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> Vernon Parish School Board Léesville, Louisiana

Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures For the Period July 1, 1997 to July 20, 1999

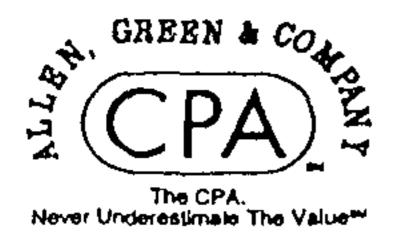
Under provisions of state law, this report is a public document. A copy of the report has been submitted to the audited, or reviewed, entity and other appropriate public officials. The report is available for public inspection at the Baton Rouge office of the Legislative Auditor and, where appropriate, at the office of the parish clerk of court.

Release Date DEC 5 1999

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ALLEN, GREEN & COMPANY, LLP

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS P. O. Box 6075 Monroe, LA 71211-6075



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(A Professional Accounting Corp.)

Ernest L. Allen, CPA

Tim Green, CPA

Margie Williamson, CPA

Independent Accountants' Report On Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

Board Members Vernon Parish School Board Leesville, Louisiana

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by Vernon Parish School Board, solely to assist the Vernon Parish School Board in evaluating management's assertion regarding the misappropriation of funds collected by the Vernon Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission. These agreed-upon procedures were performed in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of the Vernon Parish School Board. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures beginning below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

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Procedures	Findings

Deposits

For the period April 1, 1999 through July 20, 1999

Compare check amount per deposit list (received from the bank) to the total amount reflected on the individual sales tax returns (filed in batches at the Sales Tax Office).

See Attachment A for a list of sales tax reports for which there appears to be no deposits.

See Attachment B for a list of deposits into the checking account for which there are no corresponding sales tax returns.

For the period July 1, 1996 through March 31, 1999

Compare check amount per deposit list (received from the bank) to the total amount reflected on the individual sales tax returns (filed in batches at the Sales Tax Office) for deposits which included cash.

See Attachment A for a list of sales tax reports for which there appears to be no deposits.

See Attachment B for a list of deposits into the checking account for which there are no corresponding sales tax returns.

VERNON PARISH SALES TAX

Agreed Upon Procedures For the Period July 1, 1997 To July 20, 1999 (Unless Noted Otherwise)

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Procedures	Findings
Procedures	rindings
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Installment Agreements

Inquire of the Sales Tax Office personnel the procedures on handling payment collections on installment agreements established by the Sales Tax Office and note any weaknesses in internal controls.

Locate all installment agreements established by the Sales Tax Office.

Make copies of all the ledgers included in with the installment agreement papers which reflect payments made and the date of the payments. Thereafter, trace installment payment collections to posting in the posting journals of the Sales Tax Agency.

The sales tax manager was responsible for setting up agreements, collections on the agreements and posting collections to the handwritten ledger sheets.

Unable to ascertain that we located all installment agreements established by the sales tax office.

Sales tax forms with no corresponding check or cash receipt, as noted below, were added to Attachment A.

The following two exceptions were noted in tracing from the handwritten ledgers to posting in the posting journal:

- (1) Rosepine Jiffy Mart payment of \$200.00 on 6/8/97 could not be traced to posting.
- (2) A payment of \$1,302.86 was posted in the posting journal to Clearview Glass but was recorded on the handwritten payment log as \$651.43.

NSF Checks

Review procedures for handling NSF check payments from vendors and obtain the general ledger history for the NSF account posted on the Vernon Parish School Board's general fund.

Attempt to trace items from the list to subsequent collection and deposit into the bank account.

Discrepancies were found on the deposits that included NSF checks and regular sales tax deposits that included both cash and checks. These discrepancies were noted in reconciliations of cash batches. See Attachment A.

VERNON PARISH SALES TAX

Agreed Upon Procedures For the Period July 1, 1997 To July 20, 1999 (Unless Noted Otherwise)

ı		
	Procedures	Findings

Cash Receipt Books

Request all cash receipts books.

Compare cash receipts to sales tax return in deposit batches.

This procedure could not be performed for one June 1997 deposit because the bank's microfiche was unreadable.

Trace cash receipts to depositing into the bank account.

Discrepancies have been noted on Attachment A.

Envelope Found in Sales Tax Manager's Office

Verify that sales tax reports, letters and copies of check stubs found in an envelope in the sales tax manager's office were recorded in books of Sales Tax Office for the fiscal years 1998-1999 and 1997-1998.

None of the item the books.

None of the items found in the envelope were recorded on the books.

Trace amounts per the above-mentioned reports to actual deposits.

The following three items could not be traced to a deposit:

Payment for \$1,379.00 from Associated Rentals in September 1996;

Payment for \$993.06 from Casper Equipment Rentals in December 1997; and

A cash receipt for \$27.65 from Ellis Canady Fireworks.

VERNON PARISH SALES TAX

Agreed Upon Procedures For the Period July 1, 1997 To July 20, 1999 (Unless Noted Otherwise)

Procedures

Mayor's Concern Regarding Clearview Glass

Mayor S Concern Rega	arding Clear view Grass
The Mayor of the Town of Leesville expressed concern that the sales tax department did not prudently handle the collection of Clearview Glass, who has since filed bankruptcy. Review the file for Clearview Glass and perform the following:	
Were the proper number of delinquency notices sent?	From the files provided, the proper number of delinquency notices were not sent.
Were delinquency notices sent timely?	From the file provided, the delinquency notices were not sent timely.
Were there other collections efforts made?	From the file provided, no other collection efforts were made.
Were the services of the District Attorney ever requested concerning the account?	From the file provided, the services of the District Attorney were not requested.
The Sales Tax Office practice for requesting the District Attorney's assistance is in the 7th month of an account's delinquency. Did the Sales Tax Office follow this practice regarding Clearview Glass?	Yes, from the file provided, there was no period of inactivity exceeding six months. The District Attorney's assistance was not required.
Were there any payments on the account during recent times?	Yes, the last payment was in May 1999.
Attempt to establish when the account became delinquent for: Filing returns Paying on accounts	Reviewed records from November 1995 to May 1999. The account was not current during this time. Payments were being made.
Does the file reflect any indication of preferential treatment for Clearview Glass?	The collection practices for Clearview Glass did not appear to be an exception to collection practices applied to delinquent payments for other vendors.

Board Members Vernon Parish School Board Leesville, Louisiana

We were not engaged to, and did not, perform an examination, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion on management's assertion. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the use of management and the Board of Vernon Parish School Board and should not be used by those who have not agreed to the procedures and taken responsibility for the sufficiency of the procedures for their purposes. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

ALLEN, GREEN & COMPANY, LLP

allen, Lien + Company LLA

Monroe, Louisiana October 7, 1999

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									NSF Redeposited-No check in batch									NSF Redeposited-No check in batch								NSF Redeposited-No check in batch		
AMOUNT	76.56		200.00	354.46	625.00	80.00	200.00	10.52	200.00	375.00	150.00	233.74	\circ	354.46	\circ	2.00	233.74	3,216.06	375.00	125.00	00.009	125.00	200.00	00.009	875.00	3,000.00	0.10	300.00
VENDOR	Sensational Creations	Whispers	Tooties	Road Runner	J & M Upholstery	Deacon's Garage	Burn's Auto Repair	The Bicycle Shop	Full Speed Computers	J & M Upholstery	Burns Auto Repair	Bassett Auto Repair	Tooties	Road Runner Paint & Body	Stateline Automotive	New to You Mall	ē	JNR Enterprises	~	J & M Upholstery	Tooties	Pat's Kitchen	Burn's Auto Repair	Tooties	J & M Upholstery	JNR Enterprises	Details R Us	SKAT, Inc.
BATCH#	10	*	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	22	22	22	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
DATE	2/99	2/99	66/9	66/9	66/9	66/9	66/9	66/9	66/9	2/99	2/99	2/99	2/99	2/99	2/99	2/99	2/68	2/99	4/99	4/99	4/99	3/99	3/99	3/99	3/99	3/99	2/99	5/88

DATE BAT	BATCH #	VENDOR	AMOUNT	
	16	TMF, Inc. (Oct.)	28.57	
-	16	_	19.41	
•	16	_	_	
-	16		57.73	
•	16	Tooties	00'009	
_	16	SKAT, Inc.	300.00	
-	16	Jim's Crafts & Woodworks	610.25	
T	16	LLJ	3,296.29	NSF Redeposited-No check in batch
- 4	2	Pat's Unique Interiors	65.03	
. 4		Pat's Unique Interiors	19.34	
- 4		Full Speed Computers	684.03	SF Redeposited-No check
- 4	2	Full Speed Computers	800.00	NSF Redeposited-No check in batch
~ 4		Access Computers	348.24	SF Redeposited-No check
~ V	2	Digital	169.23	NSF Redeposited-No check in batch
C)	54	Simple Auto Repair	147.92	
Ø	24	Tooties	1,000.00	
Ø	24	Jeff's Woodworks	25.17	
•	4	China Kitchen	46.03	
4	4	Chris Larkin	1.00	
٦	4	Fotenot's Woodstuff	19.00	
٦	4	Tooties	1,100.00	
•	4	Tooties	1,100.00	
•	4	SKAT, Inc.	00.009	
W	24	Paul Darnell	205.15	
Ø	21	Ē	3,062.04	
Ø	21	Plastic Metal - More	317.07	
N	21	Lee's Beauty Fair	180.07	NSF Redeposited-No check in batch
•	16	Tooties	1,100.00	

				NSF Redeposited-No check in batch				NSF Redeposited-No check in batch															Щ	NSF Redeposited-No check in batch				
AMOUNT	2,396.31	674.71	29.07	63.4	150.00	တ	750.00	291.67	S	675.00	720.00	2.19	150.00	99.09	20.0	720.00	198.20	42.22	140.00	88.22	17.22	750.00	ထ	229.01	4	720.00	22.7	10.00
* VENDOR	Best Lighting	Tooties	Terrific Walls	Lee's Beauty Fair	Burn's Auto Repair	Power Systems Plus	Tooties	Texas Ranch	Simple Automotive Repair	Full Speed	Tooties	VFW Landing Park (return modified)	Burns Auto Repair	Consolidated Marketing, Inc.	Tooties	Tooties	Perkins Marine	Perkins Marine	Simple Automotive Repair	The Potter's House	The Steppin Stone	Tooties	Rockin Robin	Leesville Jewelers	Simple Automotive Repair	Tooties	Linda's Gifts & More	Pitkin Conoco (return changed)
BATCH#	18	18	18	18	Ψ-	-	Ψ-	•	•	16	16	16	17	17	17	21	21	21	21	21	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
DATE	86/8	86/8	86/8	86/8	86/8	86/8	86/8	86/8	86/8	86/9	86/9	86/9	2/98	2/98	2/98	4/98	4/98	4/98	4/98	4/98	3/98	3/98	3/98	3/98	2/98	2/98	2/98	2/98

	NSF Redeposited-No check in batch						LL.	NSF Redeposited-No check in batch			NSF Redeposited-No check in batch				F Redeposited-No check	check in	F Redeposited-No check in	F Redeposited-No check in	NSF Redeposited-No check in batch						NSF Redeposited-No check in batch			NSF Redeposited-No check in batch
AMOUNT	2,592.39	246.01	720.00	200.00	720.00	719.47	311.47	356.55	₹∱	270.58	3,061.62	200.007	46.22	0.54	53.37	381.78	3,237.08	284.44	39.00	7.47	•	92.00	200.48	274.62	308.36	91.98	645.00	467.60
VENDOR	JNR Enterprises	AA Studio, Inc.	Tooties	Stateline Auto	Tooties	Tooties	G Q Fashions	Anthony's Grill	Tooties	Reeks Oil Tools	JNR Enterprises	Tooties	Acadiana Audio Visual	Southern Structures, Inc.	_		JNR Enterprises	Premier Video	Premier Video	Kar Salon	Kar Salon	Kar Salon	Tooties	Amerigas Propane	Premier Video	Kar Salon	Tooties	Premiere Video
BATCH#	16	23	. 53	23	. 53	13		13		22	22	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	24	24	24	24	24	24	-	#	11
DATE	2/98	1/98	1/98	1/98	1/98	11/97	11/97	11/97	10/97	10/97	10/97	26/6	26/6	26/6	26/6	6/6	26/6	26/6	26/6	26/2	26/2	26/2	7/97	7/97	2/6/	2/6/	2/87	26/9

	NSF Redeposited-No check in batch						SF Redeposited-No check in	SF																				
AMOUNT	249.44	518.56	7.44	550.00	643.50	2,688.70	247.94	3.20	406.55	90'26	09.86	125.38	118.13	154.09	5.83	9.48	162.51	163.38	197.94	00.96	125.45	0.03	57.63	37.64	116.27	2.9	35.17	389.32
VENDOR	Simple Auto	Rent It Company, Inc.	Wise Care	Tooties	Tooties	JNR	Harris	Southern Village	Deacon's Garage	Deacon's Garage	Deacon's Garage	S	_0	The Alley Cat	Evan's Catering Cafe	Evan's Catering Cafe	Johnsonville Store	Johnsonville Store	Johnsonville Store	Leesville Jewelers	Horn's Gift Shoppe & Furniture	Horn's Gift Shoppe & Furniture	ళ		<u>~</u>			Horn's Gift Shoppe & Furniture
BATCH#	11	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	14	14	4	4	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
DATE	2/6/9	4/97	4/97	4/97	4/97	4/97	4/97	4/97	3/97	3/97	3/97	3/97	3/97	3/97	3/97	3/97	3/97	3/97	3/97	3/97	2/97	2/97	2/97	2/97	2/97	2/97	2/97	2/97

			NSF Redeposited-No check in batch	NSF Redeposited-No check in batch		S	F Redeposited-No check	RS	SF Redeposited-No check	R											NSF Redeposited-No check in batch							
AMOUNT	93.30	643.50	352.24	149.80	643.50	681.04	$\dot{\infty}$	^	28.	က	0.5	62.79	7.4	192.75	99.32	643.50	40.	8	1,041.10	643.50	205.08	200.00	95.22	200.04	200.00	844.30		400.00
VENDOR	National Sales & Equipment	Tooties	Premier Video	Toontown	Tooties	Rockin Robins	Tune Town	Lee's Beauty Fair	Lee's Beauty Fair		Malcolm L. Murray - Murray's		نــ	Malcolm L. Murray - Murray's	Pearl's Cottage	Tooties	Yellow Rose	Leesville Motor Sports	Baker Mud Products	Tooties	Leesville Beauty Fair	Leesville Motor Sports	Rosepine Jiffy Mart		Tooties	Kirkland Drilling Tools	SMR Enterprises	Tooties
BATCH #	16	16	16	16	22	22	22	22	22	22	17	17	17	17	17	2	2	2	2	2	2	16	16	16	16	16	15	15
DATE	2/97	2/97	2/97	2/97	1/97	1/97	1/97	1/97	1/97	1/97	12/96	12/96	12/96	12/96	12/96	12/96	12/96	12/96	12/96	12/96	12/96	96/6	96/6	96/6	96/6	96/6	96/8	96/8

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		NSF Redeposited-No check in batch							SF Redeposited-No check	SF Redeposited-No check	NSF Redeposited-No check in batch	SF Redeposited-No check												
AMOUNT	750.00	09.1	20.00	71.60	250.00	200.00	200.00	750.00	365.71	200.00	808.20	799.80	81,921.27		(15.69)	(4.08)	(3.72)	55.1	(122.01)	(9.43)	(281.90)	177.49	(2.49)	(409.31)
# VENDOR	JNR Enterprises Heberts Entraiting Inc.	_	Sub-Jammers	Sub-Jammers	SMR Enterprises	Tooties	Tex True Value	JNR Enterprises	Rockin Robin	Leesville Motor Sports Park	Subway	Subway	es tax forms with no check in deposit or cash receipt	n bank statement and cash receipts identified	Deposit 874.34; cash receipts 858.65	Deposit 1288.00; cash receipts 1283.92	Deposit 2887.71; cash receipts 2883.99	Deposit 1350.97; cash receipts 1095.87	Deposit 650.00; cash receipts 527.99	Deposit 1042.20; cash receipts 1032.77				
BATCH ∮	री र		21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21			Total sales	s in cash on	15	16	22	16	16	7	4	21	16	16
DATE	96/8	96/8	96/2	96/2	96/2	96/2	96/2	96/2	96/2	96//	96//	96//		Differences	66/9	2/99	4/99	3/99	5/88	1/99	12/98	10/98	86/6	86/9

AMOUNT	(101.00)	(2.93)	(287.78)	(0.01)	(762.54)	12.47	(103.53)	21.81	(128.99)	(2.22)	7.56	4.78	52.50	(32.70)	(33.72)	
VENDOR	Deposit 1407.59; cash receipts 1306.59	Deposit 960.03; cash receipts 957.10	Deposit 3622.72; cash receipts 3334.94	Deposit was 1 cent more than cash receipts	Deposit 1489.22; cash receipts 726.68	Deposit 1421.74; cash receipts 1434.21	Deposit 2466.47; cash receipts 2362.94	Deposit 1383.66; cash receipts 1405.47	Deposit 699.59; cash receipts 570.60	Deposit 1256.05; cash receipts 1253.83	Deposit out of balance with batch	Deposit 496.47; cash receipts 501.25	Deposit out of balance with batch	Deposit 743.80; cash receipt 711.10	Deposit 792.20; cash receipt 758.48	
BATCH#	16	13	7	22	16	24	77	7,	22	2	α	16	1 5	15	2	
DATE	2/98	11/97	10/97	10/97	26/6	2/6/	2/6/9	3/97	1/97	12/96	12/96	96/6	96/8	96/8	96//	

79,638.73

Total forms missing checks less cash deposits

VERNON SALES TAX CHECKS DEPOSITED INTO THE BANK ACCOUNT WITH NO CORRESPONDINGTAX FORM RECORDED IN THE BOOKS OF THE VERNON SALES TAX AGENCY ATTACHMENT B

			6/99 check on audit (Gary Lambert)		1/99 check no return recorded	12/98 check no return recorded	1/99 check no return recorded	10/98 return not recorded	9/98 return not recorded	9/98 return not recorded	9/98 return not recorded	7/98 return not recorded	6/98 return not recorded	5/98 boat registration not recorded	4/98 return not recorded	4/98 return not recorded	3/98 return not recorded	'3/98 return not recorded	Audit not recorded (Gary Lambert)	2/98 return not recorded	1/98 return not recorded	1/98 return not recorded	1/98 return not recorded	1/98 return not recorded	10/97 return not recorded	12/97 return not recorded			
AMOUNT	5,435.06	5,305.04	8,000.00	200.00	2,380.89	3,069.88	382.89	940.00	2,799.68	933.37	366.28	3,263.54	3,433.50	40.01	685.47	262.40	227.50	245.13	457.93	770.50	418.14	1,446.08	110.25	260.12	318.03	1,773.24	1,138.31	811.28	1,074.73
VENDOR	The Cato Corporation	McAda Drilling	Horizontal Drilling International	J & M Upholstery	Lennox Industries	Temple-Inland	Ford Motor Company	Wright Building Systems	Kodiak Pipe Rental	Welker Engineering	K. M. Land Cattle (William K. Moore)	Nortel	U. S. Filter	Service Communications	Cherokee Services	BankVest Capital Corp	Joel Simmons	Consolidated Systems	Cleaning Systems of LA.	Trek, Inc.	Specialty Sand Co	Pitney Bowes Credit Corp	ProfitStar	Kimball International	Roofing Supply of Alexandria	Tulsa Rig Iron	Casper Equipment Rentals	Horton Construction Company	Interstate Brands Corp
BATCH#	10	15	15	16	24	24	24	21	21	21	16	18	•	16	16	16	17	17	17	21	21	16	16	16	16	16	16	23	23
DATE	2/99	66/9	66/9	3/99	1/99	1/99	1/99	10/98	10/98	10/98	86/6	86/8	86/8	86/9	86/9	86/9	2/98	2/98	2/98	4/98	4/98	3/98	3/98	2/98	2/98	2/98	2/98	1/98	1/98

VERNON SALES TAX CHECKS DEPOSITED INTO THE BANK ACCOUNT WITH NO CORRESPONDINGTAX FORM RECORDED IN THE BOOKS OF THE VERNON SALES TAX AGENCY ATTACHMENT B

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AMOUNT	
VENDOR	
BATCH #	
DATE	

<u>(</u>	Jasper Equipment Co.	1 384 5R	11/97 return not recorded
	Summer's Group	;	return not re
	Hibernia	680.19	not
	Rig Tools, Inc.	2,652.00	9/97 return not recorded
	Enviro Tech	147.22	8/97 return not recorded
	Helmerich & Payne International Drilling	3,832.67	8/97 return not recorded
	Dave's Fireworks	381.64	6/97 return not recorded
	Dishman & Bennett Specialty Co.	506.39	6/97 return not recorded
	Joyce Dorsey	99.35	6/97 return not recorded
	Jewel Specialty & Supply Company	371.91	4/97 return not recorded
	Rent-It Company	518.56	4/97 return not recorded
	CMC Southern States Steel Company	460.02	4/97 return not recorded
	Milcor Oil Tools	508.41	3/97 return not recorded
	Antec	2,803.61	3/97 return not recorded
	American Buildings Co.	1,123.36	3/97 return not recorded
	Security Link	223.96	3/97 return not recorded
	Jostens	1,291.05	2/97 return not recorded
	Jewel Specialty Company	365.71	2/97 return not recorded
	Energy Confederation	502.95	1/97 return not recorded
	Tublar Sales & Equipment	574.17	1/97 return not recorded
	Knight Oil Tools		1/97 return not recorded
	National Service Industries	726.16	1/97 return not recorded
	Rig Tools	487.92	12/96 return not recorded
	Justiss Oil Company	234.96	12/96 return not recorded
	Soloco	309.13	12/96 return not recorded
	Unisource	222.27	12/96 return not recorded
	Shaffer	267.34	12/96 return not recorded
	Milcor Oil Tools	652.98	12/96 return not recorded

VERNON SALES TAX CHECKS DEPOSITED INTO THE BANK ACCOUNT WITH NO CORRESPONDINGTAX FORM RECORDED IN THE BOOKS OF THE VERNON SALES TAX AGENCY ATTACHMENT B

	11/96 return not recorded	11/96 return not recorded	11/96 return not recorded	8/96 return not recorded	8/96 return not recorded	8/96 return not recorded	8/96 return not recorded	7/96 return not recorded	7/96 return not recorded	7/96 return not recorded	7/96 return not recorded	6/96 return not recorded	6/96 return not recorded	6/96 return not recorded	6/96 return not recorded	6/96 return not recorded	6/96 return not recorded	6/96 return not recorded	6/96 return not recorded	6/96 return not recorded	6/96 return not recorded					
AMOUNT	163.68	256.79	142.35	290.17	697.46	1,436.79	46.64	307.76	1,872.41	68.58	69.12	134.23	910.00	105.53	163.60	462.60	379.80	299.70	200.00	856.29	20.00	200.00		191.30	464.40	298.09
VENDOR	Iggesund Tools	Gammaloy Holdings	Premier Designs	American Building Company	Del Corporation	Joe Banks Drywall & Acoustics	P.S. Prestress, Inc.	Knight Oil Tools	Francis Drilling Fluids	Physicians Sales & Service	Magnum Rig Quarters, Inc.	Malloy's Cash Register Co.	Taylor Service Company	Howell Furniture, Inc.	Nova Biomedical	Mayer Electric Supply Co., Inc.	Jimmy March - Subway	Jimmy March - Subway	Jimmy March - Subway	AH&T Assoc., Inc.	Jimmy March - Subway	Jimmy March - Subway	Kinsel Chrysler Plymouth	Petroleum Automations	Riverside Roofing Materials	Standard Corp.
BATCH #	17	17	17	2	7											15									21	
DATE	12/96	12/96	12/96	12/96	12/96	12/96	12/96	12/96	96/6	96/6	96/6	96/6	96/8	96/8	96/8	96/8	96/2	96/2	96//	96//	96/2	96/2	96/2	96/2	96/2	96/2

79,638.73

tal checks deposited with no sales tax form

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President
Alvin C. "Chuck" Dowden, Jr.

Superintendent Richard A. Schwartz

Vice-President W. W. "Bill" Parker

Pernon Parish School Board

201 Belview Road LEESVILLE, LOUISIANA 71446 (318) 239-3401 Fax (318) 238-5777

BOARD MEMBERS;

District One

R. W. "Dickie" Bailes

Gerald Burns

A. C. "Chuck" Dowdon, Jr.

M. Gene Haymon

C. A. Rughes

Kim Reese

Mark H. Smith Linda West

Betty Westerchik

District Two

W. W. "Bill" Parker

District Three Willis A. Farris

District Four Murphy O'Banion

District Five B. R. Harvey

District Six Philip L. Gunn

District Seven

Benard McKee

December 3, 1999

Members of the Board Vernon Parish School Board Leesville, Louisiana

RE: Vernon Sales Tax

Agreed-Upon Procedures Engagement

Dear Members of the Board:

Per the request of Management and with the approval of the Board, the School Board entered into a contract with Allen, Green & Company, LLP, Certified Public Accountants to perform an agreed-upon procedures engagement regarding the potential misappropriation of funds in the sales tax department. Allen, Green & Company, LLP has completed one of the two reports. Their first report covers the period July 1, 1996 through July 20, 1999. Their second forthcoming report covers the period prior to July 1, 1996.

Their engagement agreement is a three-party contract including Daniel G. Kyle, Ph.D., CPA, CFE, Louisiana Legislative Auditor. Dr. Kyle has requested that the School Board respond to the findings in the recently issued report of Allen, Green & Company, LLP. Accordingly, we have the following comments:

The Board and Management of the School Board has aggressively pursued the investigation of the potential misappropriation of funds since we were made aware of the situation.

Within hours of Management being notified of the possible misappropriation, (1) the District Attorney of Vernon Parish was notified, (2) arrangements were made with our external auditors to investigate the matter, (3) a formal interview was held with the sales tax manager, (4) the insurance honding company was notified, (5) the Legislative Auditor's Office was notified and (6) the Members of the Board were briefed.

The sales tax manager was immediately suspended with pay pending the outcome of the investigation. Within a few days of the suspension, the sales tax manager resigned.

From the start the Board's position has been that a thorough investigation be conducted and possible restitution for any misappropriation be pursued vigorously and to the fullest extent permitted by law.

Soon after the incident surfaced, the director of finance implemented a policy that the sales tax department no longer accepted each payments. All vendor payments must be by personal or business check, money order or eachier's check. Posters informing the public of the new policy were placed in prominent places, including on the door entrance to the sales tax department.

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The sales tax manager's position was abolished and direct supervision of the sales tax department was placed under the director of finance.

Soon after the incident surfaced, other governments in Vernon Parish that levy sales tax were notified. Later, a meeting was held with all taxing governments to brief them on the situation.

Due to the period of time the potential misappropriations occurred, two insurance carriers had employee fidelity policies during the time period. A claim has been filed with the insurance carrier that the proposed misappropriation has been determined. As soon as the second agreed-upon procedures report is issued by Allen, Green & Company, LLP, a claim will be filed with the other insurance carrier.

The first report of Allen, Green & Company, LLP, has been submitted to the District Attorney of Vernon Parish.

The School Board will continue its aggressive position of investigating and seeking restitution of any misappropriated funds.

Sincerely,

Richard Schwartz Superintendent