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Houma, Louisiana Component Unit Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Reports As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 1995

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KEITH J. ROVIRA CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT 3331 METAIRIE ROAD METAIRIE, LOUISIANA 70001-5297 (504) 831-4040 1

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Honorable George L. Hebert, Jr. Terrebonne Parish Assessor A Component Unit of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government Houma, Louisiana

I have audited the accompanying component unit financial statements of the Terrebonne Parish Assessor, a component unit of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, as of and for the year then ended December 31, 1995, as listed in the table of contents. These component unit financial statements are the responsibility of the Terrebonne Parish Assessor. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these component unit financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards contained in the <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> 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 component unit financial statement presentation. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

In my opinion, the component unit financial statements referred to in the first paragraph present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Terrebonne Parish Assessor as of December 31, 1995, and the results of its operations for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

In accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, I have also issued a report dated June 17, 1996 on my consideration of the Terrebonne Parish Assessor's internal control structure and a report dated June 17, 1996 on its compliance with laws and regulations. Both reports are presented separately after the notes to the financial statements of this audit report.

Keith JC/Rovira Certified Public Accountant

June 17, 1996

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COMPONENT UNIT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Houma, Louisiana All Fund Types and Account Groups Balance Sheet December 31, 1995

Statement A

	Governmental Fund - General Fund	Account Group – General Fixed <u>Assets</u>	Total (Memorandum <u>Qnly</u>)
<u>ASSETS</u> Cash and cash equivalents			
(Note C)	\$384,626	-	\$384,626
Accrued interest receivable Office furnishings and	19,386	-	19,386
equipment (Note D)	_	\$306.622	306.622

equipment (Note D)		3 <u>300,022</u>	300,022
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ <u>404,012</u>	\$ <u>306,622</u>	\$ <u>710,634</u>

LIABILITIES, EQUITY AND <u>OTHER CREDITS</u> Liabilities:			
Total Liabilities	<u> </u>		
Equity and Other Credits: Investment in general fixed assets Fund balance - unreserved-	~	\$306,622	\$306,622
undesignated	\$ <u>404,012</u>		<u>404,012</u>
Total Fund Equity	<u>404,012</u>	<u>306,622</u>	<u>710,634</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES, EQUITY AND OTHER CREDITS	\$ <u>404,012</u>	\$ <u>306,622</u>	\$ <u>710,634</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Houma, Louisiana Governmental Fund Type - General Fund Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance For the Year Ended December 31, 1995

Statement B

<u>REVENUES</u> Compensation from taxing bodies Interest earnings	\$435,284 <u>34,220</u>
Total Revenues	<u>469,504</u>
<u>EXPENDITURES</u> Personnel services and related benefits	405,001

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Personnel services and related benefits Operating services and maintenance Travel and other charges	$405,001 \\ 54,804 \\ 26,461$
Total Expenditures	<u>486,266</u>
(Deficiency) of Revenues over Expenditures	(16,762)
Fund Balance at Beginning of Year	<u>420,774</u>
Fund Balance at End of Year	\$ <u>404,012</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

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TERREBONNE PARISH ASSESSOR

Houma, Louisiana Governmental Fund Type - General Fund Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget (GAAP Basis) and Actual For the Year Ended December 31, 1995

Statement C

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	Variance Favorable <u>(Unfavorable</u>)
<u>REVENUES</u> Compensation from taxing bodies Interest earnings	\$433,745 000	\$435,284 34,220	\$1,539 <u>11,220</u>
Total Revenues	456,745	469,504	<u>12,759</u>

<u>EXPENDITURES</u> Personnel services and related benefits	405,635	405,001	634
Operating services and maintenance Travel and other charges	62,225 <u>21,354</u>	54,804 <u>26,461</u>	7,421 <u>(5,107</u>)
Total Expenditures	<u>489,214</u>	<u>486,266</u>	2,948
(Deficiency) of Revenues over Expenditures	(32,469)	(16,762)	15,707
Fund Balance at Beginning of Year	<u>422,726</u>	<u>420,774</u>	<u>(1,952</u>)
Fund Balance at End of Year	\$ <u>390,257</u>	\$ <u>404,012</u>	\$ <u>13,755</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Houma, Louisiana Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 1995

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Introduction

As provided by Article VII, Section 24 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, the assessor is elected by the voters of the parish and serves a four year term. The assessor assesses all real and movable property in the parish, subject to ad valorem taxation. The assessor is authorized to appoint as many deputies as may be necessary for the efficient operation of the office and provide assistance to the taxpayers of the parish. The deputies are authorized to perform all functions of the office, but the assessor is officially and pecuniarily responsible for the actions of the deputies.

The assessor's office is located in the Terrebonne Parish Courthouse in Houma, Louisiana. In accordance with Louisiana law, the assessor bases real and movable property assessments on conditions existing on January 1 of the tax year. The assessor completes an assessment listing during the tax year and submits the list to the parish governing authority and the Louisiana Tax Commission, as prescribed by law. Once the assessment listing is approved, the assessor submits the assessment roll to the parish tax collector, who is responsible for the collection and distribution of taxes to the various taxing bodies.

1. <u>Basis of Presentation</u>

The accompanying financial statements of the Terrebonne Parish Assessor have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles.

2. <u>Reporting Entity</u>

As the governing authority of the parish, for reporting purposes, the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government is the financial reporting entity for Terrebonne Parish. The financial reporting entity consists of (a) the primary government (Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government), (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.

Houma, Louisiana Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 1995

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 14 established criteria for determining which component units should be considered part of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government for financial reporting purposes.

The basic criterion for including a potential component unit within the reporting entity is financial accountability. 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
 - the ability of the parish government 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 parish government.
- 2. Organizations for which the parish government does not appoint a voting majority, but are fiscally dependent on the parish government.
- 3. Organizations for which the reporting entity's financial statements would be misleading if data of the organization is not included because of the nature or significance of the relationship.

Even though the assessor is an independently elected official, and is legally separate from the parish government, the exclusion from the parish government's financial statements would cause the parish government's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. Also, the assessor is fiscally dependent on the parish government when the parish government has approval authority over the assessor's capital budget. The parish government has approval authority over the assessor's capital budget because office space is furnished to the assessor by the parish government and title to real property is in the name of the parish government. Because of these reasons, the assessor is determined to be a component unit of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government.

Houma, Louisiana Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 1995

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

3. <u>Fund Accounting</u>

The assessor uses a fund (General Fund) and an account group (General Fixed Assets Account Group) 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 relating to certain government functions or activities.

A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. On the other hand, an account group is a financial reporting device designed to provide accountability for certain assets and liabilities that are not recorded in the funds because they do not directly affect net expendable available financial resources.

The assessor's General Fund is classified as a governmental fund. Governmental funds account for general activities, including the collection and disbursement of specific or legally restricted monies and the acquisition of general fixed assets.

The General Fund, as provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 47:1906, is the principal fund of the assessor and accounts for the operation of the assessor's office. Ad valorem tax revenue authorized by Act 292 of 1985 is accounted for in this fund. General operating expenditures are paid from this fund. The general fund is classified as a governmental fund.

4. <u>Basis of Accounting</u>

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. The General Fund is 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. The operating statement of the General Fund presents increases and decreases in net current assets.

The modified accrual basis of accounting is used by the General Fund. The General Fund uses the following

Houma, Louisiana Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 1995

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

practices in recording revenues and expenditures:

Revenues --

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Compensation from taxing bodies is recorded in the year the ad valorem taxes are assessed. Ad valorem taxes are assessed on a calendar year basis, become due on November 15 of each year, and become delinquent on December 31. The taxes are generally collected in December of the current year and throughout the ensuing year.

Interest revenue is recorded when the interest is earned and the revenue is available.

Expenditures --

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

5. <u>Budgets</u>

The proposed budget for 1995 was published in the official journal and made available for public inspection on December 8, 1994. A public hearing was held and the budget was adopted on December 29, 1994. Appropriations lapse at year end.

The budget is legally adopted and amended, as necessary, by the assessor. It is prepared and reported on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Formal budget integration is employed as a management control device during the year. The assessor reserves all authority to make changes to the budget. When actual revenues fail to meet budgeted revenues by five per cent or more and/or actual expenditures exceed budgeted revenues by five per cent or more, a budget amendment to reflect such change is adopted by the assessor. Budgeted amounts included in the accompanying financial statements include the original adopted budget and any subsequent amendments, if applicable.

6. <u>Encumbrances</u>

Encumbrance accounting is not utilized by the assessor due to the nature of operations and the ability of management to monitor budgeted expenditures on a timely basis.

Houma, Louisiana Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 1995

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

7. <u>Cash and Cash Equivalents</u>

Cash includes amounts in a demand deposit account. Cash equivalents include amounts in time deposits. Under state law, the assessor 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.

8. <u>Fixed Assets</u>

Fixed assets are recorded as expenditures at the time purchased. The related assets are capitalized and reported in the general fixed assets account group. No depreciation has been provided on general fixed assets. Approximately 70 percent of fixed assets are valued at actual cost, while the remaining 30 percent are valued at estimated cost.

Fixed assets provided by the parish government are not included in the general fixed assets account group.

9. <u>Compensated Absences</u>

Employees of the assessor earn from ten to fifteen days of vacation leave each year depending on length of service, and ten days of sick leave. Leave benefits do not vest or accumulate and must be taken in the year earned. Payment is not made for accumulated leave upon retirement, resignation or termination of employment. The cost of current leave privileges, computed in accordance with GASB Codification Section C60, is recognized as a current year expenditure in the General Fund when the leave is actually taken.

- 10. <u>Long-term Obligations</u> There are no long-term obligations at December 31, 1995.
- 11. <u>Total Column on Balance Sheet</u> The total column on the balance sheet is captioned Memorandum Only to indicate it is presented only to facilitate financial analysis. Data in this column

does not present financial position in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. Neither is such data comparable to a consolidation.

Houma, Louisiana Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 1995

NOTE B - LEVIED TAXES

The following are the principal taxpayers for the parish (amounts listed in thousands):

		1995	Percentage
	Type of	Assessed	of Total
<u>Taxpayer</u>	Business	<u>Valuation</u>	<u>Valuation</u>
Texaco, Inc.	Oil Company	\$19,747	5.36%
South Cntrl. Bell	Telephone	12,119	3.30
Transcontinental	-		
Gas Pipeline	Pipelines	6,670	1.81
Louisiana Power &			
Light	Utility	6,256	1.70
Tenneco, Inc.	Oil Company	5,966	1.62
Shell Oil Company	Oil Company	4,991	1.35
Premier Bank	Bank	4,814	1.31
South Louisiana			
Electric Co-op.	Utility	4,318	1.17
Texaco Pipeline,			
Inc.	Pipelines	3,982	1.08
Halliburton Co.	Exploration	<u>3,665</u>	<u>.99</u>
		\$ <u>72,528</u>	<u>19.69</u> %

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The total assessed valuation for all taxpayers at December 31, 1995, was \$368,240,280. This figure was used in calculating the percentage of the "1995 assessed valuation of each of the principal taxpayers" to the "total assessed valuation for all taxpayers."

NOTE C - CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

At December 31, 1995, the assessor had cash and cash equivalents (book balances) totaling \$384,626, as follows:

Petty cash Demand deposit	and	time	deposits	\$ _ <u>384_</u>	70 <u>556</u>
Total				\$ <u>384,</u>	<u>626</u>

These deposits are stated at cost. Under state law, these deposits (or the resulting bank balances) must be secured by federal deposit insurance or the pledge of securities owned

Houma, Louisiana Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 1995

NOTE C - CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS (CONTINUED)

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. 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. At December 31, 1995, the assessor had \$220,855 in deposits (collected bank balances). These deposits were secured from risk by \$220,855 of federal deposit insurance.

Although totally secured by the FDIC and pledged securities at December 31, 1995, Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1229 imposes a statutory requirement on the custodial bank for securities pledged to safeguard deposits of the assessor during the year and to advertise and sell the pledged securities within 10 days of being notified by the assessor that the fiscal agent has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand.

NOTE D - CHANGES IN GENERAL FIXED ASSETS

A summary of changes in general fixed assets (office furnishings and equipment) follows:

Balance, January 1, 1995	\$306,622
Additions Deductions	=- =-
Balance, December 31, 1995	\$306,622

NOTE E - PENSION PLAN

<u>Plan Description</u>

Substantially all employees of the Terrebonne Parish Assessor's office are members of the Louisiana Assessor's Retirement System (System), a multiple-employer (cost sharing), public employee retirement system, controlled and administered by a separate board of trustees.

All full-time employees who are under the age of 60 at the time of original employment and are not drawing retirement benefits from any other public retirement system in

Houma, Louisiana Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 1995

NOTE E - PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Louisiana are required to participate in the System. Employees who retire at or after age 55 with at least 12 years of credited service or at or after age 50 with at least 30 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 per cent 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 by state statute.

The System issues an annual publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the System. The report may be obtained by writing to the Louisiana Assessors' Retirement System, Post Office Box 1786, Shreveport, Louisiana 71166-1786, or by calling (318) 425-4446.

Funding Policy

Plan members are required by statute to contribute 7.00% percent of their annual covered salary and the Terrebonne Parish Assessor is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The current employer (assessor's portion) rate is 6.00% of annual covered payroll. Contributions to the System also include one-fourth of one percent (one percent for Orleans Parish) of the taxes shown to be collectible by the tax rolls of each parish, plus revenue sharing funds appropriated by the legislature. The contribution requirements of plan members and the Terrebonne Parish Assessor 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 assessor's (employer) contributions to the System for the years ending December 31, 1995, 1994 and 1993, were \$17,508, \$17,195 and \$17,434, respectively, equal to the required contributions for each year.

Houma, Louisiana Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 1995

NOTE F - DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN

The assessor offers his employees a deferred compensation plan created in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 457. The plan, which is available to all the assessor's employees, permits employees to defer a portion of their salary until future years. The deferred compensation is not available to employees until termination, retirement, death or unforeseeable emergency.

Deferrals deposited into the plan are stated at fair market value, and their value totaled \$915 at December 31, 1995.

NOTE G - POSTRETIREMENT HEALTH CARE AND LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS

The assessor provides certain continuing health care and life insurance benefits for retired employees. Employees become eligible for these benefits if they reach normal retirement age while working for the assessor. These benefits for retirees and similar benefits for active employees are paid monthly and jointly by the retiree, employee and the assessor. The assessor recognizes the cost of providing these benefits (assessor's portion of premiums) as an expenditure when paid during the year. For 1995, the cost of benefits paid for retirees by the assessor totaled \$17,702.

NOTE H - LEASES

Operating leases are all leases that do not meet the criteria of capital leases.

On February 14, 1994, the assessor entered into an operating lease for an automobile with a lease term of 36 months and monthly rental payments of \$291 ending March, 1997. Monthly lease payments made during the year ended December 31, 1995 totaled \$3,492.

Annual lease commitments for the assessor for the year-toend on December 31, 1996, equals \$3,492, and for the year-

to-end on December 31, 1997, equals \$873.

There were no other operating or capital leases.

Houma, Louisiana Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 1995

NOTE I - COMPENSATED ABSENCES

At December 31, 1995, there was no liability reported because payment is not probable. Therefore, all criteria of GASB Codification C60 are not met.

NOTE J - INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

In January, 1992, the assessor entered into an intergovernmental agreement with the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government. The assessor rents the use of the parish's computer for data processing of the assessor's records. Rental payments of \$1,229 are made to the parish government on a monthly basis. Total payments made in 1995 were \$14,748.

NOTE K - EXPENDITURES OF THE ASSESSOR NOT INCLUDED IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Louisiana R.S. 33:4713 requires the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government to provide the assessor with all necessary office space, utilities, furniture, equipment, supplies, and maps. During the year ended December 31, 1995, the parish government provided office space, utilities, and janitorial services on a limited basis. The value of these items are not reflected in the accompanying financial statements.

NOTE L - LITIGATION

At December 31, 1995, according to the assessor's legal counsel, there was no pending or threatened litigation which would have a material adverse affect on the financial statements.

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OTHER REPORTS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

KEITH J. ROVIRA CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT 3331 METAIRIE ROAD METAIRIE, LOUISIANA 70001-5297 (504) 831-4040

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL STRUCTURE BASED ON AN AUDIT OF COMPONENT UNIT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Honorable George L. Hebert, Jr. Terrebonne Parish Assessor A Component Unit of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government Houma, Louisiana

I have audited the component unit financial statements of the Terrebonne Parish Assessor, a component unit of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, as of and for the year ended December 31, 1995, and have issued my report thereon dated June 17, 1996.

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.

The Terrebonne Parish Assessor 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 component unit 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 internal control structure to future periods is subject to the risk that procedures may become inadequate because

of changes in conditions or that the degree of compliance with the procedures may deteriorate.

In planning and performing my audit of the component unit financial statements of the Terrebonne Parish Assessor, for the year ended December 31, 1995, 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 component unit financial statements and not to provide an opinion on the internal control structure. Accordingly, I do not express such an opinion.

I noted a matter involving the internal control structure and its operation that I consider to be a reportable condition under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. A reportable condition involves a matter coming to my attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control structure that, in my judgement, could adversely affect the entity's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the component unit financial statements.

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 or irregularities in amounts that would be material in relation to the component unit 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.

My consideration of the internal control structure would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control structure that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses as defined above. However, I noted that, as a material weakness, the size of the Terrebonne Parish Assessor's operation and its limited staff preclude an adequate segregation of duties and other features of an adequate system of internal accounting control, although to employ such controls may not be cost beneficial. This condition was considered in determining the nature, timing and extent of the procedures to be performed in my audit of the financial statements of the Terrebonne Parish Assessor for the year ended December 31, 1995.

This report is intended solely for the use of management and the State of Louisiana Legislative Auditor and should not be used for any other purpose. This restriction is not intended to limit the distribution of this report which, upon acceptance by the State of Louisiana Legislative Auditor, is a matter of public record.

Keith J. Rowig

Keith J. Rovira Certified Public Accountant

June 17, 1996

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KEITH J. ROVIRA CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT 3331 METAIRIE ROAD METAIRIE, LOUISIANA 70001-5297 (504) 831-4040

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND REGULATIONS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF COMPONENT UNIT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH <u>GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS</u>

Honorable George L. Hebert, Jr. Terrebonne Parish Assessor A Component Unit of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government Houma, Louisiana

I have audited the component unit financial statements of the Terrebonne Parish Assessor, a component unit of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, as of and for the year ended December 31, 1995, and have issued my report thereon dated June 17, 1996.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, 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.

Compliance with laws, regulations and contracts applicable to the Terrebonne Parish Assessor is the responsibility of the Terrebonne Parish Assessor. As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the component unit financial statements are free of material misstatement, I performed tests of the Terrebonne Parish Assessor's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations and contracts. However, the objective of my audit of the component unit 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 <u>Government Auditing</u> <u>Standards</u>.

This report is intended solely for the use of management and the State of Louisiana Legislative Auditor, and should not be used for any other purpose. This restriction is not intended to limit the distribution of this report which, upon acceptance by the State of Louisiana Legislative Auditor, is a matter of public record.

Seith J. Romá

Keith J. Rovira Certified Public Accountant

June 17, 1996