

**THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF
LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT
DECEMBER 31, 2024**

**THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2024**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Third Judicial District Judicial Clerk Fund
100 W. Texas Ave., 3rd Floor
Ruston, Louisiana 71270

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Third Judicial District Judicial Clerk Fund, a component unit of the Lincoln Parish Police Jury, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Judicial Clerk Fund's basic financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Third Judicial District Judicial Clerk Fund as of December 31, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

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

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

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

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Judicial Clerk Fund's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in my judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Judicial Clerk Fund's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

Required Supplementary Information

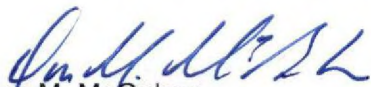
Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison information, and the required schedules related to pension plans on the pages indicated in the table of contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. I have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to my inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge I obtained during my audit of the basic financial statements. I do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide me with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

My audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Judicial Clerk Fund's basic financial statements. The accompanying supplemental schedule of compensation, benefits, and other payments, justice system funding schedule - receiving schedule and justice system funding schedule - collecting/disbursing schedule are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In my opinion, the supplemental schedule of compensation, benefits and other payments, justice system funding schedule - receiving schedule and justice system funding schedule - collecting/disbursing schedule are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, I have also issued my report dated June 30, 2025, on my consideration of the Judicial Clerk Fund's internal control over financial reporting and on my tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of my testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Judicial Clerk Fund's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Judicial Clerk Fund's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Don M. McGehee
Certified Public Accountant
June 30, 2025

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

LINCOLN AND UNION PARISHES
STATE OF LOUISIANA

JUDGES' OFFICE
P.O. Box 388
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MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

Our discussion and analysis of the Judicial Clerk Fund's financial performance provides an overview of the financial activities for the year ended December 31, 2024. It is based upon currently known facts, decisions, and conditions. Please read it in conjunction with the financial statements which begin on page 10.

Basic Financial Statements

The basic financial statements include government-wide and fund financial statements. The government-wide statements consist of a Statement of Net Position and a Statement of Activities and provide information about the financial activities of our Office as a whole. The government-wide statements present a long-term view of our finances. Fund financial statements consist of the respective fund's balance sheet and the fund's statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance, if applicable. The fund statements tell how our services were financed in the short-term and what remains for future spending. The primary differences between the fund and government-wide statement presentation methods is that expenditures for capital assets are expensed in the fund financial statements but capitalized and depreciated in the government-wide statements and expenditures for retirement benefits are expensed in the fund financial statements based on required contributions but are measured and expensed in the government-wide statements based on the change in net pension liability and amortization of deferred inflows and outflows using actuarial information.

Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities

One of the most important questions asked about our finances is, "Is the Judicial Clerk Fund as a whole better off or worse off as a result of the year's activities?" The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities report information about our Office as a whole and about our activities in a way that helps answer this question. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, which is a method similar to accounting used by most private-sector companies. All revenues and expenses of the current year are reported under this method regardless of when cash is received or disbursed.

These two statements report the Judicial Clerk Fund's net position and the changes in the net position. You can think of net position - the difference between assets and liabilities - as one way to measure the financial health, or financial position, of the Judicial Clerk Fund. Increases/(decreases) in our net position are one indicator of whether our financial health is improving/(deteriorating).

We report the financial activity of all services provided by us in the Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities. Expenses primarily include salaries and related benefits, office expenses, and outside services. Fees received from defendants, grants and other assistance, and hearing officer fees received on child support payments through the State of Louisiana finance most of our activities.

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

As noted above, net position may serve as a useful indicator of an entity's financial position. Our analysis below focuses on the net position (Table 1) and changes in net position (Table 2) of the governmental activities of the Judicial Clerk Fund.

Table 1
Total Net Position

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	
			<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Current Assets	\$ 673,525	\$ 620,670	\$ 52,855	9 %
Capital Assets	<u>22,601</u>	<u>29,991</u>	<u>(7,390)</u>	(25)%
Total Assets	<u>696,126</u>	<u>650,661</u>	<u>45,465</u>	7 %
Total Deferred Outflows	<u>232,823</u>	<u>456,509</u>	<u>(223,686)</u>	(49)%
Long-Term Liabilities	564,039	776,704	(212,665)	(27)%
Other Liabilities	<u>60,015</u>	<u>32,617</u>	<u>27,398</u>	84 %
Total Liabilities	<u>624,054</u>	<u>809,321</u>	<u>(185,267)</u>	(23)%
Total Deferred Inflows	<u>111,253</u>	<u>163,190</u>	<u>(51,937)</u>	(32)%
Net Position:				
Investment in Capital Assets	22,601	29,991	(7,390)	(25)%
Restricted	307,167	312,289	(5,122)	(2)%
Unrestricted	<u>(136,126)</u>	<u>(207,621)</u>	<u>71,495</u>	34 %
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 193,642</u>	<u>\$ 134,659</u>	<u>\$ 58,983</u>	44 %

At the close of the most recent year, net position increased by \$58,983. Unrestricted net position, which is the part of the amount of net position that can be used to finance the day-to-day operations of the District Clerk's Fund without constraints, increased \$71,495. The most significant changes from the prior year were a decrease in net pension liability of \$212,665, a decrease in deferred outflows of \$223,686, a decrease in deferred inflows of \$51,937, and an increase in current assets of \$52,855. Investment in capital assets (e.g. land, buildings, machinery and equipment, etc.) of \$22,601 is used to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending.

Table 2
Changes in Net Position

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	
			<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Revenues				
Program Revenues:				
Fees	\$ 264,697	\$ 247,789	\$ 16,908	7 %
Intergovernmental	396,274	409,219	(12,945)	(3)%
Drug Court Revenues	38,345	38,208	137	0 %
Grants and Other Assistance	402,953	375,982	26,971	7 %
General Revenues:				
Interest Income	6,489	5,184	1,305	25 %
Miscellaneous Income	<u>1,209</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,209</u>	0 %
Total Revenues	<u>1,109,967</u>	<u>1,076,382</u>	<u>33,585</u>	3 %
Program Expenses:				
General Government-Judicial	<u>1,050,984</u>	<u>1,111,049</u>	<u>(60,065)</u>	(5)%
Total Expenses	<u>1,050,984</u>	<u>1,111,049</u>	<u>(60,065)</u>	(5)%
Change in Net Position	<u>\$ 58,983</u>	<u>\$ (34,667)</u>	<u>\$ 93,650</u>	(270)%

Total revenues increased by 3% (\$33,585) from the prior year, as shown above. Expenses decreased 5% (\$60,065) from the prior year, primarily from an increase in professional fees of \$38,462, law library of \$16,756, and telephone expenses of \$12,121 which were offset by decreases in various other accounts. The net effect of the revenue increase and expense increase was a \$93,650 increase in the Change in Net Position for the year ended December 31, 2024 compared to the prior year.

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements provide more detailed information about individual funds, rather than the District Clerk's Fund as a whole. Funds are accounting devices used to keep track of specific sources of funding and spending for a particular purpose. The Judicial Clerk Fund maintains two governmental funds, the General Fund and a Special Revenue Fund-Children's Assistance. Information is presented separately in the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet and the Governmental Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance for each of these funds.

As of our year end on December 31, 2024, our governmental fund (General Fund) reported a fund balance of \$306,343, which is an 11% (\$30,579) increase from last year's fund balance. During 2024, General Fund revenues increased 4% (\$36,412) as compared to the previous year. General Fund expenditures increased about 4% (\$32,374) as compared to the prior year. The General Fund had \$1,062 in capital outlay expenditures in the current year compared to none in the prior year.

The fund balance in our special revenue fund as of December 31, 2024 was \$307,167, 2% (\$5,122) less than the prior year. Revenues in our special revenue fund were 1% (\$2,827) less than the prior year. Special revenue fund expenditures were 3% (\$6,640) less than the prior year. The special revenue fund had \$531 in capital outlay expenditures in the current year compared to \$1,170 in the prior year.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

We amend our budget when we determine there are unexpected differences between actual and anticipated revenues and/or expenditures. Our final amended budget was adopted just prior to year end. The difference between the original and final amended budget for revenues was a 9% (\$70,500) increase, which was the result of a \$12,500 increase in intergovernmental revenues, \$8,000 in fees, and \$50,000 in grants to more closely match anticipated revenues. The difference between the original and final amended budget for expenditures was a 9% (\$71,550) increase in expenditures, which primarily were increases of \$43,300 in drug court expense, \$13,500 in library expense, \$2,300 in probation expenses, \$5,250 in office expenses, and \$6,500 in travel and seminars to more closely match anticipated expenditures.

General fund budgeted amounts were less than 1% (\$6,813) of actual revenues and 3% (\$24,768) more than actual expenditures. Under budgeted revenues were primarily the result of receiving more in fees and grants than budgeted which were offset by receiving less in drug court income and intergovernmental. Overbudgeted expenditures were primarily the result of more benefits and drug court expenses budgeted offset by less in salaries than budgeted.

Capital Assets

In 2024, we purchased \$1,593 of computer equipment. For the upcoming year, we plan to purchase additional computer equipment, but there are no plans to issue debt to finance these purchases or any other future project.

Currently Known Facts, Decisions, or Conditions

We are not aware of any facts, decisions, or conditions that are expected to have a significant impact on the financial position or results of operations after the reporting date.

Contact Information for the Judicial Clerk Fund

This financial report is designed to provide citizens and taxpayers with a general overview of the finances of the Judicial Clerk Fund and to show accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact Bruce Hampton at 100 W. Texas Avenue, 3rd Floor, Ruston, LA 71270.

GOVERNMENT WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA**

**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2024**

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
ASSETS	
Cash	\$ 315,424
Certificates of Deposit	261,064
Due from Other Governmental Units	96,162
Due from Others	875
Capital assets, net of depreciation	<u>22,601</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>696,126</u>
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	<u>232,823</u>
LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	36,630
Accrued Liabilities	23,385
Long-Term Liabilities	
Pension Liability	<u>564,039</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>624,054</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	<u>111,253</u>
NET POSITION	
Invested in Capital Assets	22,601
Restricted for:	
Children's Assistance Program	307,167
Unrestricted (Deficit)	<u>(136,126)</u>
TOTAL NET POSITION	<u><u>\$ 193,642</u></u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

**THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA**

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024**

<u>Functions/Programs</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Program Revenues</u>			<u>Net (Expense) Revenue</u>
		<u>Charges for Services</u>	<u>Operating Grants and Contributions</u>	<u>Capital Grants and Contributions</u>	
GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES:					
General Government-Judicial	\$ <u>1,050,984</u>	\$ <u>478,916</u>	\$ <u>623,353</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>51,285</u>
TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES	\$ <u>1,050,984</u>	\$ <u>478,916</u>	\$ <u>623,353</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	<u>51,285</u>
GENERAL REVENUES:					
Interest Earnings					6,489
Miscellaneous					<u>1,209</u>
TOTAL GENERAL REVENUES					<u>7,698</u>
CHANGE IN NET POSITION					58,983
NET POSITION - BEGINNING					<u>134,659</u>
NET POSITION - ENDING					\$ <u>193,642</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
DECEMBER 31, 2024

	General Fund	Children's Assistance Fund	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS			
Cash	\$ 150,150	\$165,274	\$ 315,424
Certificates of Deposit	131,813	129,251	261,064
Due from Other Governments	76,167	19,995	96,162
Due from Others	875	0	875
Due from Other Funds	<u>0</u>	<u>2,728</u>	<u>2,728</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 359,005</u>	<u>\$317,248</u>	<u>\$ 676,253</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES			
LIABILITIES			
Accounts Payable	\$ 27,714	\$ 8,916	\$ 36,630
Accrued Liabilities	22,220	1,165	23,385
Due to Other Funds	<u>2,728</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,728</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>52,662</u>	<u>10,081</u>	<u>62,743</u>
FUND BALANCES			
Restricted for -			
Children's Assistance	0	307,167	307,167
Unassigned	<u>306,343</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>306,343</u>
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	<u>306,343</u>	<u>307,167</u>	<u>613,510</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	<u>\$ 359,005</u>	<u>\$317,248</u>	

Amounts Reported for Government Activities in the Statement of
Net Position are different from those reported above because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the Governmental Fund statements.	22,601
The deferred outflows of expenditures for pension obligations are not a use of current resources and therefore are not reported in the fund financial statements.	232,823
The deferred inflows of contributions for pension obligations are not available resources and therefore are not reported in the fund financial statements.	(111,253)
Adjustment for Long-Term Liabilities - Long-term pension liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the general fund balance sheet nor reflected in fund balance for the general fund.	<u>(564,039)</u>
NET POSITION OF GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES	<u>\$ 193,642</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
DECEMBER 31, 2024

	<u>General</u>	<u>Children's Assistance</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
REVENUES			
Fees Collected by:			
Lincoln Parish Sheriff	\$ 153,134	\$ 0	\$ 153,134
Union Parish Sheriff	47,212	0	47,212
Lincoln Parish Clerk of Court	13,502	0	13,502
Union Parish Clerk of Court	9,518	0	9,518
Union Parish Probation Fees	41,331	0	41,331
Intergovernmental:			
Lincoln Parish Criminal Court	117,799	0	117,799
Union Parish Criminal Court	58,075	0	58,075
State of Louisiana-Children's Assistance	0	220,400	220,400
Drug Court Revenue	38,345	0	38,345
Grant Revenue	402,953	0	402,953
Interest Income	3,360	3,129	6,489
Other Income	1,209	0	1,209
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>886,438</u>	<u>223,529</u>	<u>1,109,967</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Judicial	854,797	228,120	1,082,917
Capital Outlay	1,062	531	1,593
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>855,859</u>	<u>228,651</u>	<u>1,084,510</u>
NET CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES	30,579	(5,122)	25,457
FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING	<u>275,764</u>	<u>312,289</u>	<u>588,053</u>
FUND BALANCES - ENDING	<u>\$ 306,343</u>	<u>\$ 307,167</u>	<u>\$ 613,510</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

**THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA**

**RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024**

NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES-TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS	\$ 25,457
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Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different from those reported in the Governmental Fund Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund balance on the previous page because:

Governmental Fund statements report capital outlays as expenditures. However, the Statement of Activities reflects capital outlays as an increase in capital assets and recognizes an economic cost of the asset as depreciation expense over the estimated useful life of the asset. Depreciation expense in the statement of activities was \$8,983 and there was \$1,593 of capital outlay expenditures in the governmental funds.	(7,390)
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Adjustment for Difference in Pension Expense - Governmental funds report pension expenditures based on required contributions, while in the Statement of Activities pension expense is reported based on the change in net pension liability and amortization of deferred inflows and outflows.	<u>40,916</u>
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CHANGE IN NET POSITION OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES	<u>\$ 58,983</u>
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See accompanying notes to financial statements.

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2024

The Third Judicial District Judicial Clerk Fund was established by legislative act. The act provides for the collection of fees in the form of court costs and fines, and provides for such secretarial, clerical, research, administrative or other personnel as are deemed necessary to expedite the business and functions of the court. The Judicial Clerk Fund may also be used to pay for establishing and maintaining a law library, equipment, supplies, and any other costs or expenses related to the proper administration of the court, except for the payment of judge's salaries. The Judicial Clerk Fund service area is composed of the parishes of Lincoln and Union located in north central Louisiana.

The financial statements of the Judicial Clerk Fund are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is responsible for establishing GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements (Statements and Interpretations). Governments are also required to follow the pronouncements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued through November 30, 1989 (when applicable), that do not conflict or contradict GASB pronouncements. The more significant accounting policies established in GAAP and used by the Judicial Clerk Fund are discussed below:

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

REPORTING ENTITY

For financial reporting purposes, in conformity with GASB Statement No. 14, the Judicial Clerk Fund of the Third Judicial District is a component unit of the Lincoln Parish Police Jury. For the purposes of this financial report, this component unit serves as the nucleus for its own financial reporting entity and issues separate financial statements.

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, MEASUREMENT FOCUS, AND BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The Judicial Clerk Fund's basic financial statements include both government-wide and fund financial statements.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities displays information about the reporting government as a whole. The Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities were prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. On the Statement of Net Position, the net position is reported in three parts as described below:

Invested in capital assets, net of related debt - consist of the historical cost of capital assets less accumulated depreciation and less any outstanding debt used to finance those assets.

Restricted - consists of the amount of net position restricted by the Judicial Clerk Fund's creditors, by state enabling legislation, by grantors, and by other contributors. In situations where it is permissible to apply restricted resources, typically available restricted resources are depleted before consuming unrestricted resources.

Unrestricted - all other net position amounts are reported in this category.

The Statement of Activities reports both the gross and net cost of the judicial function. The function is supported by general government revenues. The Statement of Activities reduces gross expense (including depreciation) by related program revenues, operating and capital grants. Program revenues must be directly associated with the function. Operating grants include operating-specific and discretionary (either operating or capital) grants while the capital grants column reports capital-specific grants. The net costs are normally covered by general revenue. This government-wide focus is on the sustainability of the Judicial Clerk Fund as an entity and the change in its net position resulting from the current year's activities.

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements of the Judicial Clerk Fund report the financial transactions in individual funds. Each fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, reserves, fund equity, revenues and expenditures. The focus of the government funds' measurement (in the fund financial statements) is upon determination of financial position and changes in financial position (sources, uses, and balances of financial resources) rather than upon net income. The Judicial Clerk's Fund reports these governmental funds:

Governmental Funds

General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund of the Judicial Clerk Fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Special Revenue Funds

Special revenue funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources (other than special assessments, expendable trusts, or major capital projects) that are legally restricted to expenditures for specific purposes. The Judicial Clerk Fund uses the following special revenue fund:

Children's Assistance - To account for a 5 percent fee assessed in non-support cases which go through the state's Child Support Enforcement program. These fees are used to pay the salary of the hearing officer, appointed by the judges of the Third Judicial District to hear support and support related matters, and other expenditures incurred with the implementation of this procedure.

All government funds are accounted for using a current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when susceptible to accrual (i.e., when they become both measurable and available). "Measurable" means that the amount of the transaction can be determined and "available" means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. An availability period of 60 days was used. Revenues accrued include fines (collected by another governmental unit and remitted to the Judicial Clerk Fund), intergovernmental revenues, fees collected by the court, and reimbursements for expenditures from the state. Revenues that are not considered susceptible to accrual include certain charges for fees. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred.

With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities generally are included on the balance sheet. Operating statements of these funds present increases (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets.

Governmental funds report reservations of fund balance for amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for use for a specific purpose. Any designations of fund balance represent tentative management plans that are subject to change. There were no such designations anytime during the year.

**THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024**

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCE

Beginning January 1, 2011, the Judicial Clerk's Fund implemented GASB Statement 54 "Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions." This Statement provides more clearly defined fund balance categories to make the nature and extent of the constraints placed on a government's fund balance more transparent. The following classifications describe the relative strength of the spending constraints placed on the purposes for which resources can be used:

Nonspendable Fund Balance - amounts that are not in spendable form (such as prepaids) or are required to be maintained intact.

Restricted Fund Balance - amounts constrained to specific purposes by their providers (such as grantors, bondholders, and higher levels of government), through constitutional provisions, or by enabling legislation.

Committed Fund Balance - amounts constrained to specific purposes by the government itself, using its highest level of decision-making authority; to be reported as committed, amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the government takes the same highest level action to remove or change the constraint.

Assigned Fund Balance - amounts the government intends to use for a specific purpose; intent can be expressed by the governing body or by an official or body to which the governing body delegates the authority.

Unassigned Fund Balance - amounts that are available for any purpose; positive amounts are reported only in the general fund.

The Judicial Clerk Fund administrator establishes (and modifies or rescinds) fund balance commitments by passage of an order by the Judges. This is typically done through adoption and amendment of the budget. A fund balance commitment is further indicated in the budget document as a designation or commitment of the fund (such as special incentives). Assigned fund balance is established by the Judges through adoption or amendment of the budget as intended for specific purpose (such as the purchase of fixed assets, construction, debt service, or for other purposes).

USE OF ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

BUDGETS AND BUDGETARY ACCOUNTING

The Judicial Clerk Fund prepares an operating budget on its General Fund and Special Revenue Fund for each year, including the year ended December 31, 2024. Budgetary amounts are prepared based on prior year actual operating revenues and expenditures. During November, the clerk submits to the district judges a proposed operating budget for the year commencing in the following January. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them. During December, the budget is published in the official journal, made available for public inspection, and legally enacted through passage of an order. The district judges are authorized to transfer budgeted amounts between line items within a fund but revisions that alter the total expenditures of a fund must be approved by budget amendment. Appropriations lapse at year-end and must be reappropriated for the following year to be expended. State law requires budgets to be amended when anticipated revenues or expenditures vary unfavorably with budget amounts by more than 5%. The budget is monitored and amended when significant variations are identified. The 2024 general fund budget was authorized by the district judges, made available for public inspection at the court's office, and adopted by the district judges on December 26, 2023. The budget was amended prior to year end by the district judges. In the current year, the special revenue fund had an unfavorable budget variance compared to actual expenditures in excess of 5% in violation of state law.

**THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024**

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

CASH AND CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

Cash includes amounts in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, and time deposits with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition. Under state law, the Judicial Clerk Fund may deposit funds in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, or time deposits with banks organized under the laws of any state of the United States, or under the laws of the United States. State law and the Judicial Clerk Fund's investment policy allow investment in collateralized certificates of deposit, which are reported at cost.

INTERFUND ACTIVITY

Interfund activity is reported as either loans, services provided, reimbursements, or transfers. Loans are reported as interfund receivables and payables as appropriate and are subject to elimination upon consolidation. Services provided, deemed to be at market or near market rates, are treated as revenues and expenditures/expenses. Reimbursements are when one fund incurs a cost, charges the appropriate benefiting fund and reduces its related cost as a reimbursement. All other interfund transactions are treated as transfers. All transfers between individual governmental funds are eliminated on the Statement of Activities.

DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES

In some instances, the GASB requires a government to delay recognition of decreases in net position as expenditures until a future period. In other instances, governments are required to delay recognition of increases in net position as revenues until a future period. In these circumstances, deferred outflows and inflows of resources result from the delayed recognition of expenditures or revenues, respectively.

CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital assets are capitalized at historical cost, or estimated cost if historical cost is not available, and depreciated over their estimated useful lives. Estimated useful life is management's estimate of how long the asset is expected to meet service demands. Donated assets are recorded as capital assets at their acquisition value at the date of donation. A threshold level of \$500 or more is used for capitalizing assets. Depreciation on all assets is provided on the straight-line basis over the following estimated useful lives:

Furniture and Fixtures	10 - 15 years
Equipment	5 - 15 years

VACATION AND SICK LEAVE

The Judicial Clerk Fund has adopted a vacation and sick leave plan which allows a maximum of 12 days vacation and 12 days sick leave per year. Employees are not allowed to carry over the unused vacation or sick leave from year to year. Upon termination, accumulated sick leave lapses and no payments are made for the unused accumulation. There are no accumulated and vested benefits relating to vacation and sick leave that require accrual or disclosure at year end.

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

PENSIONS

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions and pension expenses, information about the fiduciary net position of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS) and the Parochial Employees Retirement System of Louisiana (PERS), and additions to/deductions from LASERS' and PERS' fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by LASERS and PERS. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

NOTE 2 - CASH AND CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

At December 31, 2024, the Judicial Clerk Fund had cash and certificates of deposit as follows:

	<u>Cash</u>	<u>Certificates of Deposit</u>
Demand Deposits	\$ 315,424	\$ 0
Time Deposits	<u>0</u>	<u>261,064</u>
Total	<u>\$ 315,424</u>	<u>\$ 261,064</u>

Cash consists of demand deposits. Deposits are carried at cost which approximates market value. 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 or exceed the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent. Pledged securities are held in the name of the pledging fiscal agent bank in a holding or custodial bank that is mutually acceptable to both parties.

At December 31, 2024, the Judicial Clerk Fund has \$601,774 in deposits (collected bank balances). These deposits are secured from risk by federal deposit insurance.

NOTE 3 - DUE FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL UNITS

Amounts due from other governmental units consisted of the following:

Fees from -	
Lincoln Parish Sheriff's Office	\$ 13,445
Union Parish Sheriff's Office	2,292
Lincoln Parish Clerk of Court	1,064
Union Parish Clerk of Court	690
State of Louisiana - Child Support Fees	19,995
Lincoln Parish Criminal Court Fund	24,905
State of Louisiana-Supreme Court (Drug Court)	<u>33,771</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 96,162</u>

**THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024**

NOTE 4 - CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital assets and depreciation activity as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, are as follows:

	Balance 01/01/24	Additions	Deletions	Balance 12/31/24
Capital Assets at Cost				
Furniture and Fixtures	\$ 18,990	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 18,990
Equipment	<u>163,738</u>	<u>1,593</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>165,331</u>
TOTALS	<u>182,728</u>	<u>1,593</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>184,321</u>
Less:				
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>152,737</u>	<u>8,983</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>161,720</u>
Net Capital Assets	<u>\$ 29,991</u>	<u>\$ (7,390)</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 22,601</u>

Depreciation expense of \$8,983 was charged to the general government judicial function in the Statement of Activities, of which \$7,880 was related to the general fund and \$1,103 was related to the children's assistance fund.

NOTE 5 - PENSION PLANS

The Judicial Clerk Fund contributes to the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS) and the Parochial Employees Retirement System of Louisiana (PERS). All employees are members of PERS if they are permanent employees working at least 28 hours a week and are not a member of LASERS.

The LASERS plan is a cost sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS). It was established by Section 401 of Title 11 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes (La. R.S. 11:401). In accordance with Louisiana Revised Statutes, LASERS is subject to certain elements of oversight by the Louisiana Legislature, which grants them the authority to review administration, benefit terms, investments, and funding of the plan. The retirement system issues a publicly available financial report. That report may be obtained by writing to Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System, P.O. Box 44213, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4213, or by calling 1-800-256-3000. Access to the stand-alone audit report for the year ended June 30, 2024 can be found on the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's website: www.la.gov or the LASERS website: www.lasersonline.org.

The PERS plan is a cost sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the Parochial Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana (PERS). The PERS was established by Act 205 of the 1952 regular session of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana. PERS is governed by Louisiana Revised Statutes, Title 11 Sections 1901 through 2025 specifically, and other general laws of the State of Louisiana. The retirement system issues a publicly available financial report. That report may be obtained by writing to Parochial Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana, 7905 Wrenwood Boulevard, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898, or by calling (225) 928-1361. Access to the stand-alone audit report for the year ended December 31, 2023 can be found on the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's website: www.la.gov or the PERS website: www.persla.org.

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PENSION PLANS

Benefits Provided

The following is a description of the plan and its benefits and is provided for general information, purposes only. Participants should refer to the appropriate statutes for more complete information.

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 5 - PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Retirement Benefits

LASERS Plan

The age and years of creditable service required in order for a member to retire with full benefits are established by statute, and vary depending on the member's hire date, employer, and job classification. The majority of LASERS rank and file members hired prior to July 1, 2006, may either retire with full benefits at any age upon completing 30 years of creditable service, at age 55 upon completing 25 years of creditable service, and at age 60 upon completing ten years of creditable service depending on their plan. Those members hired between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2015, may retire at age 60 upon completing five years of creditable service and those hired on or after July 1, 2015 may retire at 62 upon completing five years of creditable service. The basic annual retirement benefit for members is equal to 2.5% to 3.5% of average compensation multiplied by the number of years of creditable service. Additionally, members may choose to retire with 20 years of service at any age, with an actuarially reduced benefit.

Average compensation is defined as the member's average annual earned compensation for the highest 36 consecutive months of employment for members employed prior to July 1, 2006. For members hired July 1, 2006 or later, average compensation is based on the member's average annual earned compensation for the highest 60 consecutive months of employment. The maximum annual retirement benefit cannot exceed the lesser of 100% of average compensation or a certain specified dollar amount of actuarially determined monetary limits, which vary depending upon the member's age at retirement. Judges, court officers, and certain elected officials receive an additional annual retirement benefit equal to 1.0% of average compensation multiplied by the number of years of creditable service in their respective capacity. As an alternative to the basic retirement benefits, a member may elect to receive their retirement throughout their life, with certain benefits being paid to their designated beneficiary after their death.

Act 992 of the 2010 Louisiana Regular Legislative Session, changed the benefit structure for LASERS members hired on or after January 1, 2011. This resulted in three new plans: regular, hazardous duty, and judges. The new regular plan includes regular members and those members who were formerly eligible to participate in specialty plans, excluding hazardous duty and judges. Regular members and judges are eligible to retire at age 60 after five years of creditable service and, may also retire at any age, with a reduced benefit, after 20 years of creditable service. Hazardous duty members are eligible to retire with twelve years of creditable service at age 55, 25 years of creditable service at any age or with a reduced benefit after 20 years of creditable service. Average compensation will be based on the member's average annual earned compensation for the highest 60 consecutive months of employment for all three new plans. Members in the regular plan will receive a 2.5% accrual rate, hazardous duty plan a 3.33% accrual rate, and judges a 3.5% accrual rate. The extra 1.0% accrual rate for each year of service for court officers, the governor, lieutenant governor, legislators, House clerk, sergeants at arms, or Senate secretary, employed after January 1, 2011, was eliminated by Act 992. Specialty plan and regular members, hired prior to January 1, 2011, who are hazardous duty employees have the option to transition to the new hazardous duty plan.

Act 226 of the 2014 Louisiana Regular Legislative Session established new retirement eligibility for members of LASERS hired on or after July 1, 2015, excluding hazardous duty plan members. Regular members and judges under the new plan are eligible to retire at age 62 after five years of creditable service and may also retire at any age, with a reduced benefit after 20 years of creditable service. Average compensation will be based on the member's average annual earned compensation for the highest 60 consecutive months of employment. Members in the regular plan will receive 2.5% accrual rate, and judges a 3.5% accrual rate, with the extra 1.0% accrual rate based on all years of service as a judge.

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 5 - PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

A member leaving employment before attaining minimum retirement age, but after completing certain minimum service requirements, becomes eligible for a benefit provided the member lives to the minimum service retirement age, and does not withdraw their accumulated contributions. The minimum service requirement for benefits varies depending upon the member's employer and service classification.

PERS Plan

The age and years of creditable service required in order for a member to retire with full benefits are established by statute, and vary depending on the member's hire date, employer, and job classification.

Any member of Plan A can retire providing he/she meets one of the following criteria:

Employees hired prior to January 1, 2007, can retire at any age with thirty or more years of creditable service, age 55 with twenty-five years of creditable service, age 60 with a minimum of ten years of creditable service, or age 65 with a minimum of seven years of creditable service.

Employees hired after January 1, 2007, can retire age 55 with 30 years of service, age 62 with ten years of service, or age 67 with 7 years of service.

Any member of Plan B can retire providing he/she meets one of the following criteria:

Employees hired prior to January 1, 2007, can retire at age 55 with thirty years of creditable service, age 60 with a minimum of ten years of creditable service, or age 65 with a minimum of seven years of creditable service.

Employees hired after January 1, 2007, can retire age 55 with 30 years of service, age 62 with ten years of service, and age 67 with 7 years of service.

Generally, the monthly amount of the retirement allowance of any member shall consist of an amount equal to a percent of the member's final average compensation multiplied by his/her years of creditable service. However, under certain conditions, as outlined in the statutes, the benefits are limited to specified amounts. The percent used for Plan A members is three percent, and Plan B participants use two percent.

Deferred Retirement Benefits

LASERS Plan

The State Legislature authorized LASERS to establish a Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP). When a member enters DROP, their status changes from active member to retiree even though they continue to work and draw their salary for a period of up to three years. The election is irrevocable once participation begins. During DROP participation, accumulated retirement benefits that would have been paid to each retiree are separately tracked. For members who entered DROP prior to January 1, 2004, interest at a rate of one-half percent less than the System's realized return on its portfolio (not to be less than zero) will be credited to the retiree after participation ends. At that time, the member must choose among available alternatives for the distribution of benefits that have accumulated in the DROP account. Members who enter DROP on or after January 1, 2004, are required to participate in LASERS Self-Directed Plan (SDP) which is administered by a third-party provider. The SDP allows DROP participants to choose from a menu of investment options for the allocation of their DROP balances. Participants may diversify their investments by choosing from an approved list of mutual funds with different holdings, management styles, and risk factors.

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 5 - PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Members eligible to retire and who do not choose to participate in DROP may elect to receive at the time of retirement an initial benefit option (IBO) in an amount up to 36 months of benefits, with an actuarial reduction of their future benefits. For members who selected the IBO option prior to January 1, 2004, such amount may be withdrawn or remain in the IBO account earning interest at a rate of one-half percent less than the System's realized return on its portfolio (not to be less than zero). Those members who select the IBO on or after January 1, 2004, are required to enter the SDP as described above.

PERS Plan

Act 338 of 1990 established the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) for the Retirement System. DROP is an option for that member who is eligible for normal retirement. In lieu of terminating employment and accepting a service retirement, any member of Plan A or B who is eligible to retire may elect to participate in DROP in which they are enrolled for three years and defer the receipt of benefits. During participation in the plan, employer contributions are payable but employee contributions cease. The monthly retirement benefits that would be payable, had the person elected to cease employment and receive a service retirement allowance, are paid into the DROP Fund.

Upon termination of employment prior to or at the end of the specified period of participation, a participant in the DROP may receive, at his option, a lump sum from the account equal to the payments in the account, a true annuity based upon his account balance in that fund, or roll over the fund to an Individual Retirement Account. Interest is accrued on the DROP benefits for the period between the end of DROP participation and the member's retirement date.

For individuals who became eligible to participate in DROP on or after January 1, 2004, all amounts which remain credited to the individual's subaccount after termination in DROP will be placed in liquid asset money market investments at the discretion of the board of trustees. These subaccounts may be credited with interest based on money market rates of return or, at the option of the System, the funds may be credited to self-directed subaccounts. The participant in the self-directed portion of DROP must agree that the benefits payable to the participant are not the obligations of the state or the System, and that any returns and other rights of DROP are the sole liability and responsibility of the participant and the designated provider to which contributions have been made.

Disability Benefits

LASERS Plan

Generally, active members with ten or more years of credited service who become disabled may receive a maximum disability retirement benefit equivalent to the regular retirement formula without reduction by reason of age. Upon reaching retirement age, the disability retiree may receive a regular retirement benefit by making application to the Board of Trustees. For injuries sustained in the line of duty, hazardous duty personnel in the Hazardous Duty Services Plan will receive a disability benefit equal to 75% of final average compensation or 100% of final average compensation if the injury was the result of an intentional act of violence.

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 5 - PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

PERS Plan

For Plan A and Plan B, a member shall be eligible to retire and receive a disability benefit if hired prior to January 1, 2007, and has a least five years of creditable service or if hired after January 1, 2007, has seven years of creditable service, is not eligible for normal retirement and has been officially certified as disabled by the State Medical Disability Board.

Upon retirement caused by disability, a member of Plan A shall be paid a disability benefit equal to the lessor of an amount equal to a three percent of the member's final average compensation multiplied by his years of service, not to be less than fifteen, or three percent multiplied by years of service assuming continued service to age sixty for those members who enrolled prior to January 1, 2007 and to age 62 for those members who are enrolled January 1, 2007 and later. For Plan B, a member shall be eligible to retire and receive a disability benefit if he/she was hired prior to January 1, 2007, and has at least five years of creditable services or if hired after January 1, 2007, has seven years of creditable service, is not eligible for normal retirement, and has been officially certified as disabled by the State Medical Disability Board. Upon retirement caused by disability, if not eligible for normal retirement, a member of Plan B shall be paid a disability benefit equal to the lessor of an amount equal to two percent of the member's final average compensation multiplied by his years of service, to age 60 for those members who are enrolled prior to January 1, 2007 and age 62 for those members who are enrolled January 1, 2007 and later.

Survivor's Benefits

LASERS Plan

Certain eligible surviving dependents receive benefits based on the deceased member's compensation and their relationship to the deceased. The deceased member hired before January, 2011 who was in state service at the time of death must have a minimum of five years of service credit, at least two of which were earned immediately prior to death, or who had a minimum of twenty years of service credit regardless of when earned in order for a benefit to be paid to a minor or handicapped child. Benefits are payable to an unmarried child until age 18, or age 23 if the child remains a full-time student. The aforementioned minimum service credit requirement is ten years for a surviving spouse with no minor children, and benefits are to be paid for life to the spouse or qualified handicapped child.

The deceased regular member hired on or after January 1, 2011, must have a minimum of five years of service credit regardless of when earned in order for a benefit to be paid to a minor child. The aforementioned minimum service credit requirements for a surviving spouse are 10 years, 2 years being earned immediately prior to death, and active state service at the time of death, or a minimum of 20 years of service credit regardless of when earned. A deceased member's spouse must have been married for at least one year before death.

PERS Plan

Upon the death of any member of Plan A with five or more years of creditable service who is not eligible for retirement, the plan provides for benefits for the surviving spouse and minor children, as outlined in the statutes. Any member of Plan A, who is eligible for normal retirement at the time of death, the surviving spouse shall receive an automatic Option 2 benefit, as outlined in the statutes. Plan B members need ten years of service credit to be eligible for survivor benefits. Upon the death of any member of Plan B with twenty or more years of creditable service who is not eligible for normal retirement, the plan provides for an automatic Option 2 benefit for the surviving spouse when he/she reaches age 50 and until remarriage, if the remarriage occurs before age 55. A surviving spouse who is not eligible for Social Security survivorship or retirement benefits, and married not less than twelve months immediately preceding death of the member, shall be paid an Option 2 benefit beginning at age 50.

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 5 - PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Permanent Benefit Increases/Cost-of-Living Adjustments

LASERS Plan

As fully described in Title 11 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, the System allows for the payment of permanent benefit increases, also known as cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs), that are funded through investment earnings when recommended by the Board of Trustees and approved by the State Legislature.

PERS Plan

The Board is authorized to provide a cost of living allowance for those retirees who retired prior to July, 1973. The adjustment cannot exceed two percent of the retiree's original benefit for each full calendar year since retirement and may only be granted if sufficient funds are available from investment income in excess of normal requirements. In addition, the Board may provide an additional cost of living increase to all retirees and beneficiaries who are over age 65 equal to two percent of the member's benefit paid on October 1, 1977, (or the member's retirement date, if later). Also, the Board may provide a cost of living increase up to 2.5% for retirees 62 and older (RS 11:1937). Lastly, Act 270 of 2009 provided for further reduced actuarial payments to provide an annual 2.5% cost of living adjustment commencing at age 55.

Contributions

LASERS Plan

The employer contribution rate is established annually under La. R.S. 11:401-11:104 by the Public Retirement Systems' Actuarial Committee (PRSAC), taking into consideration the recommendation of the LASERS actuary. Each plan pays a separate actuarially-determined employer contribution rate. However, all assets of LASERS are used for the payment of benefits for all classes of members, regardless of their plan membership. Rates for the year ended June 30, 2024 are as follows:

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 5 - PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Plan	Plan Status	Employee Rate	Employer Contribution Rate
Appellate Law Clerks	Closed	7.50 %	41.30 %
Appellate Law Clerks hired on or after 7/1/2006	Closed	8.00 %	41.30 %
Regular Employees hired before 7/1/2006	Closed	7.50 %	41.30 %
Regular Employees hired on or after 7/1/2006	Closed	8.00 %	41.30 %
Regular Employees hired on or after 1/1/2011	Closed	8.00 %	41.30 %
Regular Employees hired on or after 7/1/15	Open	8.00 %	41.30 %
Optional Retirement Plan before 7/1/2006	Closed	7.50 %	41.30 %
Optional Retirement Plan on or after 7/1/2006	Closed	8.00 %	41.30 %
Special Legislative Employees	Closed	9.50 %	39.00 %
Judges hired before 1/1/2011	Closed	11.50 %	45.80 %
Judges hired after 12/31/2010	Closed	13.00 %	44.70 %
Judges hired on or after 7/1/15	Open	13.00 %	44.70 %
Corrections Primary	Closed	9.00 %	39.90 %
Corrections Secondary	Closed	9.00 %	44.60 %
Wildlife Agents	Closed	9.50 %	53.10 %
Peace Officers	Closed	9.00 %	43.00 %
Alcohol Tobacco Control	Closed	9.00 %	42.60 %
Bridge Police	Closed	8.50 %	40.30 %
Bridge Police Hired after 7/01/06	Closed	8.50 %	40.30 %
Hazardous Duty	Open	9.50 %	47.00 %
Harbor Police	Closed	9.00 %	47.30 %
Legislators	Closed	11.50 %	37.00 %

The Judicial Clerk Fund's contractually required composite contribution rate for the pension plan year ended June 30, 2025, 2024, and 2023 was 34.74%, 41.3% and 40.4%, respectively, of annual covered payroll, 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 Actuarial Accrued Liability. Contributions to the pension plan from the the Judicial Clerk's Fund were \$89,823 for the year ended December 31, 2024.

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 5 - PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

PERS Plan

According to state statute, contributions for all employers are actuarially determined each year. For the year ended December 31, 2023, the actuarially determined contribution rate was 7.49% of member's compensation for Plan A and 5.35% of member's compensation for Plan B. The actual rate for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023 was 11.50% for Plan A and 7.50% for Plan B. The Judicial Clerk Fund participates in Plan A.

According to state statute, the System also receives one-fourth of one percent of ad valorem taxes collected within the respective parishes, except for Orleans and East Baton Rouge parishes. The System also receives revenue sharing funds each year as appropriated by the Legislature. Tax monies and revenue sharing monies are apportioned between Plan A and Plan B in proportion to the member's compensation. These additional sources of income are used as additional employer contributions and are considered support from non-employer contributing entities.

The Judicial Clerk Fund's contractually required composite contribution rate for the pension plan year ended December 31, 2024 was 11.50% of annual covered payroll, 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 Actuarial Accrued Liability. Contributions to the pension plan from the the Judicial Clerk's Fund were \$19,065 for the year ended December 31, 2024.

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

At December 31, 2024, the Employer reported a liability of \$564,039 for its proportionate share of the Net Pension Liability for all plans. The Net Pension Liability was measured as of June 30, 2024 for the LASERS Plan and as of December 31, 2023 for the PERS Plan, and the total pension liability used to calculate the Net Pension Liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of those dates. The Judicial Clerk Fund's proportion of the Net Pension Liability was based on a projection of the Fund's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating employers, actuarially determined. At June 30, 2024, the Judicial Clerk's Fund's proportion of the LASERS Plan was 0.00996% for the District Court which was an decrease of 0.00040% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2023. At December 31, 2023, the Judicial Clerk's Funds proportion of the PERS Plan was 0.023446%, which was an increase of 0.001780% from its proportion measured as of December 31, 2022.

For the year ended December 31, 2024, the Judicial Clerk Fund recognized pension expense of \$64,486 plus employer's amortization of change in proportionate share and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions of \$3,486.

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 5 - PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

At December 31, 2024, the Judicial Clerk Fund 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	\$ 10,578	\$ 8,392
Changes of assumptions	3,787	3,892
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	36,000	64,587
Change in proportion and differences between Employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions	142,170	34,382
Employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date	40,288	0
Total	<u>\$ 232,823</u>	<u>\$ 111,253</u>

The Judicial Clerk Fund is reporting \$40,288 as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from their contributions subsequent to the measurement date which is recognized as a reduction of the Net Pension Liability in the year ended December 31, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ended December 31:

2025	\$ 81,497
2026	\$ 25,179
2027	\$ 5,388
2028	\$ (30,782)

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 5 - PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Actuarial Assumptions

LASERS Plan

A summary of the actuarial methods and assumptions used in determining the total pension liability as of June 30, 2024 are as follows:

Valuation Date	June 30, 2024
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal
Actuarial Assumptions:	
Expected Remaining Service Lives	2 years
Investment Rate of Return	7.25% per annum, net of investment expenses
Inflation Rate	2.4% per annum
Mortality	Non-disabled members - The PubG-2010 Healthy Retiree on a fully generational basis by Mortality Improvement Scale MP-2021. Disabled members - Mortality rates based on the RP-2000 Disabled Retiree Mortality Table, with no projection for mortality improvement.
Termination, Disability, and Retirement	Termination, disability, and retirement assumptions were projected based on a five-year (2019-2023) experience study of the System's members.
Salary Increases	Salary increases were projected based on a 2019-2023 experience study of the System's members. The salary increase ranges for specific types of members are:

<u>Member Type</u>	<u>Lower Range</u>	<u>Upper Range</u>
Regular	3.3 %	14.0 %
Judges	2.4 %	4.8 %
Corrections	4.4 %	15.3 %
Hazardous Duty	4.4 %	15.3 %
Wildlife	4.4 %	15.3 %

Cost of Living Adjustments	The present value of future of future retirement benefits is based on benefits currently being paid by LASERS and includes previously granted cost of living increases. The projected benefit payments do not include provisions for potential future increases not yet authorized by the Board of Trustees as they were deemed not to be substantively automatic.
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THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 5 - PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Actuarial Assumptions

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate 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 of 2.4% and an adjustment for the effect of rebalancing/diversification. The resulting long-term nominal rate of return is 8.15% for 2024. Best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class included in the pension plan's target asset allocation as of June 30, 2024 are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation¹	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return¹
Cash	0 %	0.76 %
Domestic equity	34 %	4.29 %
International equity	17 %	5.22 %
Domestic Fixed Income	3 %	2.04 %
International Fixed Income	19 %	5.24 %
Alternative Investments	27 %	8.19 %
Total	100 %	5.61 %

¹ For reference only: Target Allocation presented in LASERS 2024 CAFR, page 54, and Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return, page 30.

PERS Plan

A summary of the actuarial methods and assumptions used in determining the total pension liability as of December 31, 2023 are as follows:

Valuation Date	December 31, 2023
Actuarial Cost Method	Plan A - Entry Age Normal Plan B - Entry Age Normal
Actuarial Assumptions:	
Expected Remaining Service Lives	4 years
Investment Rate of Return	6.40%, net of investment expense, including inflation
Projected Salary Increases	Plan A - 4.75% Plan B - 4.25%
Cost of Living Adjustments	The present value of future retirement benefits is based on benefits currently being paid by the PERS and includes previously granted cost of living increases. The present values do not include provisions for potential future increases not yet authorized by the Board of Trustees.
Mortality	Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for Healthy Retirees multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females using MP2018 scale for annuitant and beneficiary mortality. For employees, the Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for General Employees multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females using MP2018 scale.

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 5 - PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for General Disabled Retirees multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females using MP2018 scale for disabled annuitants.

Inflation Rate

2.30%

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a triangulation method which integrated the capital asset pricing model (top-down), a treasury yield curve approach (bottom-up) and an equity building-block model (bottom-up). Risk return and correlations are projected on a forward looking basis in equilibrium, in which best-estimates 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 rates 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 of 2.4% and an adjustment for the effect of rebalancing/diversification. The resulting expected long-term rate of return is 7.50% for the year ended December 31, 2023. Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the PERS target asset allocation as of December 31, 2023 are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Asset Allocation	Long-Term Expected Portfolio Real Rate of Return
Fixed Income	33 %	1.12 %
Equity	51 %	3.20 %
Alternatives	14 %	0.67 %
Real Assets	2 %	0.11 %
Totals	100 %	5.10 %
Inflation		2.40 %
Expected Arithmetic Nominal Return		7.50 %

The mortality rate assumption used was set based upon an experience study performed on plan data for the period January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2022. The data was assigned credibility weighting and combined with a standard table to produce current levels of mortality. As a result of this study, mortality for employees was set equal to the Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for General Employees multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females, each with full generational projection using MP2021 scale. In addition, mortality for annuitants and beneficiaries was set equal to the Pub-2010 Public Retirement plans Mortality Table for Healthy Retirees multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females, each with full generational projection using MP2021 scale. For disabled annuitants mortality was set to equal to the Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for General Disabled Retirees multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females, each with full generational projection using the MP2021 scale.

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 5 - PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Discount Rate

LASERS Plan

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.25%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current contribution rate and that employer contributions from participating employers will be made at actuarially determined rates approved by PRSAC, taking into consideration the recommendation of the pension plan's actuary. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

PERS Plan

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 6.40% for Plan A and 6.40% for Plan B. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current contribution rates and that contributions from participating employers and non-employer contributing entities will be made at the actuarially determined contribution rates, which are calculated in accordance with relevant statutes and approved by the Board of Trustees and the Public Retirement Systems' Actuarial Committee. Based on those assumptions, the the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

LASERS Plan

The following presents the employer's proportionate share of the net pension liability using the discount rate of 7.25%, as well as what the employer's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage-point lower (6.25%) or one percentage-point higher (8.25%) than the current rate:

	<u>1.0% Decrease (6.25%)</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate (7.25%)</u>	<u>1% Increase (8.25%)</u>
Employer's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 748,075	\$ 541,701	\$ 366,331

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 5 - PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

PERS Plan

The following presents the net pension liability/asset of the participating employer's proportionate share calculated using the discount rate of 6.40%, as well as what the employer's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage-point lower (5.40%) or one percentage-point higher (7.40%) than the current rate:

	<u>1.0% Decrease (5.40%)</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate (6.40%)</u>	<u>1% Increase (7.40%)</u>
Employer's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset)	\$ 159,382	\$ 22,338	\$ (92,698)

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued LASERS 2024 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report at www.lasersonline.org and the PERS 2023 Annual Financial Report at www.persla.org.

Payables to the Pension Plan

As of December 31, 2024, the Judicial Clerk Fund recorded a payable to LASERS of \$8,406 and to PERS of \$8,703 for the required monthly contribution that was made after year end.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - GENERAL FUND
DECEMBER 31, 2024

	Original Budget Amounts	Amended Budget Amounts	Actual Amounts	Variance with Amended Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
REVENUES				
Fees	\$ 251,000	\$ 259,000	\$ 264,697	\$ 5,697
Drug Court Income	50,000	50,000	38,345	(11,655)
Grants and Other Assistance	332,000	382,000	402,953	20,953
Interest Income	125	125	3,360	3,235
Intergovernmental	176,000	188,500	175,874	(12,626)
Miscellaneous	0	0	1,209	1,209
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>809,125</u>	<u>879,625</u>	<u>886,438</u>	<u>6,813</u>
EXPENDITURES				
Capital Outlay	4,800	4,800	1,062	3,738
Contract Services	1,000	1,000	0	1,000
Dues	2,000	2,000	1,788	212
Drug Court Expenses	350,000	393,300	260,756	132,544
Employee Benefits	190,000	190,000	166,287	23,713
Insurance	11,600	11,600	5,517	6,083
Library	14,000	27,500	26,886	614
Licenses and Permits	0	0	933	(933)
Miscellaneous	750	750	615	135
Office Expenses	12,600	17,850	16,244	1,606
Payroll Taxes	7,500	7,500	7,509	(9)
Probation Expenses	10,435	12,735	8,959	3,776
Professional Fees	30,000	30,000	28,785	1,215
Rent	5,500	6,200	6,079	121
Salaries	127,392	127,392	284,575	(157,183)
Telephone	17,000	17,000	17,120	(120)
Trial Expenses	1,000	1,000	430	570
Travel and Seminars	23,500	30,000	22,314	7,686
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>809,077</u>	<u>880,627</u>	<u>855,859</u>	<u>24,768</u>
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	48	(1,002)	30,579	31,581
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING	<u>0</u>	<u>275,764</u>	<u>275,764</u>	<u>0</u>
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	<u>\$ 48</u>	<u>\$ 274,762</u>	<u>\$ 306,343</u>	<u>\$ 31,581</u>

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**THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA**

**BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE-SPECIAL REVENUE FUND
DECEMBER 31, 2024**

CHILDREN'S ASSISTANCE

	<u>Budget Amounts</u>	<u>Actual Amounts</u>	<u>Variance with Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Intergovernmental	210,000	220,400	10,400
Interest Income	<u>46</u>	<u>3,129</u>	<u>3,083</u>
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>210,046</u>	<u>223,529</u>	<u>13,483</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Capital Outlay	1,500	531	969
Contract Services	500	9,255	(8,755)
Dues	750	1,364	(614)
Insurance	3,667	2,594	1,073
Office Expense	46,399	25,484	20,915
Payroll Taxes	0	1,043	(1,043)
Professional Fees	11,000	12,284	(1,284)
Repairs and Maintenance	138	0	138
Rent	18,333	18,000	333
Salaries	123,000	145,026	(22,026)
Telephone	3,000	11,432	(8,432)
Training and Seminars	1,123	175	948
Travel	<u>600</u>	<u>1,463</u>	<u>(863)</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>210,010</u>	<u>228,651</u>	<u>(18,641)</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	36	(5,122)	(5,158)
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING	<u>0</u>	<u>312,289</u>	<u>312,289</u>
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	<u>\$ 36</u>	<u>\$ 307,167</u>	<u>\$ 307,131</u>

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
DECEMBER 31, 2024

**SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE
OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY**

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Employer's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability</u>	<u>Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability/Asset</u>	<u>Employer's Covered Payroll</u>	<u>Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll</u>	<u>Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability</u>
Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System					
2024	0.00996 %	\$ 541,701	\$ 237,480	228.10 %	74.60 %
2023	0.01036 %	693,316	227,180	305.18 %	68.40 %
2022	0.00413 %	312,066	180,497	172.89 %	63.70 %
2021	0.00968 %	532,950	234,738	227.04 %	72.80 %
2020	0.00962 %	795,721	196,592	404.76 %	58.00 %
2019	0.00952 %	689,498	152,376	452.50 %	62.90 %
2018	0.00784 %	534,887	150,291	355.90 %	64.30 %
2017	0.01012 %	712,822	186,414	382.39 %	62.50 %
2016	0.00979 %	768,529	183,014	419.93 %	57.70 %
2015	0.00945 %	642,198	179,214	358.34 %	62.70 %
Parochial Employees' Retirement System					
2024	0.02345 %	\$ 22,338	\$ 165,781	13.47 %	98.03 %
2023	0.02167 %	83,388	169,933	49.07 %	91.74 %
2022	0.02386 %	(112,419)	136,230	(82.52)%	110.46 %
2021	0.02598 %	(45,561)	160,121	(28.45)%	104.00 %
2020	0.02627 %	1,236	173,547	0.71 %	99.89 %
2019	0.01879 %	83,397	166,546	50.07 %	88.86 %
2018	0.01910 %	(14,179)	115,512	(12.27)%	101.98 %
2017	0.01942 %	40,000	117,587	34.02 %	94.15 %
2016	0.02296 %	60,440	115,184	52.47 %	92.23 %
2015	0.01921 %	5,253	131,647	3.99 %	99.15 %

Notes:

The Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of a June 30th measurement date prior to the fiscal year end.

The Parochial Employees' Retirement System amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined December 31st measurement date.

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
DECEMBER 31, 2024

**SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS
TO PENSION PLANS**

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Contractually Required Contribution</u>	<u>Contributions in Relation to Contractually Required Contribution</u>	<u>Contribution Deficiency (Excess)</u>	<u>Employer's Covered Payroll</u>	<u>Contributions as a % of Covered Payroll</u>
Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System					
2024	\$ 89,823	\$ 89,823	\$ 0	\$ 235,910	38.08 %
2023	96,030	96,030	0	235,080	40.85 %
2022	79,745	79,745	0	199,387	40.00 %
2021	80,442	80,442	0	201,888	39.84 %
2020	88,625	88,625	0	219,500	40.38 %
2019	69,895	69,895	0	177,349	39.41 %
2018	57,529	57,529	0	151,791	37.90 %
2017	61,994	61,994	0	168,802	36.73 %
2016	67,165	67,165	0	184,014	36.50 %
2015	67,009	67,009	0	180,614	37.10 %
Parochial Employees' Retirement System					
2014	\$ 19,065	\$ 19,065	\$ 0	\$ 165,781	11.50 %
2023	19,542	19,542	0	169,933	11.50 %
2022	15,666	16,011	(345)	136,230	11.75 %
2021	19,615	19,615	0	160,121	12.25 %
2020	21,260	21,260	0	173,547	12.25 %
2019	19,153	19,153	0	166,546	11.50 %
2018	13,284	13,284	0	115,512	11.50 %
2017	14,698	14,698	0	117,587	12.50 %
2016	14,974	14,974	0	115,184	12.99 %
2015	19,089	19,089	0	131,647	14.50 %

Notes:

The amounts presented were determined as of the end of the fiscal year end.

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR PENSIONS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System

1. Schedule of Employer's Share of Net Pension Liability

This schedule reflects the participation of Third Judicial District Judicial Clerk Fund employees in LASERS and its proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered employee payroll, and the plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability.

2. Schedule of Employer's Contributions

This schedule represents the employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date and recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in future years.

3. Changes in Benefits Terms

Act 646 of 2022 for 2022

Act 37 of 2021 for 2021

Acts 224 and 595 of 2018 for 2019 and 2018

Act 648 of 2014 for 2016

4. Changes in Actuarial Assumptions for Net Pension Liability

The following is a list of changes in actuarial assumptions:

Investment Rate of Return	7.25% per annum for 2024, 2023 and 2022
	7.40% per annum for 2021
	7.55% per annum for 2020
	7.60% per annum for 2019
	7.65% per annum for 2018
	7.70% per annum for 2017,
	7.75% per annum for 2016 and 2015
Inflation Rate	2.40% per annum for 2024
	2.30% per annum for 2023, 2022, 2021 and 2020
	2.50% per annum for 2019
	2.75% per annum for 2018 and 2017
	3.00% per annum for 2016 and 2015
Mortality/Disability	2019-2023 Experience Study for 2024
	2014-2018 Experience Study for 2023, 2022, 2021,
	2020, and 2019
	2009-2013 Experience Study for 2018, 2017, 2016,
	and 2015

Parochial Employees' Retirement System

1. Schedule of Employer's Share of Net Pension Liability

This schedule reflects the participation of Third Judicial District, Judicial Clerk Fund employees in PERS and its proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered employee payroll, and the plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability.

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR PENSIONS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

2. Schedule of Employer's Contributions

This schedule represents the employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date and recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in future years.

3. Changes in Benefits Terms

- 2.5% Cost of Living Adjustment to retirees aged 62 and older for 2023
- 2.5% Cost of Living Adjustment to retirees aged 62 and older for 2021
- 2.5% Cost of Living Adjustment to retirees aged 62 and older for 2018
- 2.5% Cost of Living Adjustment to retirees aged 62 and older for 2015

4. Changes in Actuarial Assumptions for Net Pension Liability

The following is a list of changes in actuarial assumptions:

Investment Rate of Return	6.40% per annum for 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 6.50% per annum for 2019 and 2020 6.75% per annum for 2018 7.00% per annum for 2016 and 2017 7.25% per annum for 2015
Inflation Rate	2.30% per annum for 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 2.40% per annum for 2019 and 2020 2.50% per annum for 2016, 2017 and 2018 3.00% per annum for 2015
Mortality Rate - Employees	Pub-2010 Public Ret Mortality Table for General Employees multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females using MP2021 scale for 2024 Pub-2010 Public Ret Mortality Table for General Employees multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females using MP2018 scale for 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 RP-2000 Employee table set back 4 years for males and 3 years for females for 2016, 2017, and 2018 RP-2000 Employee Mortality table set back 1 year for males and females for 2015
Mortality Rate - Disabled Annuitants	Pub-2010 Public Ret Mortality Table for General Disabled Retirees multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females using MP2021 scale for 2024 Pub-2010 Public Ret Mortality Table for General Disabled Retirees multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females using MP2018 scale for 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 RP-2000 Disabled Lives Mortality Table set back 5 years for male and 3 years for females for 2016, 2017, and 2018 RP-2000 Disabled Lives Mortality table for 2015

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR PENSIONS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

4. Changes in Actuarial Assumptions for Net Pension Liability (continued)

Mortality Rate - Annuitant and Beneficiary	Pub-2010 Public Ret Mortality Table for Healthy Retirees multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females using MP2021 scale for 2024
	Pub-2010 Public Ret Mortality Table for Healthy Retirees multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females using MP2018 scale for 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023
	RP-2000 Healthy Annuitant Sex Distinct Tables projected to 2031 using Scale AA set back 1 year for female for 2016, 2017, and 2018
	RP-2000 Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table set back 1 year for males and females for 2015
Salary Increases	4.75% for 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024
	5.25% for 2016, 2017, and 2018
	5.75% for 2015

OTHER REPORTS AND SCHEDULES

DON M. MCGEHEE
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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**

Third Judicial District Judicial Clerk Fund
100 W. Texas Ave., 3rd Floor
Ruston, Louisiana 71270

I have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Third Judicial District Judicial Clerk Fund, Louisiana, a component unit of the Lincoln Parish Police Jury, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Judicial Clerk Fund's basic financial statements, and have issued my report thereon dated June 30, 2025.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing my audit of the financial statements, I considered the Judicial Clerk Fund's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing my opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Judicial Clerk Fund's internal control. Accordingly, I do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Judicial Clerk Fund'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 a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

My consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph 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. However, as described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs, I identified certain deficiencies in internal control described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as #2024-1 that I consider to be a material weakness.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Judicial Clerk Fund's financial statements are free of material misstatement, I performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of my audit and, accordingly, I do not express such an opinion. The results of my tests disclosed instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as finding #2024-2.

Judicial Clerk Fund's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Judicial Clerk Fund's response to the findings identified in my audit and described in the accompanying schedule of management's corrective action plan. The Judicial Clerk Fund's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, I express no opinion on the response.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of my testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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 entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Don M. McGehee
Certified Public Accountant
June 30, 2025

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

I have audited the financial statements of the Judicial Clerk Fund as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and have issued my report thereon dated June 30, 2025. I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. My audit of the financial statements as of December 31, 2024 resulted in an unqualified opinion. The following is a summary of my audit observations on internal control, tests of compliance, and findings related to the financial statements that are required to be reported in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*:

Section 1 Summary of Auditor's Reports

Report on Internal Control and Compliance Material to the Financial Statements

Internal Control

Material Weaknesses ☒ Yes ☐ No Significant Deficiency ☐ Yes ☒ No

Compliance

Compliance Material to Financial Statements ☒ Yes ☐ No

Section 2 Financial Statement Findings

Finding 2024-1. Separation of Duties. The Judicial Clerk Fund's Office has too few personnel involved in the accounting system to have adequate separation of duties for internal control.

Finding 2024-2. Unfavorable Budget Variance. The Judicial Clerk Fund's special revenue fund for children's assistance had an unfavorable budget variance of 8% for expenditures. According to state law, the budget should be amended when actual expenditures appear to be more than the amounts budgeted by more than 5%.

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

Section 1 Internal Control and Compliance Material to the Financial Statement

Finding #2023-1. Segregation of Duties. Too few personnel involved in the accounting system to have adequate segregation of duties for internal control.

Status: Unresolved. See Finding #2024-1.

Finding 2023-2. Budgeted Expenditures in Excess of Estimated Funds Available. The proposed original budget and the amended budget for the general fund and the amended budget for the special revenue fund for the year ended December 31, 2023, included proposed expenditures in excess of the total estimated funds available.

Status: Resolved.

Finding 2023-3. Unfavorable Budget Variance. The special revenue fund budget was not amended for the year ended December 31, 2023, to reflect an increase in actual expenditures of more than 5% of the amount originally budgeted.

Status: Unresolved. See Finding #2024-2.

Finding 2023-4. Late Submission of Report. The Judicial Clerk Fund's financial statements were not submitted to Louisiana Legislative Auditor within six months of year end.

Status: Resolved.

**THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA
MANAGEMENT'S CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024**

Section 1 Internal Control and Compliance Material to the Financial Statement

Finding #2024-1. Segregation of Duties. The Judicial Clerk's Fund is required to design internal controls with proper segregation of duties to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements in the accounting system. The Judicial Clerk's Fund has inadequate segregation of duties because there are too few personnel involved in the accounting system. The financial statements could have a misstatement that would not be prevented, or detected and corrected. Recommend that the Judicial Clerk Fund involve more personnel in the accounting system to allow for adequate segregation of duties.

Management's Response: *The Judicial Clerk's Fund is in the process of implementing changes to its internal controls to improve segregation of duties.*

Finding 2024-2. Unfavorable Budget Variance. The Judicial Clerk Fund's special revenue fund for children's assistance had an unfavorable budget variance of 8% for expenditures. According to state law, the budget should be amended when actual expenditures appear to be more than the amounts budgeted by more than 5%. It appears that about \$18,000 of additional budget amendments were needed for amounts projected incorrectly. I recommend budget variances be monitored and the budget amended when expenditures exceed budgeted amounts by more than 5%.

Management's Response: *The Judicial Clerk Fund's Office will monitor the 2025 actual and budget amounts more closely and recommend amendments when the actual expenditures appear to be more than budgeted expenditures by more than 5%.*

**THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CLERK FUND
PARISHES OF LINCOLN AND UNION, LOUISIANA**

**SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND
OTHER PAYMENTS TO THE JUDGES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024**

District Judge of the Third Judicial District, Bruce Hampton:

	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Cell Phone		\$ 772
Dues		250

District Judge of the Third Judicial District, Thomas Rogers:

	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Cell Phone		\$ 648
Lease of Vehicle		5,859
Apple Watch		83
I-Pad		480
Dues		250

District Judge of the Third Judicial District, Monique Clement:

	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Cell Phone		\$ 648
Dues		250
Reimbursements		353

3rd Judicial District Court Judicial Expense Fund
Justice System Funding Schedule - Receiving Schedule
Cash Basis Presentation
As Required by La. R.S. 24:515.2

		Amount for 01/01/2024 - 06/30/2024	Amount for 07/01/2024 - 12/31/2024
1. Ending Balance of Amounts Assessed but Not Received:			-
2. Details of Receipts from Collecting/Disbursing Agency			
Agency Remitting Money	Remittance Type	Amount for 01/01/2024 - 06/30/2024	Amount for 07/01/2024 - 12/31/2024
Lincoln Parish Sheriff	b. Bond Fees	30,595	26,933
Lincoln Parish Sheriff	f. Criminal Court Costs/Fees	39,825	34,122
Lincoln Parish Sheriff	n. Other	9,900	9,900
Union Parish Sheriff	b. Bond Fees	18,128	11,152
Union Parish Sheriff	f. Criminal Court Costs/Fees	7,536	9,822
Lincoln Parish Clerk of Court	a. Civil Fees	6,424	6,814
Union Parish Clerk of Court	a. Civil Fees	5,138	4,523

3rd Judicial District Court Judicial Expense Fund
Justice System Funding Schedule - Collecting/Disbursing Schedule
Cash Basis Presentation
As Required by La. R.S. 24:515.2

	Amount for 01/01/2024 - 06/30/2024	Amount for 07/01/2024 - 12/31/2024
1. Beginning Cash Balance	-	-
2. Collections		
a. Civil Fees	-	-
b. Bond Fees	-	-
c. Cash Bonds	-	-
d. Asset Forfeiture/Sale	-	-
e. Pre-Trial Diversion Program Fees	-	-
f. Criminal Court Costs/Fees	-	-
g. Criminal Fines – Contempt	-	-
h. Criminal Fines – Other/Non-Contempt	-	-
i. Restitution	-	-
j. Probation/Parole/Supervision Fees	19,491	21,725
k. Service Fees	-	-
l. Collection Fees	482	164
m. Interest Earnings on Collected Balances	-	-
n. Other	23,608	14,787
Total Collected	43,581	36,676
3. Deductions: Collections Retained by the 3rd Judicial District Court Judicial Expense Fund		
I. Collection Fee for Collecting/Disbursing to Others Based on Percentage of Collection	-	-
II. Collection Fee for Collecting/Disbursing to Others Based on Fixed Amount	-	-
III. Other Amounts "Self-Disbursed" [Enter amounts on appropriate collection type lines]		
a. Civil Fees	-	-
b. Bond Fees	-	-
c. Cash Bonds	-	-
d. Asset Forfeiture/Sale	-	-
e. Pre-Trial Diversion Program Fees	-	-
f. Criminal Court Costs/Fees	-	-
g. Criminal Fines – Contempt	-	-
h. Criminal Fines – Other/Non-Contempt	-	-
i. Restitution	-	-
j. Probation/Parole/Supervision Fees	19,491	21,725
k. Service Fees	-	-
l. Collection Fees [excluding amounts reported in bullets I and II above]	-	-
m. Interest Earnings on Collected Balances	-	-
n. Other	23,608	14,787
Total Collections Retained by the 3rd Judicial District Court Judicial Expense Fund	43,099	36,512
4. Deductions: Amounts Disbursed to Individuals and Entities, Excluding Governments and Nonprofits		
a. Collection/Processing Fees Paid to Third Party Entities	482	164
b. Civil Fee Refunds	-	-
c. Bond Refunds	-	-
d. Restitution Disbursements to Individuals and Entities, Excluding Governments or a Nonprofit	-	-
e. Other Disbursements to Individuals and Entities, Excluding Governments or a Nonprofit	-	-
Total Amounts Disbursed to Individuals and Entities, Excluding Governments and Nonprofits	482	164
5. Deductions: Total Disbursements to Other Governments & Nonprofits	-	-
6. Total Amounts Disbursed/Retained	43,581	36,676
7. Ending Cash Balance	-	-
8. Ending Balance of "Partial Payments" Collected but not Disbursed	-	-
9. Other Information:		
I. Ending Balance of Amounts Assessed but Not Yet Collected [i.e. total ending receivable balances]	-	-
II. Total Waivers During the Fiscal Period [i.e. non-cash reduction of receivable balances, such as time served or community service]	-	-

**THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
JUDICIAL CLERK FUND**

STATEWIDE AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

DECEMBER 31, 2024

DON M. MCGEHEE
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Ruston, Louisiana 71273-1344

**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON
APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES**

Third Judicial District Judicial Clerk Fund
and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor:

I have performed the procedures enumerated below on the control and compliance (C/C) areas identified in the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's (LLA's) Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs) for the fiscal period January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024. The Judicial Clerk Fund's management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

The Judicial Clerk Fund has agreed and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of the engagement, which is to perform specified procedures on the C/C areas identified in LLA's SAUPs for the fiscal period January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024. Additionally, LLA has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate for its purposes. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

The procedures and associated findings are as follows:

1) Written Policies and Procedures

A. Obtain and inspect the entity's written policies and procedures and observe that they address each of the following categories and subcategories if applicable to public funds and the entity's operations:

- i. **Budgeting**, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget.

Management provided us with the written policy and procedures and all functions are addressed.

- ii. **Purchasing**, including (1) how purchases are initiated, (2) how vendors are added to the vendor list, (3) the preparation and approval process of purchase requisitions and purchase orders, (4) controls to ensure compliance with the Public Bid Law, and (5) documentation required to be maintained for all bids and price quotes.

Management provided us with the written policy and procedures and all functions are addressed.

- iii. **Disbursements**, including processing, reviewing, and approving.

Management provided us with the written policy and procedures and all functions are addressed.

- iv. **Receipts/Collections**, including receiving, recording, and preparing deposits. Also, policies and procedures should include management's actions to determine the completeness of all collections for each type of revenue or agency fund additions (e.g., periodic confirmation with outside parties, reconciliation to utility billing after cutoff procedures, reconciliation of traffic ticket number sequences, agency fund forfeiture monies confirmation).

Management provided us with the written policy and procedures and all functions are addressed.

- v. **Payroll/Personnel**, including (1) payroll processing, (2) reviewing and approving time and attendance records, including leave and overtime worked, and (3) approval process for employee(s) rate of pay or approval and maintenance of pay rate schedules.

Management provided us with the written policy and procedures and all functions are addressed.

- vi. **Contracting**, including (1) types of services requiring written contracts, (2) standard terms and conditions, (3) legal review, (4) approval process, and (5) monitoring process.

Management provided us with the written policy and procedures and all functions are addressed, except there are no standard terms and conditions for contracts.

- vii. **Travel and Expense Reimbursement**, including (1) allowable expenses, (2) dollar thresholds by category of expense, (3) documentation requirements, and (4) required approvers.

Management provided us with the written policy and procedures and all functions are addressed.

- viii. **Credit Cards (and debit cards, fuel cards, purchase cards, if applicable)**, including (1) how cards are to be controlled, (2) allowable business uses, (3) documentation requirements, (4) required approvers of statements, and (5) monitoring card usage (e.g., determining the reasonableness of fuel card purchases).

Management provided us with the written policy and procedures and all functions are addressed.

- ix. **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) a requirement that documentation is maintained to demonstrate that all employees and officials were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy.

Management provided us with the written policy and procedures and all functions are addressed.

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

Management provided us with the written policy and procedures and all functions are addressed.

- xi. **Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity**, including (1) identification of critical data and frequency of data backups, (2) storage of backups in a separate physical location isolated from the network, (3) periodic testing/verification that backups can be restored, (4) use of antivirus software on all systems, (5) timely application of all available system and software patches/updates, and (6) identification of personnel, processes, and tools needed to recover operations after a critical event.

Management provided us with the written policy and procedures and all functions are addressed.

- xii. **Prevention of Sexual Harassment**, including R.S. 42:342-344 requirements for (1) agency responsibilities and prohibitions, (2) annual employee training, and (3) annual reporting.

Management provided us with the written policy and procedures and all functions are addressed.

2) Board (or Finance Committee, if applicable)

- A. Obtain and inspect the board/finance committee minutes for the fiscal period, as well as the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or equivalent document in effect during the fiscal period, and:

- i. Observe that the board/finance committee met with a quorum at least monthly, or on a frequency in accordance with the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or other equivalent document.

Not applicable.

- ii. For those entities reporting on the governmental accounting model, observe whether the minutes referenced or included monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the general fund, quarterly budget-to-actual comparisons, at a minimum, on all proprietary funds, and semi-annual budget-to-actual comparisons, at a minimum, on all special revenue funds.

Not applicable.

- iii. For governmental entities, obtain the prior year audit report and observe the unassigned fund balance in the general fund. If the general fund had a negative ending unassigned fund balance in the prior year audit report, observe that the minutes for at least one meeting during the fiscal period referenced or included a formal plan to eliminate the negative unassigned fund balance in the general fund.

Not applicable.

- iv. Observe whether the board/finance committee received written updates of the progress of resolving audit finding(s), according to management's corrective action plan at each meeting until the findings are considered fully resolved.

Not applicable.

3) Bank Reconciliations

- A. Obtain a listing of entity bank accounts for the fiscal period from management and management's representation that the listing is complete. Ask management to identify the entity's main operating account. Select the entity's main operating account and randomly select 4 additional accounts (or all accounts if less than 5). Randomly select one month from the fiscal period, obtain and inspect the corresponding bank statement and reconciliation for each selected account, and observe that:

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

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- ii. Bank reconciliations include written evidence that a member of management or a board member who does not handle cash, post ledgers, or issue checks has reviewed each bank reconciliation within 1 month of the date the reconciliation was prepared (e.g., initialed and dated, electronically logged); and

Management did not have written evidence of review for two bank reconciliations.

Management's Response: The Judges or other management do review the statements, but will make sure the statements have written evidence of review.

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

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

4) Collections (excluding electronic funds transfers)

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

Management provided us with the required list and representation that it is complete.

- B. For each deposit site selected, obtain a listing of collection locations and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one collection location for each deposit site (e.g., 5 collection locations for 5 deposit sites), obtain and inspect written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if there are 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:

- i. Employees responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers/registers;

The Judicial Clerk Fund's office does not accept cash and does not have a cash register or cash drawer.

- ii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for preparing/making bank deposits, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling collection documentation (e.g., pre-numbered receipts) to the deposit;

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- iii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for posting collection entries to the general ledger or subsidiary ledgers, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling ledger postings to each other and to the deposit; and

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

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

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

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

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- D. Randomly select two deposit dates for each of the 5 bank accounts selected for Bank Reconciliations procedure #3A (select the next deposit date chronologically if no deposits were made on the dates randomly selected and randomly select a deposit if multiple deposits are made on the same day). Obtain supporting documentation for each of the 10 deposits and:

- i. Observe that receipts are sequentially pre-numbered.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- ii. Trace sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- iii. Trace the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- iv. Observe that the deposit was made within one business day of receipt at the collection location (within one week if the depository is more than 10 miles from the collection location or the deposit is less than \$100 and the cash is stored securely in a locked safe or drawer).

There were four deposits that were not deposited within one business day.

Management's Response: The Judicial Clerk Fund's probation department only has one employee. Amounts received are stored securely and deposits are made about twice a month. The other two deposits that were not made within one business day were not representative of what is usually done for those receipts. The Judicial Clerk Fund's Office is still working toward making daily deposits for the probation department, but it is not always practical.

- v. Trace the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

5) Non-Payroll Disbursements (excluding card purchases, travel reimbursements, and petty cash purchases)

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

Management provided us with the required list and representation that it is complete.

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

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

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

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

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- iii. The employee responsible for processing payments is prohibited from adding/modifying vendor files, unless another employee is responsible for periodically reviewing changes to vendor files;

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- iv. Either the employee/official responsible for signing checks mails the payment or gives the signed checks to an employee to mail who is not responsible for processing payments; and

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- v. Only employees/officials authorized to sign checks approve the electronic disbursement (release) of funds, whether through automated clearinghouse (ACH), electronic funds transfer (EFT), wire transfer, or some other electronic means.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- C. For each location selected under procedure #5A above, obtain the entity's non-payroll disbursement transactions population (excluding cards and travel reimbursements) and obtain management's representation that the population is complete. Randomly select 5 disbursements for each location, obtain supporting documentation for each transaction and:

- i. Observe whether the disbursement, whether by paper or electronic means, matched the related original itemized invoice and supporting documentation indicates that deliverables included on the invoice were received by the entity, and

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- ii. Observe whether the disbursement documentation included evidence (e.g., initial/date, electronic logging) of segregation of duties tested under procedure #5B above, as applicable.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

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

There was one non-payroll related electronic disbursement of \$200 for the monthly Intuit bill that had no documentation that it had been approved by anyone.

Management's Response: The Judicial Clerk Fund's Office's accountant set-up their monthly payment to Intuit to be drafted from the bank account, but they did not provide any documentation. The clerk will work on obtaining documentation for this monthly fee.

6) Credit Cards/Debit Cards/Fuel Cards/Purchase Cards (Cards)

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

Not applicable, the Judicial Clerk's Fund does not have any credit cards.

- B. Using the listing prepared by management, randomly select 5 cards (or all cards if less than 5) that were used during the fiscal period. Randomly select one monthly statement or combined statement for each card (for a debit card, randomly select one monthly bank statement), obtain supporting documentation, and:

- i. Observe whether there is evidence that the monthly statement or combined statement and supporting documentation (e.g., original receipts for credit/debit card purchases, exception reports for excessive fuel card usage) were reviewed and approved, in writing (or electronically approved) by someone other than the authorized card holder (those instances requiring such approval that may constrain the legal authority of certain public officials, such as the mayor of a Lawrason Act municipality, should not be reported); and

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

- C. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under procedure #6B 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 (e.g., each card should have 10 transactions subject to inspection). For each transaction, observe that it is supported by (1) an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased, (2) written documentation of the business/public purpose, and (3) documentation of the individuals participating in meals (for meal charges only). For missing receipts, the practitioner should describe the nature of the transaction and observe whether management had a compensating control to address missing receipts, such as "missing receipt statement" that is subject to increased scrutiny.

Not applicable.

7) Travel and Travel-Related Expense Reimbursements (excluding card transactions)

- A. Obtain from management a listing of all travel and travel-related expense reimbursements during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing or general ledger is complete. Randomly select 5 reimbursements, 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:

- i. If reimbursed using a per diem, observe that the approved reimbursement rate is no more than those rates established either by the State of Louisiana or the U.S. General Services Administration (www.gsa.gov);

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

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

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- iii. Observe that each reimbursement is supported by documentation of the business/public purpose (for meal charges, observe that the documentation includes the names of those individuals participating) and other documentation required by Written Policies and Procedures procedure #1A(vii); and

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

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

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

8) Contracts

A. Obtain from management a listing of all agreements/contracts for professional services, materials and supplies, leases, and construction activities that were initiated or renewed during the fiscal period. *Alternatively, 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:

- i. Observe whether the contract was bid in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law (e.g., solicited quotes or bids, advertised), if required by law;

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- ii. Observe whether the contract was approved by the governing body/board, if required by policy or law (e.g., Lawrason Act, Home Rule Charter);

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- iii. If the contract was amended (e.g., change order), observe that the original contract terms provided for such an amendment and that amendments were made in compliance with the contract terms (e.g., if approval is required for any amendment, the documented approval); and

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- iv. Randomly select one payment from the fiscal period for each of the 5 contracts, obtain the supporting invoice, agree the invoice to the contract terms, and observe that the invoice and related payment agreed to the terms and conditions of the contract.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

9) Payroll and Personnel

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

Management provided us with the required list and representation that it is complete.

B. Randomly select one pay period during the fiscal period. For the 5 employees or officials selected under procedure #9A above, obtain attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and:

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

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- ii. Observe whether supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employee or officials;

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

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

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- iv. Observe that the rate paid to the employees or officials agree to the authorized salary/pay rate found within the personnel file.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- C. 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 or officials, obtain related documentation of the hours and pay rates used in management's termination payment calculations and the entity policy on termination payments. Agree the hours to the employee or officials' cumulative leave records, and agree the pay rates to the employee or officials' authorized pay rates in the employee or officials' personnel files, and agree the termination payment to entity policy.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

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

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

10) Ethics

- A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A, obtain ethics documentation from management, and
 - i. Observe whether the documentation demonstrates that each employee/official completed one hour of ethics training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:1170; and

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- ii. Observe whether the entity maintains documentation which demonstrates that each employee and official were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy during the fiscal period, as applicable.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

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

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

11) Debt Service

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

12) Fraud Notice

- A. Obtain a listing of misappropriations of public funds and assets during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Select all misappropriations on the listing, obtain supporting documentation, and observe that the entity reported the misappropriation(s) to the legislative auditor and the district attorney of the parish in which the entity is domiciled as required by R.S. 24:523.

Not applicable.

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

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

13) Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity

- A. Perform the following procedures, verbally discuss the results with management, and report "We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management."
- i. Obtain and inspect the entity's most recent documentation that it has backed up its critical data (if no written documentation, inquire of personnel responsible for backing up critical data) and observe evidence that such backup (a) occurred within the past week, (b) was not stored on the government's local server or network, and (c) was encrypted.

We performed the procedures and discussed the results with management.
 - ii. Obtain and inspect the entity's most recent documentation that it has tested/verified that its backups can be restored (if there is no written documentation, then inquire of personnel responsible for testing/verifying backup restoration) and observe evidence that the test/verification was successfully performed within the past 3 months.

We performed the procedures and discussed the results with management.
 - iii. Obtain a listing of the entity's computers currently in use, and their related locations, and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 computers and observe while management demonstrates that the selected computers have current and active antivirus software and that the operating system and accounting system software in use are currently supported by the vendor.

We performed the procedures and discussed the results with management.

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

We performed the procedures and discussed the results with management.

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

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

None of the employees selected were required to complete the cybersecurity training.

14) Prevention of Sexual Harassment

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

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

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

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

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

- i. Number and percentage of public servants in the agency who have completed the training requirements;

Management provided the report and the requirements were met.

- ii. Number of sexual harassment complaints received by the agency;

Management provided the report and the requirements were met.

- iii. Number of complaints which resulted in a finding that sexual harassment occurred;

Management provided the report and the requirements were met.

- iv. Number of complaints in which the finding of sexual harassment resulted in discipline or corrective action; and

Management provided the report and the requirements were met.

- v. Amount of time it took to resolve each complaint.

Management provided the report and the requirements were met.

I was engaged by The Judicial Clerk Fund to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted my engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and applicable standards of *Government Auditing Standards*. I was not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs. Accordingly, I do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had I performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to my attention that would have been reported to you.

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

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



Don M. McGehee
Certified Public Accountant
June 30, 2025