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JUDICIAL EXPENSE FUND

OF THE

TWENTY-EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

STATE OF LOUISIANA

LaSalle Parish

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

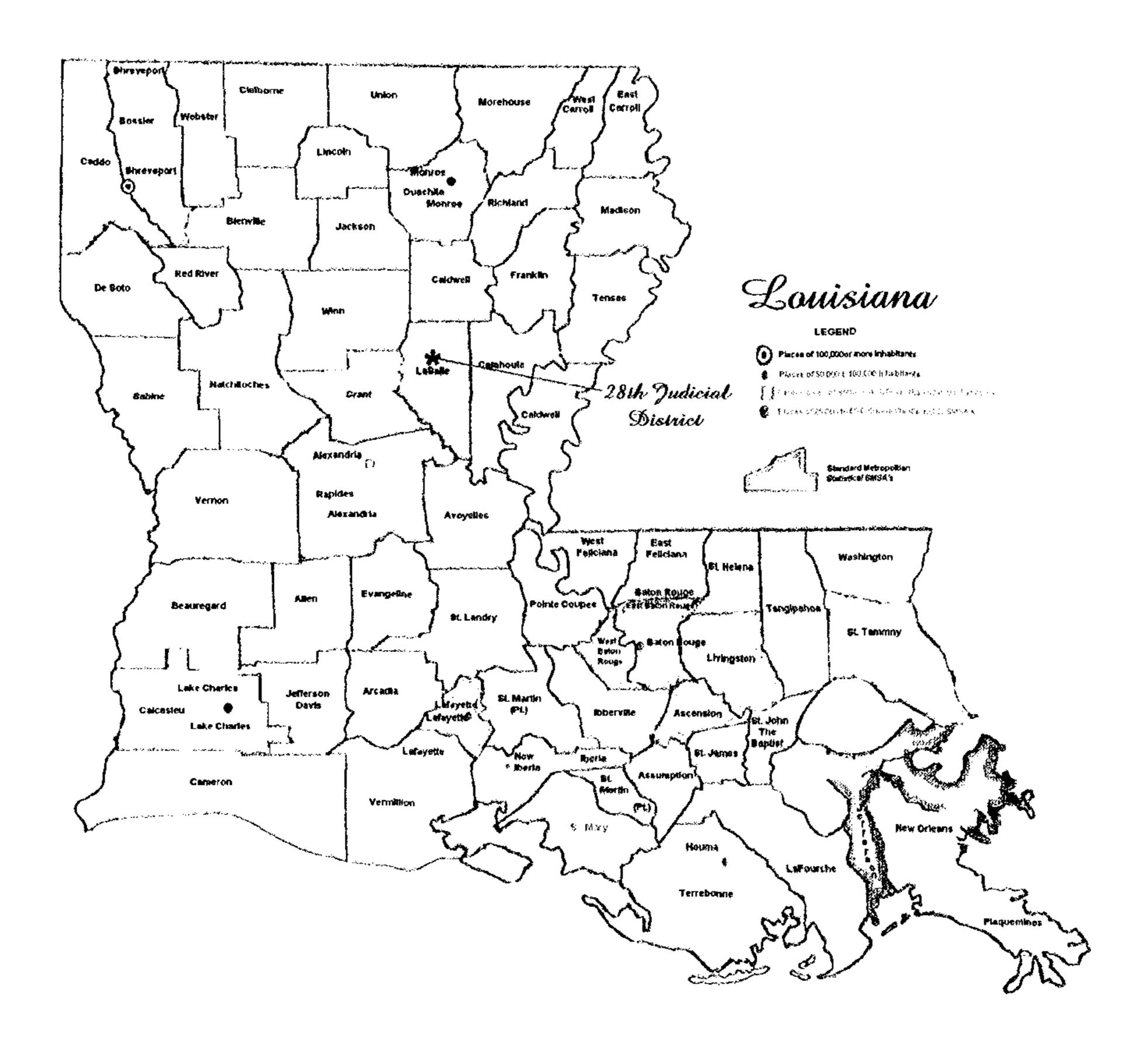
As of and for the

Fiscal Year Ended October 31, 1999

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 FFB 2 3 2000

TWENTY-EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT STATE OF LOUISIANA LASALLE PARISH



^{*} The Judicial Expense Fund of the Twenty-Eighth Judicial District Court was established by Act No. 916 of the 1985 Session of the Louisiana Legislature and began operating in November of 1986. The Judicial Expense Fund is controlled by the judge of the Twenty-Eighth Judicial District Court and was established and may be used for any purpose connected with, incidental to, or related to the proper administration or function of the court or the office of the judge thereof, and is in addition to any and all other funds, salaries, expense, or other monies that were or hereafter will be provided, authorized, or established by law for any of the aforesaid purposes.

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JOHN R. VERCHER PC

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPONENT UNIT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Honorable Judge J. P. Mauffray Judicial Expense Fund of the Twenty-Eighth Judicial District Court LaSalle Parish State of Louisiana

I have audited the component unit financial statements of the Judicial Expense Fund of the Twenty-Eighth Judicial District Court, LaSalle Parish, Louisiana, as of and for the year ended October 31, 1999, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Judge of the Twenty-Eighth Judicial District Court. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the component unit financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the component unit financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

I was unable to determine what effect, if any, the year 2000 will have on the Judicial Expense Fund of the Twenty-Eighth Judicial District Court, LaSalle Parish, Louisiana's computer system or what effect it will have on the Judicial Expense Fund of the Twenty-Eighth Judicial District Court, LaSalle Parish, Louisiana's financial condition.

In my opinion, except for the effects of such adjustments, if any, as might have been determined to be necessary had I been able to satisfy myself as to the effects of the year 2000 question as discussed in the preceding paragraph, the component unit financial statements referred to above present fairly the financial position of the Judicial Expense Fund of the Twenty-Eighth Judicial District Court, LaSalle Parish, Louisiana, at October 31, 1999 and the results of its operations for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

My audit was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the component unit financial statements taken as a whole. The graphs listed in the table of contents are presented for the purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements of the Judicial Expense Fund of the Twenty-Eighth Judicial District Court, LaSalle Parish, Louisiana. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, in my opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the component unit financial statements taken as a whole.

January 4, 2000 Jena, Louisiana

John R. Vercher

JOHN R. VERCHER PC

Certified Public Accountant
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REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

The Honorable Judge J. P. Mauffray Judicial Expense Fund of the Twenty-Eighth Judicial District Court LaSalle Parish State of Louisiana

I have audited the component unit financial statements of the Judicial Expense Fund of the Twenty-eighth Judicial District Court, LaSalle Parish, Louisiana, for the fiscal year ended October 31, 1999, and have issued my report thereon dated January 4, 2000. I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

<u>Compliance</u>

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Judicial Expense Fund of the Twenty-eighth Judicial District Court, LaSalle Parish, Louisiana, component unit financial statements are free of material misstatement, I performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, on compliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statements amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of my audit and, accordingly, I do not express such an opinion. The results of my tests disclosed no instance of noncompliance that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing my audit, I considered Judicial Expense Fund of the Twenty-eighth Judicial District Court, LaSalle Parish, Louisiana's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine my auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing my opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. My consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level risk that misstatements in amounts not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. I noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that I consider to material weaknesses.

This report is intended for the information of the Judicial Expense Fund of the Twenty-eighth Judicial District Court, LaSalle Parish, Louisiana's management and Legislative Auditor's Office. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

January 4, 2000

Jena, Louisiana

John R. Vercher

COMPONENT UNIT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

General Fund and Account Groups

Combining Balance Sheet October 31, 1999

	ACCOUNT GROUPS GENERAL GENERAL FIXED FUND ASSETS		OUPS NERAL IXED	TOTAL (MEMORANDUM ONLY)		
ASSETS						
Cash Savings Account Investment Due From Other Governmental Units Fixed Assets	\$	20,997 6,223 10,000 2,305 -0-	\$	-0- -0- -0- 68,661	\$	20,997 6,223 10,000 2,305 68,661
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	39,525	\$	68,661	\$	108,186
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY						
Accounts Payable Investments in Fixed Assets Fund Balance – Unreserved	\$	252 -0- 39,273	\$	-0- 68,661 -0-	\$	252 68,661 39,273
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$	39,525	\$	68,661	\$	108,186

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance Budget (GAAP) vs Actual Fiscal Year Ended October 31, 1999

REVENUES	BUDGET ACTUAL			VARIANCE FAVORABLE (UNFAVORABLE)		
Intergovernmental Interest Income	\$	34,500 -0-	\$	38,492 526	\$	3,992 526
TOTAL REVENUES	_\$	34,500	_\$	39,018	_\$	4,518
EXPENDITURES						
Current- Judicial: Office Expense Salaries Dues & Conference Fees Travel Capital Outlay - Equipment Miscellaneous Insurance Subscriptions Legal & Professional Telephone Copier Lease Meetings	\$	14,000 -0- 4,500 4,000 8,500 -0- -0- -0- -0-	\$	7,429 2,550 822 2,545 2,955 165 310 572 834 849 4,361 254	\$	6,571 (2,550) 3,678 1,455 5,545 3,335 (310) (572) (834) (849) (4,361) (254)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$	34,500	\$	23,646	\$	10,854
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING	\$	-0- 23,901	\$	15,372 23,901	\$	15,372 -0-
FUND BALANCE, ENDING	\$	23,901	\$	39,273	\$	15,372

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Statement of General Fixed Assets October 31, 1999

General Fixed Assets At Cost: Equipment	\$ 68,661
Total General Fixed Assets	68,661
Investment in General Fixed Assets: Property Acquired from General Fund	\$ 68,661
Total Investment in General Fixed Assets	\$ 68,661

Statement of Changes in General Fixed Assets Fiscal Year Ended October 31, 1999

General Fixed Assets, Beginning Of Year	\$	65,706
Additions: General Fund	-	2,955
General Fixed Assets. End of Year	\$	68.661

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(1) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES -

The Judicial Expense Fund of the Twenty-Eighth Judicial District Court was established by Act No. 916 of the 1985 Session of the Louisiana Legislature and began operating in November of 1986. The Judicial Expense Fund is controlled by the judge of the Twenty-Eighth Judicial District Court and was established and may be used for any purpose connected with, incidental to, or related to the proper administration or function of the court or the office of the judge thereof, and is in addition to any and all other funds, salaries, expense, or other monies that were or hereafter will be provided, authorized, or established by law for any of the aforesaid purposes. The Judicial Expense Fund's revenues are derived from court costs assessed in criminal cases of the Twenty-Eighth Judicial District Court and are collected by the sheriff.

A. Financial Reporting Entity

The Judicial Expense Fund is part of the operations of the district court system. The district court system is fiscally dependent on the police jury for office space and courtrooms. The substance of the relationship between the district court system and the police jury is that the police jury has approval authority over its capital budget. In addition, the nature and significance of the relationship between the district court and the police jury is such that exclusion from the police jury's financial statements would render the financial statements incomplete or misleading. Therefore, this fund is a component unit of the LaSalle Parish Police Jury.

B. Fund Accounting

The accounts of the Judicial Expense Fund are organized in one governmental fund (General Fund Type) and comprise its assets, liabilities, fund balances, revenues and expenditures.

C. Fixed Assets and Long-Term Liabilities

The accounting and reporting treatment applied to the fixed assets and long-term liabilities associated with a fund are determined by its measurement focus.

All governmental fund type operations are accounted for on a spending or "financial flow" measurement focus, and only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on their balance sheets.

Fixed assets used in governmental fund type operations (general fixed assets) are accounted for in the General Fixed Assets Account Group and are recorded as expenditures in the governmental fund types when purchased.

All fixed assets are stated at historical cost.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

D. Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures and the related assets and liabilities are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurement made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

The Judicial Expense Fund, governmental fund, is accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Its revenues are recognized when they become measurable and available as net current assets.

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

E. Budget and Budgetary Accounting

The following procedures are followed in preparing the budget:

- (1) The Judicial Administrator prepares the budget before the beginning of the fiscal year.
- (2) The Judge of the 28th Judicial District Court reviews and approves the budget.
- (3) The budget can and was amended during the year.
- (4) All appropriations lapse at year end.

F. Encumbrances

Encumbrances accounting is not employed in the Judicial Expense Fund.

G. <u>Vacation and Sick Leave</u>

Employees of the Judicial Expense Fund at this time are paid by the LaSalle Parish Police Jury out of the Criminal Court Fund and are covered under the Police Jury's vacation and sick leave policy.

H. Retirement

Employees of the Judicial Expense Fund participate in the Parochial Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana, contributing 9.25 of their salaries. An additional 7.15% is contributed by the LaSalle Parish Police Jury. The judge, who participates in the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System, contributes 11% of his salary to the system. Any future deficits in the systems will be financed by the State of Louisiana. Data concerning the actuarial status of the systems and concerning the amount contributed by the police jury for the year are not available. The Judicial Expense Fund pays no salaries or retirement system contributions.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

(2) Bank Balances

The amount on deposit in a financial institution at October 31, 1999 was fully insured by FDIC coverage (category 1 deposits).

(3) Operating Leases

The Twenty-Eighth Judicial District Court had an operating lease with Mita Financial Services for a copy machine. The monthly lease expense is \$405.00 per month for 36 months beginning in May 1996.

Future lease payments required are as follows:

2000 \$ -0-

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COST OCTOBER 31, 1999

I have audited the component unit financial statement of the Judicial Expense Fund of the Twenty-Eighth Judicial District Court, LaSalle Parish, Louisiana, as of and for the year ended October 31, 1999 and have issued my report thereon dated January 4, 2000. I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards 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 October 31, 1999 resulted in a qualified opinion.

Section I - Summary of Auditor's Reports

a.	Report on Internal Control and Compliance Material to the Financial Statements
	Internal Control Material Weaknesses □ Yes ☑ No Reportable Conditions □ Yes ☑ No
	Compliance Compliance Material to Financial Statements Yes No
b.	Federal Awards (Not Applicable)
	Internal Control Material Weaknesses □ Yes □ No Reportable Conditions □ Yes □ No
	Type of Opinion On Compliance Unqualified □ Qualified □ Adverse □
	Are the finding required to be reported in accordance with Circular A-133, Section .510(a)?
	□ Yes □ No
c.	Identification Of Major Programs:
	CFDA Number (s) Name Of Federal Program (or Cluster)
	llar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B Programs: \$\text{the auditec a 'low-risk' auditee, as defined by OMB Circular A-133?} \text{Tyes} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No}

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COST- (CONT.) OCTOBER 31, 1999

Section II Financial Statement Findings Required To Be Reported In Accordance With GAGAS Summary of Auditor's Reports.

No items were noted that required reporting in accordance with GAGAS.

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR FINDINGS AND CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

For the year ended October 31, 1999

PRIOR YEAR MANAGEMENT LETTER COMMENTS

1998-1) Budgets (Resolved)

<u>Situation</u>: The District overspent its budget by 58.4% during the year, because the District did not amend its budget.

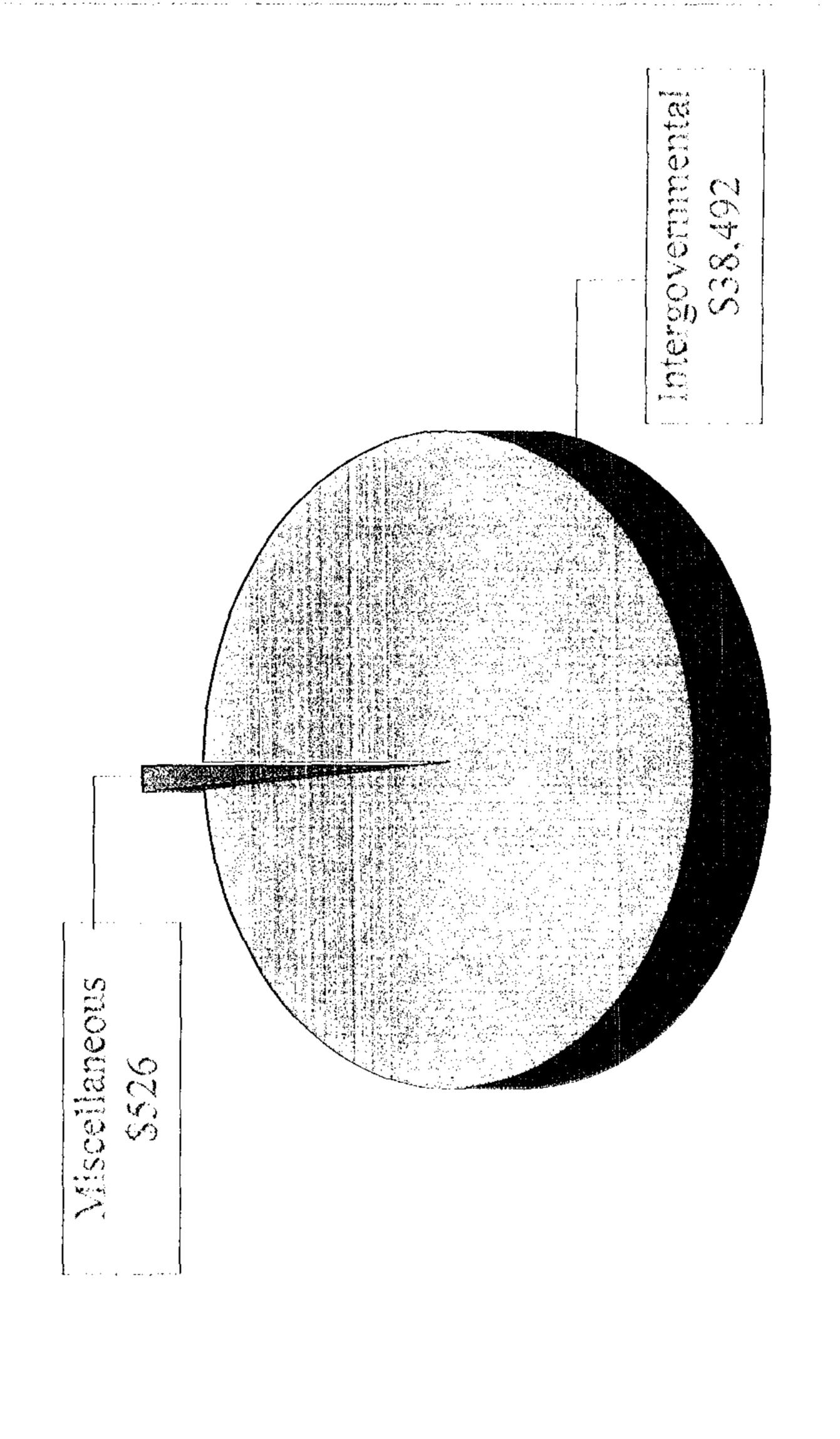
<u>Recommendation</u>: The District should have its budget amended when revenues fail to meet budgeted revenues and expenditures exceed budgeted expenditures by more than 5%.

<u>District's Response</u>: The District began amending its budgets when revenues fail to meet budget or expenditures exceed budget by more than 5%.

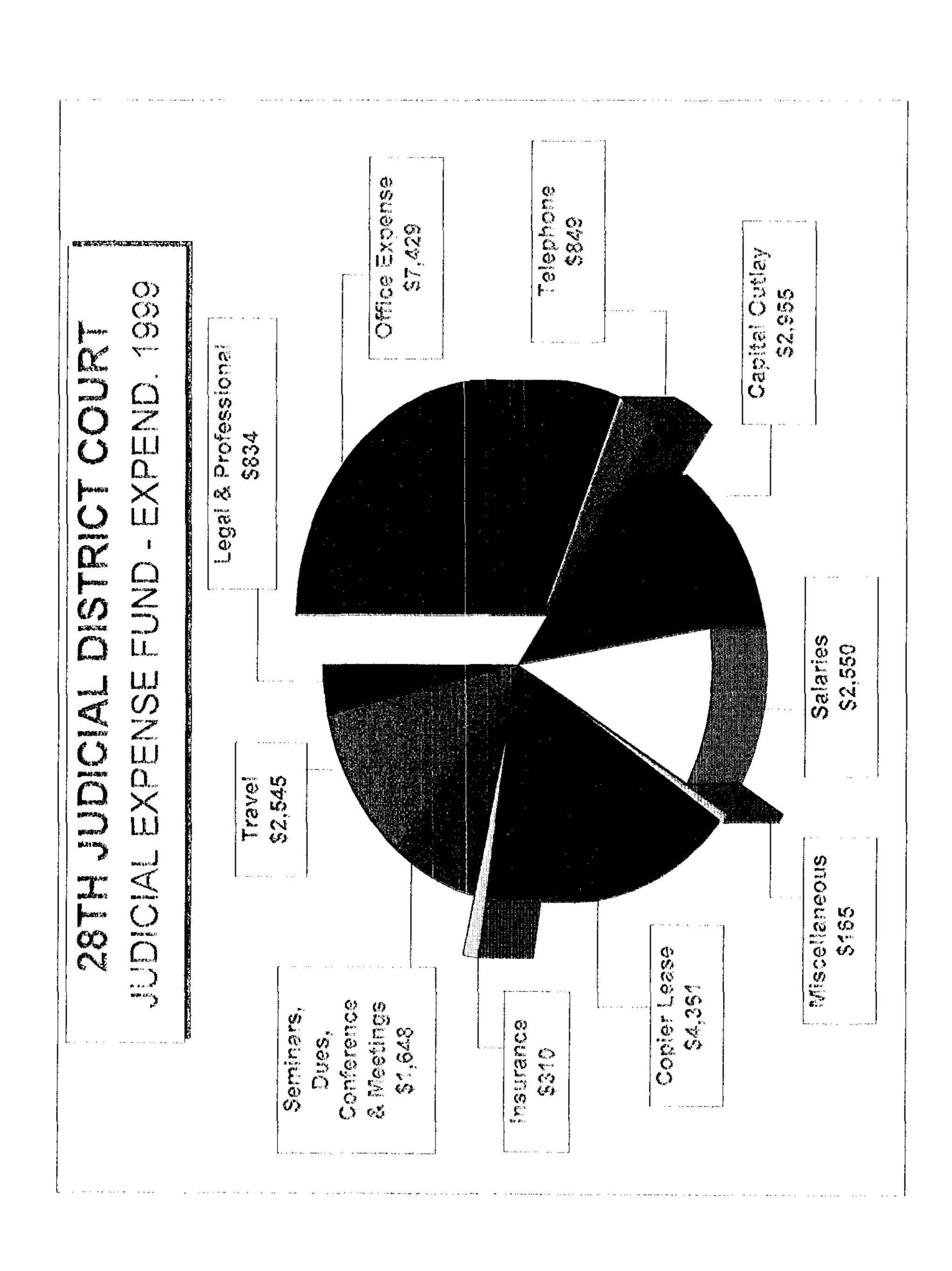
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