Winnsboro, Louisiana Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

available). "Measurable" means 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. The clerk of court uses the following practices in recognizing and reporting revenues and expenditures:

#### Revenues

Recordings, cancellations, court attendance, criminal costs, and other fees, charges, and commissions for services are recorded in the year in which they are earned.

Interest income on time deposits is recorded when the time deposits have matured and the income is available.

Substantially all other revenues are recognized when received by the clerk of court.

Based on the above criteria, fees, charges, and commissions for services are treated as susceptible to accrual.

#### Expenditures

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

#### E. BUDGET PRACTICES

A proposed budget prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting, is published in the official journal at least ten days prior to a public hearing. The public hearing is held at the clerk's office during the month of June for comments from taxpayers. The proposed budget is then legally adopted by the clerk and amended during the year, as necessary. Budgets are established and controlled by the clerk at the object level of expenditure. Appropriations lapse at year-end and must be reappropriated for the following year to be expended.

Winnsboro, Louisiana Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

#### Governmental Fund - General Fund

The General Fund, as provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 13:781, is the principal fund of the clerk of court and is used to account for the operations of the clerk's office. The various fees and charges due to the clerk's office are accounted for in this fund. General operating expenditures are paid from this fund.

#### Fiduciary Funds - Agency Funds

The Advance Deposit and Registry of Court agency funds are used to account for assets held as an agent for others. Agency—funds are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations.

#### C. FIXED ASSETS AND LONG-TERM DEBT

Fixed assets used in governmental fund type operations (general fixed assets) are accounted for in the general fixed assets account group, rather than in the General Fund. General fixed assets provided by the parish police jury are not recorded in the general fixed assets account group. Approximately 59 per cent of fixed assets are valued at estimated historical costs based on the actual costs of like items while the remaining 41 per cent are based on actual historical costs. No depreciation has been provided on general fixed assets. At June 30, 1996, the clerk had no long-term debt.

#### D. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. All governmental funds are accounted for using a current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities generally are included on the balance sheet. Operating statements for these funds present increases (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets.

The modified accrual basis of accounting is used for reporting all governmental and fiduciary fund types. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when susceptible to accrual (i.e., when they become both measurable and

Winnsboro, Louisiana Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

3. Organizations for which the reporting entity financial statements would be misleading if data of the organization is not included because of the nature or significance of the relationship.

Because the police jury maintains and operates the parish courthouse in which the clerk of court's office is located and provides funds for equipment and furniture of the clerk of court's office, the clerk of court was determined to be a component unit of the Franklin Parish Police Jury, the financial reporting entity. The accompanying financial statements present information only on the funds maintained by the clerk of court and do not present information on the police jury, the general government services provided by that governmental unit, or the other governmental units that comprise the financial reporting entity.

#### B. FUND ACCOUNTING

The clerk of court uses funds and account groups to report on its financial position and the results of its operations. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities.

A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts that comprises its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues, and expenditures. An account group, on the other hand, is a financial reporting device designed to provide accountability for certain assets and liabilities (general fixed assets and general long-term obligations) that are not recorded in the "funds" because they do not directly affect net expendable available financial resources. They are concerned only with the measurement of financial position, not with the measurement of results of operations.

Funds are classified into three categories; governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary. Each category, in turn, is divided into separate "fund types". Governmental funds are used to account for a government's general activities, where the focus of attention is on the providing of services to the public as opposed to proprietary funds where the focus of attention is on recovering the cost of providing services to the public or other agencies through service charges or user fees. Fiduciary funds are used to account for assets held for others. The clerk of court's current operations require the use of only governmental and fiduciary funds. The governmental and fiduciary fund types used by the clerk are described as follows:

Winnsboro, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and For the Year Ended June 30, 1996

#### 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

As provided by Article V, Section 28 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, the clerk of court serves as the ex-officio notary public, the recorder of conveyances, mortgages and other acts, and shall have other duties and powers provided by law. The clerk of court is elected for a term of four years.

#### A. REPORTING ENTITY

As the governing authority of the parish, for reporting purposes, the Franklin Parish Police Jury is the financial reporting entity for Franklin Parish. The financial reporting entity consists of (a) the primary government (police jury), (b) organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable, and (c) other organizations for which nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 14 established criteria determining which component units should be considered part of the Franklin Parish Police Jury for financial reporting purposes. The basic criterion for including a potential component unit within the reporting entity is financial responsibility. The GASB has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. This criteria includes:

- 1. Appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body, and
  - a. The ability of the police jury to impose its will on that organization and/or
  - b. The potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to or impose specific financial burdens on the police jury.
- 2. Organizations for which the police jury does not appoint a voting majority but are fiscally dependent on the police jury.

## FRANKLIN PARISH CLERK OF COURT Winnsboro, Louisiana GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPE - GENERAL FUND

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget (GAAP Basis) and Actual For the Year Ended June 30, 1996

			VARIANCE FAVORABLE
	BUDGET	_ACTUAL_	(UNFAVORABLE)
REVENUES			
Licenses and permits - marriage	\$2,700	\$2,719	\$19
Intergovernmental revenues - state funds - clerks			
supplemental compensation	9,000	9,000	
Fees, charges, and commissions for services:			
Court costs, fees, and charges	169,582	171,570	1,988
Fees for recording legal documents	85,000	90,571	5,571
Fees for certified copies	2,600	2,614	14
Charges for use of photocopier	7,500	7,619	119
Use of money and property - interest carnings	10,000	13,172	3,172
Other revenue	800	1,074	274
Total revenues	287,182	298,339	11,157
EXPENDITURES			
Current;			
General government - judicial:			
Personal services and related benefits	232,000	226,346	5,654
Operating services	54,600	52,642	1,958
Materials and supplies	8,600	5,766	2,834
Travel and other charges	8,683	7,823	860
Intergovernmental		6,408	(6,408)
Capital outlay	11,500	11,240	260_
Total expenditures	315,383	310,225	5,158
EXCESS (Deficiency) OF REVENUES			
OVER EXPENDITURES	(28,201)	(11,886)	16,315
FUND BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	161,056	161,056	
FUND BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	<u>\$132,855</u>	<u>\$149,170</u>	\$16,315

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

## FRANKLIN PARISH CLERK OF COURT Winnsboro, Louisiana ALL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUPS

Combined Balance Sheet, June 30, 1996

	GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPE - GENERAL FUND	FIDUCIARY FUND TYPE - AGENCY FUNDS	ACCOUNT GROUP - GENERAL FIXED ASSETS	TOTAL (MEMORANDUM ONLY)
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$170,416	\$359,736		\$530,152
Receivables	2,891			2,891
Due from other funds	407			407
Office furnishings and equipment			\$115,688	115,688
Other assets	425		<del></del>	425
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$174,139</u>	\$359,736	<u>\$115,688</u>	\$649,563
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY				
Liabilities:				
Accounts payable	\$11,313			\$11,313
Payroll deductions payable	7,204			7,204
Unsettled deposits due to:				
General Fund		\$407		407
Others	6,452	359,329_		365,781
Total Liabilities	24,969	359,736	<u>NONE</u>	384,705
Fund Equity:				
Investment in general fixed assets			\$115,688	115,688
Fund balance - unreserved -				
undesignated	149,170			149,170
Total Fund Equity	149,170	<u>NONE</u>	115,688	264,858
TOTAL LIABILITIES				
AND FUND EQUITY	\$174,139	<u>\$359,736</u>	<u>\$115,688</u>	\$649,563

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Winnsboro, Louisiana
Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year. Budgeted amounts included in the accompanying financial statements include the original adopted budget amounts and all subsequent amendments.

#### F. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Under state law, the clerk of court may deposit funds in demand deposits, interest bearing demand deposits, money market accounts, or time deposits with state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having principal offices in Louisiana. At June 30, 1996, the clerk of court has cash and cash equivalents (book balances) totaling \$530,152, as follows:

Demand deposits	\$420,152
Time deposits	110,000
Total	<u>\$530,152</u>

These deposits are stated at cost, which approximates market. Under state law, these deposits, or the resulting bank balances, must be secured by federal deposit insurance or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal agent bank. The market value of the pledged securities plus the federal deposit insurance must at all times equal the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent bank. These 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. Cash and cash equivalents (bank balances) at June 30, 1996, are secured as follows:

Bank Balances	<u>\$546,490</u>
Federal deposit insurance	\$388,523
Pledged securities (uncollateralized)	824,480_
Total	<u>\$1,213,003</u>

Because the pledged securities are held by a custodial bank in the name of the fiscal agent bank rather than in the name of the clerk of court, they are considered uncollateralized (Category 3) under the provisions of GASB Codification C20.106; however, Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1229 imposes a statutory requirement on the custodial bank to advertise and sell the pledged securities within 10 days of being notified by the clerk of court that the fiscal agent has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand.

#### HONORABLE FAYE ELKIN FRANKLIN PARISH CLERK OF COURT

Winnsboro, Louisiana Independent Auditor's Report, June 30, 1996

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, I have also issued reports dated September 19, 1996, on the Franklin Parish Clerk of Court's compliance with laws, regulations, and contracts, and my consideration of the agency's internal control structure.

West Monroe, Louisiana

September 19, 1996

## FRANKLIN PARISH CLERK OF COURT Winnsboro, Louisiana FIDUCIARY FUND TYPE - AGENCY FUNDS

Combining Schedule of Changes in Unsettled Deposits Due to Others For the Year Ended June 30, 1996

	ADVANCE DEPOSIT	REGISTRY OF COURT	
	FUND	<u>FUND</u>	TOTAL.
UNSETTLED DEPOSITS AT JUNE 30, 1995	\$261,757	\$169,863	\$431,620
ADDITIONS			
Suits and successions	224,967	243,627	468,594
Witness deposits	3,556		3,556
Bond deposits	18,542		18,542
Transfers into advance	13,508		13,508
Interest earned on investments		4,261	4,261
Total additions	260,573	247,888	508,461
Total	522,330	417,751	940,081
REDUCTIONS			
Clerk's costs (transferred to General Fund)	114,534		114,534
Settlements to litigants	48,406	337,798	386,204
Appraisers, curators, keepers, etc.	3,425		3,425
Sheriff's fees	28,717		28,717
Transfers to witness	13,508		13,508
Other reductions	34,364_		<u>34,364</u>
Total reductions	242,954	337,798	_580,752_
UNSETTLED DEPOSITS AT JUNE 30, 1996	<u>\$279,376</u>	<u>\$79,953</u>	<u>\$359,329</u>

## FRANKLIN PARISH CLERK OF COURT Winnsboro, Louisiana

General Purpose Financial Statements
With Independent Auditor's Report
As of and For the Year Ended June 30, 1996
With Supplemental Information Schedules

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## GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (OVERVIEW)

Winnsboro, Louisiana
Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

#### G. VACATION AND SICK LEAVE

All full-time employees of the clerk of court's office receive 5 to 15 days of non-cumulative vacation leave each year, depending on length of service, and one day of sick leave per month, not to exceed 10 days accumulation at any time. Accumulated sick leave does not carry forward to succeeding years.

#### H. TOTAL COLUMN ON BALANCE SHEET

The total column on the balance sheet is captioned "Memorandum Only" to indicate that it is presented only to facilitate financial analysis (overview). Data in this column does not present financial position in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. Neither is such data comparable to a consolidation. Interfund eliminations have not been made in the aggregation of this data.

#### 2. RECEIVABLES

The General Fund receivables of \$2,891 at June 30, 1996, are as follows:

#### Class of receivables:

Fees, charges, and commissions for services:	
Court costs	\$1,222
Mortgage certificates	211
Cancellations	70
Court attendance	280
Criminal fees	<u>1,108</u>
Total	<u>\$2,891</u>

#### 3. CHANGES IN GENERAL FIXED ASSETS

A summary of changes in office furnishings and equipment follows:

Balance at July 1, 1995	\$104,448
Additions	11,240
Deletions	NONE_
Balance at June 30, 1996	<u>\$115,688</u>

## FRANKLIN PARISH CLERK OF COURT Winnsboro, Louisiana Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

#### 4. PENSION PLAN

Substantially all employees of the Franklin Parish Clerk of Court are members of the Louisiana Clerks of Court Retirement and Relief Fund (System), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by a separate board of trustees.

All regular employees who are under the age of 60 at the time of original employment are required to participate in the System. Employees who retire at or after age 55 with at least 12 years of credited service are entitled to a retirement benefit, payable monthly for life, equal to 3 percent of their final-average salary for each year of credited service, not to exceed 100 percent of their final-average salary. Final-average salary is the employee's average salary over the 36 consecutive or joined months that produce the highest average. Employees who terminate with at least 12 years of service and do not withdraw their employee contributions may retire at or after age 55 and receive the benefit accrued to their date of termination. The System also provides death and disability benefits. Benefits are established or amended by state statute.

The System issues an annual publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the System. That report may be obtained by writing to the Louisiana Clerks of Court Retirement and Relief Fund, 11745 Bricksome Avenue, Suite B1, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70816, or by calling (504) 293-1162.

Plan members are required by state statute to contribute 8.25 percent of their annual covered salary and the Franklin Parish Clerk of Court is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The current rate is 11.5 percent of annual covered payroll. Contributions to the System also include one-fourth of one percent (one-half of one percent for Orleans Parish) of the taxes shown to be collectible by the tax rolls of each parish. The contribution requirements of plan members and the Franklin Parish Clerk of Court are established and may be amended by state statute. As provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 11:103, the employer contributions are determined by actuarial valuation and are subject to change each year based on the results of the valuation for the prior fiscal year. The Franklin Parish Clerk of Court's contributions to the System for the years ending June 30, 1996, 1995, and 1994, were \$21,241, \$19,321, and \$15,598, respectively, equal to the required contributions for each year.

#### 5. POST RETIREMENT BENEFITS

The Franklin Parish Clerk of Court provides certain health care and life insurance benefits for retired employees. Substantially all of the clerk's employees become eligible for these benefits if they reach normal retirement age while working for the clerk of court. These benefits for retirees and similar benefits for active employees are provided through an insurance company whose monthly premiums are paid jointly by the employee and the clerk of court. The clerk of court recognizes the cost of providing

Winnsboro, Louisiana Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

these benefits (the clerk's cost of premiums) as an expenditure when the monthly premiums are due, which was \$8,332 for the year ended June 30, 1996. Of that amount, \$2,719 was for retiree benefits.

#### 6. CHANGES IN AGENCY FUND BALANCES

A summary of changes in agency fund balances due to others follows:

	Advance Deposit Fund	Registry of Court Fund	<u>Total</u>
Balance at July 1, 1995	\$261,757	\$169,863	\$431,620
Additions	260,573	247,888	508,461
Deletions	(242,954)	(337,798)	(580,752)
Balance at June 30, 1996	<u>\$279,376</u>	\$79,953	\$359,329

#### 7. LITIGATION AND CLAIMS

The Franklin Parish Clerk of Court is not involved in any litigation at June 30, 1996, nor is she aware of any unasserted claims.

### 8. EXPENDITURES OF THE CLERK OF COURT PAID BY THE PARISH POLICE JURY

The Franklin Parish Clerk of Court's office is located in the parish courthouse. The cost of maintaining and operating the courthouse, as required by Louisiana Revised Statute 33:4715, is paid by the Franklin Parish Police Jury.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION SCHEDULES

## FRANKLIN PARISH CLERK OF COURT Winnsboro, Louisiana FIDUCIARY FUND TYPE - AGENCY FUNDS

Combining Balance Sheet, June 30, 1996

	ADVANCE DEPOSIT FUND	REGISTRY OF COURT FUND	_TOTAL
ASSETS Cash and cash equivalents	\$279,783	<u>\$79,953</u>	<u>\$359,736</u>
LIABILITIES			
Due to:	¢ 407		\$407
General Fund	\$407	470 OF0	\$407
Others	<u>279,376</u>	<u>\$79,953</u>	359,329
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$279,783	\$79,953	<u>\$359,736</u>

### Independent Auditor's Reports Required by Government Auditing Standards

The following independent auditor's reports on internal control structure and compliance with laws and regulations are presented in compliance with the requirements of *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*, issued by the Society of Louisiana Certified Public Accountants and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor.



### Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance With Laws, Regulations, and Contracts

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HONORABLE FAYE ELKIN
FRANKLIN PARISH CLERK OF COURT
Winnsboro, Louisiana

I have audited the general purpose financial statements of the Franklin Parish Clerk of Court as of June 30, 1996, and for the year then ended, and have issued my report thereon dated September 19, 1996.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards; Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide, issued by the Society of Louisiana Certified Public Accountants and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor. Those standards and the audit guide require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the general purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement.

Compliance with laws, regulations, and contracts applicable to the Franklin Parish Clerk of Court's the responsibility of the Franklin Parish Clerk of Court's management. As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the general purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement, I performed tests of the Franklin Parish Clerk of Court's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, and contracts. However, the objective of my audit of the general purpose financial statements was not to provide an opinion on overall compliance with such provisions. Accordingly, I do not express such an opinion.

The results of my tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

Winnsboro, Louisiana Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance, etc., June 30, 1996

This report is intended for the information of the Franklin Parish Clerk of Court. This is not intended to limit the distribution of this report, which is a matter of public record.

West Monroe, Louisiana

September 19, 1996



### Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Structure

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HONORABLE FAYE ELKIN FRANKLIN PARISH CLERK OF COURT Winnsboro, Louisiana

I have audited the general purpose financial statements of the Franklin Parish Clerk of Court as of June 30, 1996, and for the year in the then ended, and have issued my report thereon dated September 19, 1996.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards; Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide, issued by the Society of Louisiana Certified Public Accountants and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor. Those standards and the audit guide require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the general purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement.

The management of the Franklin Parish Clerk of Court is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure. In fulfilling this responsibility, estimates and judgments by management are required to assess the expected benefits and related costs of internal control structure policies and procedures. The objectives of an internal control structure are to provide management with reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, and that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly to permit the preparation of general purpose financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Because of inherent limitations in any internal control structure, errors or irregularities may nevertheless occur and not be detected. Also, projection of any evaluation of the structure to future periods is subject to the risk that procedures may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the effectiveness of the design and operation of policies and procedures may deteriorate.

Winnsboro, Louisiana
Independent Auditor's Report
on Internal Control Structure,
June 30, 1996

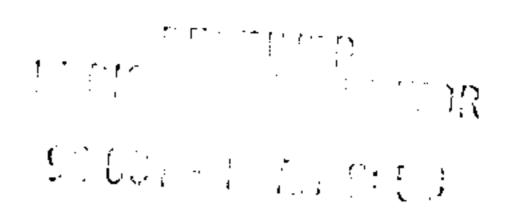
In planning and performing my audit of the general purpose financial statements of the Franklin Parish Clerk of Court for the year ended June 30, 1996, I obtained an understanding of the internal control structure. With respect to the internal control structure, I obtained an understanding of the design of relevant policies and procedures and whether they have been placed in operation, and I assessed control risk in order to determine my auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing my opinion on the general purpose financial statements and not to provide an opinion on the internal control structure. Accordingly, I do not express such an opinion.

My consideration of the internal control structure would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control structure that might be material weaknesses under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the specific internal control structure elements does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that errors and irregularities in amounts that would be material in relation to the general purpose financial statements being audited may occur and 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 structure and its operation that I considered to be material weaknesses as defined above.

This report is intended for the information of the Franklin Parish Clerk of Court. This is not intended to limit the distribution of this report, which is a matter of public record.

West Monroe, Louisiana

September 19, 1996



### FRANKLIN PARISH CLERK OF COURT Winnsboro, Louisiana

General Purpose Financial Statements
With Independent Auditor's Report
As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 1996
With Supplemental Information Schedules

1166

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Inder 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 OCT 1 6 1996



# FRANKLIN PARISH CLERK OF COURT Winnsboro, Louisiana SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION SCHEDULES As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 1996

#### FIDUCIARY FUND TYPE - AGENCY FUNDS

#### ADVANCE DEPOSIT FUND

The Advance Deposit Fund, as provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 13:842, accounts for advance deposits on suits filed by litigants. The advances are refundable to the litigants after all costs have been paid.

#### REGISTRY OF COURT FUND

The Registry of Court Fund, as provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 13:475, accounts for funds which have been ordered by the court to be held until judgment has been rendered in court litigation. Withdrawals of the funds can be made only upon order of the court.



#### Independent Auditor's Report

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HONORABLE FAYE ELKIN
FRANKLIN PARISH CLERK OF COURT
Winnsboro, Louisiana

I have audited the general purpose financial statements of the Franklin Parish Clerk of Court as of June 30, 1996, and for the year then ended, as listed in the table of contents. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the Franklin Parish Clerk of Court's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these general purpose 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 general purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the general purpose financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall general purpose financial statement presentation. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

In my opinion, the general purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Franklin Parish Clerk of Court as of June 30, 1996, 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 general purpose financial statements taken as a whole. The supplemental information schedules listed in the table of contents are presented for the purpose of additional analysis and are not a required part of the general purpose financial statements of the Franklin Parish Clerk of Court. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general purpose financial statements and, in my opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole.