefits are 3 1/3% of their average final compensation multiplied by his total years of service, not to exceed 100% of final salary.

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

For the year ended December 31, 2019, the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9's total payroll for all employees was \$984,885. Total covered payroll was \$513,742. Covered payroll refers to all compensation paid by the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9 to active employees covered by the System.

The System issues an annual publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the System. The report may be obtained by writing to the Firefighters' Retirement System of Louisiana, 3100 Brentwood Drive, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, or by visiting the System's website www.lafirefightersret.com.

Contributions

According to state statute, contribution requirements for all employers are actuarially determined each year. For the year ended December 31, 2019, total contributions due for employers and employees were 36.50% for January-June and 37.75% for July-December, 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. The employer and contribution rates for all members was 26.50% for January-June and 27.75% for July-December, and the employee contribution rate was 10.00%. 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. The DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9's contributions to the System for the year ending December 31, 2019 were \$139,669.

The contributions are deducted from the employee's wages or salary and remitted by the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9 to the System monthly.

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended December 31, 2019

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

At December 31, 2019, the District reported a liability of \$1,171,935 for its proportionate share of the Net Pension Liability. The Net Pension Liability was measured as of June 30, 2019 and the total pension liability used to calculate the Net Pension Liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9's proportion of the Net Pension Liability was based on a projection of the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating employers, actuarially determined. At December 31, 2019, the District's proportion was 0.187153%, which was an increase of 0.025797% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2018.

For the year ended December 31, 2019, the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9 recognized pension expense of \$227,939 plus employer's amortization of change in proportionate share and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions, which was \$(7,990). Total pension expense for the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9 for the year ended December 31, 2019 was \$219,949.

At December 31, 2019, the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9 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	\$ -	\$ 84,537
Changes in assumptions	106,618	85
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan	78,809	-
Changes in employer's proportion of beginning net pension liability	414,023	20,935
Differences between employer and proportionate share of contributions	-	6,315
Contributions after the measurement period	78,307	-
Total	<u>\$ 677,757</u>	<u>\$ 111,872</u>

The \$78,307 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9's contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of Net Pension Liability in the year ended December 31, 2020. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended December 31, 2019

<u>Year Ended December 31:</u>	
2020	\$ 174,759
2021	126,157
2022	91,218
2023	51,396
2024	20,141
2025	23,908

Actuarial Assumptions

A summary of the actuarial methods and assumptions used in determining the total pension liability as of June 30, 2019, are as follows:

Valuation Date	June 30, 2019
Actuarial Cost Method	Individual Entry Age Normal Cost
Actuarial Assumptions:	
Investment Rate of Return	7.15% per annum (net of investment expenses, including inflation) (decreased from 7.30% in 2018)
Expected Remaining Service Lives	7 years, closed period
Inflation Rate	2.50% per annum (decreased from 2.70% in 2018)
Mortality	The mortality rate assumption used was set based upon an experience study performed on plan data for the period July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2014. The data was then assigned credibility weighting and combined with a standard table to produce current levels of mortality. This mortality was then projected forward to a period equivalent to the estimated duration of the System's liabilities. The RP-2000 Combined Healthy with Blue Collar Adjustment Sex Distinct Tables projected to 2031 using Scale AA were selected for employee, annuitant, and beneficiary mortality. The RP-2000 Disabled Lives Mortality Table set back five years for males and set back three years for females was selected for disabled annuitants. Setbacks in these tables were used to approximate mortality improvement
Salary increases	Vary from 14.75% in the first two years of service to 4.50% with 25 or more years of service; includes inflation and merit increases
Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLAs)	For the purpose of determining the present value of benefits, COLAs were deemed not to be substantively automatic and only those previously granted were included.

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended December 31, 2019

The estimated long-term expected 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 return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation, 2.75%. The resulting long-term expected arithmetic nominal rate of return was 7.94% as of June 30, 2019. Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major class includes in the System's target asset allocation as of June 30, 2019, are summarized in the following table:

Asset Type		Target Asset Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Equity	U.S. Equity	21.50%	5.98%
	Non-U.S. Equity	17.50%	7.52%
	Global Equity	10.00%	6.59%
Fixed Income	Fixed Income	31.00%	2.17%
Alternatives	Real Estate	6.00%	4.14%
	Private Equity	4.00%	10.52%
Multi-Asset Strategies	Global Tactical Asset Allocation	5.00%	4.37%
	Risk Parity	5.00%	4.67%
		100.00%	45.96%

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.15%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employee contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that contributions from employers will be made at contractually required rates, actuarially determined. Based on those assumptions, the System's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive employees. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on System investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.15%, as well as what the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage-point lower (6.15%) or one percentage-point higher (8.15%) than the current rate.

	1.0% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1.0% Increase
Employer's proportionate share of net pension liability \$	1,697,042 \$	1,171,935 \$	731,201

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended December 31, 2019

Fund Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about the System's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued Firefighters' Retirement System of Louisiana Audit Report at www.lafirefightersret.com.

9. Grants

During the year ended December 31, 2019, the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9 received no grants.

10. Risk Management

The District is exposed to various risk of loss related to torts, thefts of, damage to, and destruction of assets, errors and omissions, and injuries to employees. To handle such risk of loss, the District maintains commercial insurance policies covering each of these risks of loss. The District believes such coverage is sufficient to preclude any significant uninsured losses to the District. During the past three years, no claims were paid on any of the policies which exceeded the policies' coverage amount.

11. Litigation and Claims

At December 31, 2019, the District was not involved in any lawsuits nor is aware of any outstanding claims, which are not covered by insurance.

12. Subsequent Events

Management has evaluated subsequent events through the date that the financial statements were available to be issued, September 30, 2020, and determined that no events occurred that require disclosure. No subsequent events occurring after this date have been evaluated for inclusion in these financial statements.

Kenneth D. Folden & Co.

Kenneth D. Folden, CPA

Certified Public Accountants

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Independent Auditor's 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

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9, a component unit of the DeSoto Parish Police Jury, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated September 30, 2020. We conducted our 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.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists 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 a 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 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.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting 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 were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audit, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we 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 our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity'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 DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Kenneth D. Felden & Co., CPAs

Jonesboro, Louisiana
September 30, 2020

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY
INFORMATION**

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Budgetary Comparison Schedule - General Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	Budget - Original	Budget - Final	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues				
Taxes:				
Ad valorem tax	\$ 2,300,000	\$ 2,300,000	\$ 2,303,828	\$ 3,828
Intergovernmental	11,500	13,750	58,266	44,516
Rent, royalty, and commission	4,000	3,500	1,861	(1,639)
Total revenues	<u>2,315,500</u>	<u>2,317,250</u>	<u>2,363,955</u>	<u>46,705</u>
Expenditures				
Current:				
Public safety				
Personnel services	1,251,750	1,251,750	1,290,551	(38,801)
Supplies	40,000	40,000	47,825	(7,825)
Utilities	40,500	40,500	34,790	5,710
Repairs and maintenance	70,000	70,000	63,068	6,932
Contractual services	1,000	1,000	38,625	(37,625)
Miscellaneous	-	-	10,720	(10,720)
Insurance	85,000	85,000	100,177	(15,177)
Legal and accounting	25,500	25,500	23,714	1,786
Office	5,650	5,650	17,243	(11,593)
Taxes and licenses	-	-	196	(196)
Training, education, and travel	11,500	11,500	19,906	(8,406)
Capital outlay	2,527,500	40,000	72,680	(32,680)
Total expenditures	<u>4,058,400</u>	<u>1,570,900</u>	<u>1,719,495</u>	<u>(148,595)</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>(1,742,900)</u>	<u>746,350</u>	<u>644,460</u>	<u>(101,890)</u>
Other financing sources (uses)				
Investment earnings	-	-	132,323	132,323
Interest earnings	37,500	60,000	140	(59,860)
Miscellaneous	5,000	2,500	8,528	6,028
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>42,500</u>	<u>62,500</u>	<u>140,991</u>	<u>78,491</u>
Net changes in fund balances	<u>(1,700,400)</u>	<u>808,850</u>	<u>785,451</u>	<u>(23,399)</u>
Fund balances - December 31, 2018	<u>9,574,848</u>	<u>9,574,848</u>	<u>9,574,848</u>	<u>-</u>
Fund balances - December 31, 2019	<u>\$ 7,874,448</u>	<u>\$ 10,383,698</u>	<u>\$ 10,360,299</u>	<u>\$ (23,399)</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Schedule of Employer's Share of Net Pension Liability
Firefighters' Retirement System
For the year ended December 31, 2019

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Employer's proportion of the net pension liability (asset)	0.187153%	0.161356%	0.166865%	0.153328%	0.102227%
Employer's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset)	\$ 1,171,935	\$ 928,132	\$ 956,445	\$ 1,002,907	\$ 551,734
Employer's covered employee payroll	\$ 452,326	\$ 384,164	\$ 389,604	\$ 345,721	\$ 149,439
Employer's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered employee payroll	259.09 %	241.60 %	245.49 %	290.09 %	369.20 %
Employer's proportion of the net pension liability (asset)	73.96 %	74.76 %	73.55 %	68.16 %	72.45 %

The amounts presented have a measurement date of June 30.

Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Schedule of Employer Contributions
Firefighters' Retirement System
For the year ended December 31, 2019

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Contractually required contribution	\$ 139,669	\$ 111,544	\$ 100,981	\$ 96,985	\$ 87,098
Contributions in relation to contractually required contribution	139,669	111,544	100,981	96,985	87,098
Contribution deficiency (excess)	-	-	-	-	-
Employer's covered payroll	\$ 513,742	\$ 420,921	\$ 390,795	\$ 369,327	\$ 308,659
Contributions as a percentage of covered employee payroll	27.19 %	26.50 %	25.84 %	26.26 %	28.22 %

Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
For the year ended December 31, 2019

We have audited the basic financial statements of the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9 as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019 and have issued our report thereon dated September 30, 2020. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Governmental Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our audit of the financial statements as of December 31, 2019 resulted in an unqualified opinion.

A. Summary of Auditor's Report

Report on Internal Control and Compliance Material to Financial Statements

Internal Control

Material Weakness Yes No Significant Deficiencies Yes No

Compliance

Compliance Material to Financial Statements Yes No

B. Findings - Financial Statements Audit

Current Year

No current year findings.

Prior Year

Finding 2018-001 Compliance with Public Bid Law

Criteria: Louisiana Revised Statute 38:2211-2296, public bid law, requires that all materials and supplies purchases over \$30,000 be publicly bid.

Condition: For the year ended December 31, 2019, the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9 purchased air packs for more than \$30,000 but did not publicly bid the purchase.

Effect: The District was in violation of the public bid law.

Recommendation: The District should follow its policy and procedures for purchases and disbursements to insure that any materials and supplies purchases over \$30,000 are subject to public bid.

Management's Response: The District will follow its policy and procedures for purchases and disbursements to insure that any materials and supplies purchases over \$30,000 are subject to public bid. This finding has been resolved.

Finding 2018-002 Inadequate System to Insure Compliance with Public Bid Law

Criteria: Management is responsible for establishing internal control over compliance with applicable state revised statutes including the public bid law.

Condition: For the year ended December 31, 2019, the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9 purchased air packs for more than \$30,000 but did not publicly bid the purchase.

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
For the year ended December 31, 2019

Effect: There was not an adequate internal control system in place to insure that the public bid law was followed. The District was in violation of the public bid law and would be susceptible to making poor decisions about purchases.

Recommendation: The District should follow its policy and procedures for purchases and disbursements to insure that any materials and supplies purchases over \$30,000 are subject to public bid.

Management's Response: The District will follow its policy and procedures for purchases and disbursements to insure that any materials and supplies purchases over \$30,000 are subject to public bid. This finding has been resolved.

DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana

Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head
For the year ended December 31, 2019

Robert C. Hayes Fire Chief		
Salary	\$	86,416
Dues		125
Reimbursement - other		438
	\$	<u>86,979</u>

Kenneth D. Folden & Co.

Kenneth D. Folden, CPA

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Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

To the Board of Commissioners of DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9
Frierson, Louisiana
and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor:

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by the DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 9 and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor (LLA) on the control and compliance (C/C) areas identified in the LLA's Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs) for the fiscal period January 01, 2019 through December 31, 2019. The District's management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and applicable standards of Government Auditing Standards. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of the specified users of this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

The procedures and associated findings are as follows:

Written Policies and Procedures

1. Obtain the entity's written policies and procedures and report whether those written policies and procedures address each of the following financial/business functions (or report that the entity does not have any written policies and procedures), as applicable:
 - a. Budgeting, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget,
 - b. 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.
 - c. Disbursements, including processing, reviewing, and approving,
 - d. Receipts, 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. Payroll/Personnel, including (1) payroll processing, and (2) reviewing and approving time and attendance records, including leave and overtime worked,
 - f. Contracting, including (1) types of services requiring written contracts, (2) standard terms and conditions, (3) legal review, (4) approval process, and (5) monitoring process,
 - g. Credit Cards (and debit cards, fuel cards, P-Cards, if applicable), including (1) how cards are to be controlled, (2) allowable business uses, (3) documentation requirements, (4) required approvers, and (5) monitoring card usage,

h. Travel and expense reimbursement, including (1) allowable expenses, (2) dollar thresholds by category of expense, (3) documentation requirements, and (4) required approvers,

i. Ethics, including (1) the prohibitions as defined in Louisiana Revised Statute 42:1111-1121, (2) actions to be taken if an ethics violation takes place, (3) system to monitor possible ethics violations, and (4) requirement that all employees, including elected officials, annually attest through signature verification that they have read the entity's ethics policy, and

j. Debt Service, including (1) debt issuance approval, (2) continuing disclosure/EMMA reporting requirements, (3) debt reserve requirements, and (4) debt service requirements.

k. 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.

Exception: The District has written policies and procedures on all the above financial/business functions except Disaster Recovery.

Management's Response: The District will develop a policy on Disaster Recovery.

Board

2. Obtain and review the board/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:

a. 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.

Response: The Board of Commissioners met monthly with a quorum excluding the June meeting. There was not a quorum to meet in June.

b. For those entities reporting on the governmental accounting model, observe that the minutes referenced or included monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the general fund and major special revenue funds, as well as monthly financial statements (or budget-to-actual comparisons, if budgeted) for major proprietary funds.

Response: The Board of Commissioners approves bills to pay monthly and review a monthly budget-to-actual comparison of the general fund.

c. For governmental entities, obtain the prior year audit report and observe the unrestricted fund balance in the general fund. If the general fund had a negative ending unrestricted 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 unrestricted fund balance in the general fund.

Response: The District did not have a negative ending unrestricted fund balance.

Exception: See above responses.

Management's Response: None.

Bank Reconciliations

3. Obtain a listing of client 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 selected each account, and observe that:

Response: Management provided us with a list of bank accounts and representation that the list is complete.

a. Bank reconciliations include evidence that they were prepared within 2 months of the related statement closing date (e.g., initialed and dated, electronically logged);

Response: There was evidence that the bank reconciliation reviewed was completed within two months of the statement closing date.

b. Bank reconciliations include evidence that a member of management/board member who does not handle cash, post ledgers, or issue checks has reviewed each bank reconciliation (e.g., initialed and dated, electronically logged); and

Response: There was no indication that the bank reconciliations were reviewed by a member of management or a board member.

c. 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.

Response: There were no reconciling items that have been outstanding for more than 12 months to review.

Exception: See above responses.

Management's Response: The District will insure reconciliations will be reviewed by a Board member as indicated by initials and a date of review.

Collections

4. 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).

Response: Management provided us with a list of deposit sites and representation that the list is complete.

5. 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, 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:

Response: Management provided us with a list of collection locations and representation that the list is complete. There were no written employee job duties, but we inquired of employees their job duties. Job duties are properly segregated.

a. Employees that are responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers/registers.

Response: There are no cash collections and no cash drawers.

b. 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.

Response: There are no cash collections, and the Treasurer of the Board prepares and makes bank deposits.

c. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not 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.

Response: The Treasurer prepares and makes deposits; the contract accountant makes the general ledger posting..

d. The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or agency fund additions are not responsible for collecting cash, unless another employee verifies the reconciliation.

Response: There are no cash collections; the contract accountant reconciles deposits to the general ledger.

6. Inquire of management that all employees who have access to cash are covered by a bond or insurance policy for theft.

Response: No cash is collected.

7. Randomly select two deposit dates for each of the 5 bank accounts selected for procedure #3 under "Bank Reconciliations" above (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). Obtain supporting documentation for each of the 10 deposits and:

- a. Observe that receipts are sequentially pre-numbered.
- b. Trace sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.
- c. Trace the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.
- d. 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).
- e. Trace the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.

Response: Sequentially numbered receipt books were not used; however, checks stubs received are kept with any additional documentation. There is no indication of when the checks are received, so there is no evidence that checks were deposited within one business day of receipt. All checks were traced to the bank statements.

Exception: See above responses.

Management's Response: The District will mark check stubs as received to document checks deposited within one business day of receipt.

Disbursements - General

8. 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).

Response: Management provided a listing of locations that process payments and representation that the listing is complete.

9. For each location selected under #8 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, inquire of employees about their job duties), and observe that job duties are properly segregated such that:

- a. At least two employees are involved in initiating a purchase request, approving a purchase, and placing an order/making the purchase.

Response: The Fire Chief makes purchase requests. The Treasurer prepares checks for disbursements and the Treasurer and another board member sign checks.

- b. At least two employees are involved in processing and approving payments to vendors.

Response: Payments to vendors are processed by the Treasurer after the Fire Chief and Board approves the payment to vendors. Two board members review and approve all payments to vendors while signing checks. The Board of Commissioners reviews and approves the monthly bills at monthly board meetings.

- c. 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.

Response: The Treasurer adds vendors and processes payments; however, the Board must approve the invoice and confirm by signature on the check that the vendor has been approved.

- d. 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.

Response: The Treasurer mails payments and processes payments.

10. For each location selected under #8 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:

Response: Management provided the disbursement transaction population and representation that the population is complete.

- a. Observe that the disbursement matched the related original invoice/billing statement.

Response: All 20 disbursements selected matched the related original invoice/billing statement.

- b. Observe that the disbursement documentation included evidence (e.g., initial/date, electronic logging) of segregation of duties tested under #9, as applicable.

Response: Of the 20 disbursements selected, none of invoices indicated that they were approved by the Board. The Board approves the bills in a motion at the monthly meetings, but there is no evidence of approval on individual invoices.

Exception: See above responses.

Management's Response: The Board of Commissioners should document approval of the bills by signing invoices or some other documentation that lists all the invoices to be paid.

Credit Cards

11. Obtain from management a listing of all active credit cards, bank debit cards, fuel cards, and P-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.

Response: Management provided a listing of credit cards, bank debit cards, fuel cards, and P-cards and representation that the listing is completed.

12. 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:

- a. 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) was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the authorized card holder.

Response: One card was tested; the statement was not approved by someone other than the authorized card holder.

- b. Observe that finance charges and late fees were not assessed on the selected statements.

Response: There were no finance charges or late fees on any of the selected statements.

13. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under #12 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 testing).

a. For each transaction, observe that it is supported by:

i. An original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased,

Response: For the statement tested, the District was missing one receipt.

ii. Written documentation of the business/public purpose, and

Response: One transaction had no documented business/public purpose.

iii. Documentation of the individuals participating in meals (for meal charges only).

Response: No transactions were for meal charges.

Exception: See above responses.

Management's Response: The District will ensure that all statements are approved by someone other than the card holder. The District will also ensure that there are itemized receipts that show what was purchased and document the business purpose.

Travel and Expense Reimbursement

14. 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, 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:

Response: Management provided a listing of travel and related expense reimbursements and representation that the listing is complete.

a. If reimbursed using a per diem, agree the reimbursement rate to those rates established either by the State of Louisiana or the U.S. General Services Administration (www.gsa.gov).

Response: There were no per diem reimbursements.

b. If reimbursed using actual costs, observe that the reimbursement is supported by an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased.

Response: Reimbursements were for actual costs. Out of the two reimbursements, one is missing eight out of twenty itemized receipts.

c. 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 policy (procedure #1h).

Response: One reimbursement listed the business/public purpose, but neither reimbursement includes names of individuals participating in meals.

d. Observe that each reimbursement was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving reimbursement.

Response: Reimbursements were not reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving the reimbursement.

Exception: See above responses.

Management's Response: The District will list the business/public purpose, use an original itemized receipt to support purchases, and include a list of individuals who participate in meals. A member of management other than the person receiving the reimbursement will approve in writing the reimbursement.

Contracts

15. 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:

Response: Management provided representation that no new contracts products or services paid were initiated or renewed during the fiscal period.

- a. Observe that the contract was bid in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law (e.g., solicited quotes or bids, advertised), if required by law.
- b. Observe that the contract was approved by the governing body/board, if required by policy or law (e.g. Lawrason Act, Home Rule Charter).
- c. If the contract was amended (e.g. change order), observe that the original contract terms provided for such an amendment.
- d. 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 that the invoice and related payment agreed to the terms and conditions of the contract.

Exception: None.

Management's Response: None.

Payroll and Personnel

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

Response: Management provided a listing of employees/elected officials and representation that the listing is complete.

17. Randomly select one pay period during the fiscal period. For the 5 employees/officials selected under #16 above, obtain attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and:

- a. Observe that all selected employees/officials documented their daily attendance and leave (e.g., vacation, sick, compensatory).

Response: All employees documented daily attendance and leave.

- b. Observe that supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees/officials.

Response: The timesheet reviewed did not show the supervisor's approval.

- c. Observe that any leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's cumulative leave records.

Response: There was written documentation that the District maintained written leave records.

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

Response: There were no terminated employees.

19. Obtain management's representation that employer and employee portions of payroll taxes, retirement contributions, health insurance premiums, and workers' compensation premiums have been paid, and associated forms have been filed, by required deadlines.

Response: Management provided representation that employer and employee portions of payroll taxes, retirement contributions, health insurance premiums, and workers' compensation premiums have been paid, and associated forms have been filed by required deadlines.

Exception: See above responses.

Management's Response: None.

Ethics

20. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from procedure #16 under "Payroll and Personnel" above, obtain ethics documentation from management, and:

a. Observe that the documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed one hour of ethics training during the fiscal period.

Response: Ethics training was completed by three out of five employees. The employees who did not complete ethics training were part-time employees.

b. Observe that the documentation demonstrates each employee/official attested through signature verification that he or she has read the entity's ethics policy during the fiscal period.

Response: Ethics policy attestation was completed by two out of five employees.

Exception: See above responses.

Management's Response: The District will insure all employees (full-time and part-time) have completed one hour of ethics training during the fiscal period and will document annually that all employees have read the ethics policy and verify by signature. These documents will be kept in the personnel files for all employees.

Debt Service

21. Obtain a listing of bonds/notes issued during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Select all bonds/notes on the listing, obtain supporting documentation, and observe that State Bond Commission approval was obtained for each bond/note issued.

22. 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.

Exception: None.

Management Response: None.

Other

23. 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.

Response: Management has provided representation that there were no misappropriations of public funds and assets during the fiscal period.

24. 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.

Response: We observed the notice posted at the fire station.

We were not engaged to and did not perform an examination or review, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs. 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.

The purpose of this report is 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.

Kenneth D. Falden & Co., CPAs

Jonesboro, Louisiana
September 30, 2020

DeSoto Fire District #9

P.O. Box 124
Frierson, Louisiana 71027
Phone 318-797-5673
Fax 318-797-6220

September 30, 2020

Kenneth D. Folden & Co., CPAs
302 Eighth Street
Jonesboro, Louisiana

In connection with your engagement to apply agreed-upon procedures to certain control and compliance (C/C) areas identified in the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs), for the fiscal period January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019, we confirm to the best of our knowledge and belief, the following representations made to you during your engagement.

1. We are responsible for the C/C areas identified in the SAUPs, including written policies and procedures; board or finance committee; bank reconciliations; collections; disbursements; credit/debit/fuel/purchasing cards; travel and expense reimbursement; contracts; payroll and personnel; ethics; debt service; and other areas as applicable.

Yes No

2. For the fiscal period January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019, the C/C areas were administered in accordance with the best practice criteria presented in the SAUPs.

Yes No

3. We are responsible for selecting the criteria and procedures and for determining that such criteria and procedures are appropriate for our purposes.

Yes No

4. We have disclosed to you all known matters contradicting the results of the procedures performed in C/C areas.

Yes No

5. We have disclosed to you any communications from regulatory agencies, internal auditors, other independent practitioners or consultants, and others affecting the C/C areas, including communications received between December 31, 2019, and September 30, 2020.

Yes No

6. We have provided you with access to all records that we believe are relevant to the C/C areas and the agreed-upon procedures.

Yes No

7. We represent that the listing of bank accounts provided to you is complete.

Yes No

8. We represent that the listing of cash/check/money order (cash) collection locations provided to you is complete.

Yes No

9. We represent that the listing of entity disbursements or the general ledger population of entity disbursements provided to you is complete.

Yes No

10. We represent that the listing of all active credit cards, bank debit cards, fuel cards, and P-cards (cards), including the card numbers and the names of the persons who maintained possession of the cards, provided to you is complete.

Yes No

11. We represent that the listing of all travel and related expense reimbursements, by person, during the fiscal period or the general ledger population of travel and related expense reimbursements provided to you is complete.

Yes No

12. We represent that the listing of all contracts in effect during the fiscal period or the general ledger population of contract payments provided to you is complete.

Yes No

13. We represent that the listing of employees (and elected officials, if applicable) with their related salaries provided to you is complete.

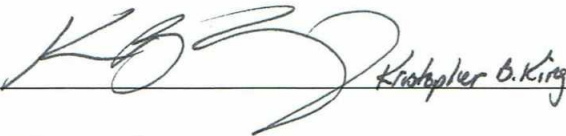
Yes No

14. We represent that the listing of employees (and elected officials, if applicable) that terminated during the fiscal period provided to you is complete.

Yes No

15. We have disclosed to you other data you deemed necessary to complete SAUPs.
Yes No
16. We have responded fully to all inquiries made by you during the engagement.
Yes No
17. We are not aware of any events that have occurred subsequent to December 31, 2019, that would require adjustment to or modification of the results of the agreed-upon procedures.
Yes No

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

Signature  Date September 30, 2020

Title Fire Chief