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**CLERK OF COURT  
LAFOURCHE PARISH, LOUISIANA**

*Financial Report,  
Internal Control and Compliance Report*

*For the year ended  
June 30, 1988*

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 also filed 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 1 4 1988~~



STEWART & COMPANY, LLC

**CLERK OF COURT  
LAFAYETTE PARISH, LOUISIANA**

**Financial Report,  
Internal Control and Compliance Report**

**June 30, 1998**

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*FINANCIAL SECTION*



# STAGNI & COMPANY, LLC

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Honorable Vernon H. Rodrigue  
Clerk of Court, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana

We have audited the accompanying general-purpose financial statements of the Clerk of Court, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana as of and for the year ended June 30, 1998, as listed in the table of contents. These general-purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the Clerk of Court, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Governments Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the 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. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the general-purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Clerk of Court, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana, as of June 30, 1998, and the results of its operations for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

In accordance with *Governments Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated August 17, 1998 on our consideration of the Clerk of Court, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants.

Honorable Vernon H. Rodrigue  
Clerk of Court, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana  
Page 2

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general-purpose financial statements taken as a whole. The combining and individual fund and account group financial statements listed in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the general-purpose financial statements of the Clerk of Court, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general-purpose financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

*Stacy & Company*

Tulhouma, LA  
August 22, 1994



**CLERK OF COURT  
LAFOURCHE PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Combined Balance Sheet - All Fund Types and Account Classes  
June 30, 1993

ACCOUNT	Commodities Fund Type	Fiduciary Fund Type	Assessments (Revenue) Fund Classes	Totals (All Accounts and)
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Capital assets:				
Depreciated assets	\$79,000	\$94,000		\$173,000
Investments	247,000	3,184,000		3,431,000
Accounts receivable	\$7,079			\$7,079
Due from other funds	\$79,282	18,720		\$98,002
Due from State of Louisiana				18,720
Funds 10495			18,691,117	18,691,117
Total assets	<u>\$432,361</u>	<u>\$3,396,720</u>	<u>\$18,709,837</u>	<u>\$22,538,918</u>
<b>LIABILITIES, DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS</b>				
Liabilities:				
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$88,720	\$276,200		\$364,920
Due to other funds		\$,762,500		\$,762,500
Compensated absences payable	\$7,188			\$7,188
Total liabilities	<u>\$103,036</u>	<u>\$2,738,700</u>		<u>\$2,841,736</u>
Equity and Other Credits:				
Surplus in general fund assets			\$ 19,720	\$ 19,720
Fund Balance:				
Inventory - commodities	1,129,892			1,129,892
Inventory and other assets	1,129,892			1,129,892
Total equity and other credits	<u>\$2,359,664</u>	<u>\$2,738,700</u>	<u>\$18,729,107</u>	<u>\$5,197,326</u>

See/Check Personnel Statement

**CLERK OF COURT  
LAFOURCHE PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance  
Budget and Actual  
Governmental Fund Type  
For the year ended June 30, 2008

	Fiscal Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
<b>Revenues:</b>			
Gifts and donations transferred from the Advance Deposit Fund	\$280,808	\$84,585	\$196,223
Floodings	580,808	587,224	6,416
Criminal costs	70,808	87,505	(16,697)
Certified copies	122,942	169,304	(46,362)
Interest earned	40,000	73,340	(33,340)
Mortgage certificates	50,000	49,735	(265)
Court allowance	10,000	15,060	(5,060)
Cancellations	18,000	18,000	0
Marriage licenses	18,000	18,740	(740)
Notarial fees	2,000	4,000	(2,000)
Miscellaneous	44,000	78,000	(34,000)
<b>Total revenues</b>	<u>1,267,342</u>	<u>1,215,222</u>	<u>52,120</u>
<b>Expenditures:</b>			
General government			
Salaries and benefits	758,000	708,802	(49,202)
Clerk's expense allowance	7,800	7,817	(17)
Employer's contribution to group insurance	160,800	124,200	(36,600)
Other insurance	31,800	31,858	(58)
Office supplies and expense	280,800	283,779	(2,979)
Automobile	0	1,291	(1,291)
Telephones	90,800	94,728	(3,928)
Conferences and travel expense	20,800	11,800	(9,000)
<b>Total current expenditures</b>	<u>1,222,000</u>	<u>1,267,295</u>	<u>(45,295)</u>
Capital outlay	80,000	8,524	(71,476)
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<u>1,302,000</u>	<u>1,275,819</u>	<u>(26,819)</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(64,658)	203,400	(268,058)
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>			
Beginning of year	842,425	868,222	(25,797)
End of year	<u>777,767</u>	<u>1,071,622</u>	<u>(293,855)</u>

See Notes to Financial Statements

**CLERK OF COURT  
LAFORCHE PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 1998

**Note 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**

The GASB has established several criteria for determining the governmental reporting entity and component units that should be included within the reporting entity. Since, the Clerk of Court, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana (Clerk of Court) is an independently elected official, and is legally separate and fiscally independent, the Clerk of Court, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana is a separate governmental reporting entity. There are unrecorded financial transactions between the Lafourche Parish Council (the Council) and the Clerk of Court, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana where the Council provides office space and utilities for the Clerk of Court.

Financial accountability is determined by applying criteria established by the GASB as listed below:

- Financial benefit or burden
- Appointment of a voting majority
- Imposition of will
- Fiscally dependent

The above identified transactions between the Clerk of Court and the Parish Council are mandated by state statute and do not reflect fiscal dependency; thereby, they do not reflect financial accountability. The other three criteria of financial accountability do not pertain to the Clerk of Court, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana when applying them as a means of identifying potential component units of the Lafourche Parish Council.



# CLERK OF COURT LAFOURCHE PARISH, LOUISIANA

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)  
June 30, 1998

*Note 1*      **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**A. Reporting Entity (Continued)**

The Clerk of Court includes all funds, account groups and activities, or units, that are within the oversight responsibility of the Clerk of Court. Other local governmental units over which the Clerk of Court exercises no oversight responsibility are excluded from the accompanying financial statements. These units are considered separate reporting entities and issue financial statements separate from those of the parish Clerk of Court.

**B. Fund Accounting**

The accounts of the Clerk of Court are organized on the basis of funds and account groups, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprises its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues and expenditures. 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 spendable available financial resources. Funds are classified into three categories: governmental, proprietary and fiduciary. Each category, in turn, is divided into separate "fund types". The funds presented in the accompanying financial statements are described as follows:

**Governmental funds** are used to account for all or most of a government's general activities.

**General Fund (Sales)** - 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 to the Clerk's office are paid from this fund.

**Fiduciary Funds** are used to account for assets held on behalf of outside parties, including other governments or on behalf of other funds within the government.

**CLERK OF COURT  
LAFOURCHE PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)  
June 30, 1988

*Note 1      Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)*

**B.      Fund Accounting (Continued)**

**Agency Funds -** The *debetus*, *deposits* and *registry of limited agency funds* are used to account for assets as an agent for individuals, or others. Agency Funds are custodial in nature and do not involve measurements of results of operations.

The Account Group is not a "fund". It is concerned with only the measurement of financial position, not with the measurement of results of operations. The account group presented in the accompanying financial statements are described as follows:

**General Fund Asset Account Group -** This group of accounts is established to account for all fixed assets of the Clerk of Court, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana.

**C.      Basis of Accounting**

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. All government 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 of these funds present increases (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets.

The modified accrual basis of accounting is used by all governmental fund types and agency funds. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when susceptible to accrual (i.e., when they become both measurable and available). "Measurable" means 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. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred.

**CLERK OF COURT  
LAFOURCHIE PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)  
June 30, 1998

*Note 1*      **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**C.      Basis of Accounting (Continued)**

**Revenues -**

Recordings, cancellations, court attendance, criminal costs, etc. are recorded in the year in which the service is performed.

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

Substantially all other revenues are recorded when realized.

**Expenditures -**

Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, expenditures are generally recognized when the related liability is incurred.

**D.      Budgetary Practices**

The Clerk of Court annually adopts a budget for the General Fund. The budgetary practices include public notice of the proposed budget, public inspection of the proposed budget and public hearings on the budget. Any amendments to the budget are published in the Clerk of Court's official journal. Budgetary integration is employed as a management tool.

Encumbrances represent commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods and services. Encumbrance accounting is not utilized in the funds of the Clerk of Court.

**E.      Cash and Deposits**

Cash in bank includes amounts in demand deposits as well as investments. Under state law, the Clerk may deposit funds within a fiscal agent bank organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana. The Clerk may invest in United States bonds, treasury notes or bills, or certificates and time deposits of state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having principal offices in Louisiana.

**CLERK OF COURT  
LAFOURCHE PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)  
June 30, 1998

**Note 7**      Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

**F.**      Fixed Assets

General fixed assets used in governmental fund type operations are reported in the General Fixed Asset Account Group, rather than capitalized in the General Fund. Purchased fixed assets are valued at historical cost or estimated historical cost if historical cost is not available. No depreciation has been provided on general fixed assets.

**G.**      Compensated Absences

Employees receive two weeks of vacation leave each year after one year of service. Vacation leave cannot be accumulated. Employees receive 13 days of sick leave for each year of service. The Clerk of Court allows a maximum of 30 or 15 days of annual sick leave to accumulate, depending upon the date of hire and if the employee meets the requirements of a grandfather clause. Accumulated sick leave is paid upon separation of employment.

The current portion (all) of accrued accumulated sick leave, in accordance with the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 43, *Accounting for Compensated Absences*, has been recorded in the General Fund as a current expenditure and liability. This amount (\$51,158) represents the dollar value of accrued time during the year that would normally be liquidated with expendable available financial resources of the Clerk's office.

**H.**      Total (Eliminations Only) Columns on Combined Statements

Total columns on the combined statements are captioned parenthetically only to indicate that they are presented only to facilitate financial analysis. Data in these columns do not present financial position, results of operations or changes in 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.

**CLERK OF COURT  
LAFORCHE PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)  
June 30, 1998

**Note 3      Deposits and Investments**

**Deposits:**

The Clerk of Court may deposit funds with a fiscal agent bank organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana. The Clerk of Court may also invest in time deposits or certificates of deposits of state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having principal offices in Louisiana.

At June 30, 1998, the Clerk has cash on books and in banks totaling as follows:

	DASH	DCORR
Bank One, Louisiana	\$ 457,560	\$ 457,560
Community Bank of Lafourche	65,658	65,455
First American Bank	34,131	34,131
Hibernia National Bank	3,120,685	3,055,008
South Lafourche Bank and Trust	233,792	226,445
State Bank and Trust	685,314	685,314
Wahney National Bank	78,836	78,836
Union Planters Bank	312,311	312,311
TOTAL	\$ 3,899,454	\$ 3,899,454

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 as 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. Obligations of the United States, the State of Louisiana, and certain political subdivisions are allowed as security for deposits. 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.

**CLERK OF COURT  
LAFOURCHE PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)  
June 30, 1998

**Note 2**      *Deposits and Investments (Continued)*

Under the provisions of the GASB, pledged securities, which are not in the name of the governmental unit, are considered uncollateralized.

Deposit book balance	\$ 3,909,127
Bank balance of deposits	3,999,454
Portion insured by federal deposit insurer	778,881
Pledged securities	5,181,804
Amount insured	NONE

Even though the pledged securities are considered uncollateralized under the provisions of GASB Statement 3, Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1229 imposes a statutory requirement on the custodial bank to advertise and sell the pledged securities within 90 days of being notified by the Clerk that the fiscal agent has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand.

**Note 3**      *General Fixed Asset*

A summary of changes in the general fixed assets account group follows:

	Automobiles	Other Equipment	TOTALS
Balance June 30, 1997	\$23,750	\$487,643	\$511,393
Additions	0	8,704	8,704
Retirements	0	0	0
Balance June 30, 1998	\$23,750	\$496,347	\$520,097

**CLERK OF COURT  
LAFOURCHETTE PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)  
June 30, 1998

**Note 4**      Deferred Assets/Liabilities

The balances due to/from Salary Fund and Advance Costs are as follows for June 30, 1998:

Salary Fund	
Due from advanced cost	\$ 979,352
Advanced Cost	
Due to salary fund	\$ 979,352

**Note 5**      Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable at June 30, 1998 represent amounts charged by customers for recordings, copies and miscellaneous other revenues due to the Clerk in the amount of \$ 27,576. The Clerk does not write off receivables, consequently no provision for uncollectible accounts has been provided.

**Note 6**      Employee Retirement System

Substantially all employees of the Clerk's office are members of the Louisiana Clerks of Court Retirement and Relief Fund ("System"), a multiple-employer public employee retirement system (PERS). The System is a statewide public retirement system for the benefit of clerks and their staffs, which is administered and controlled by a separate board of trustees. Contributions of participating clerks are pooled within the System to fund accrued benefits, with contribution rates approved by the Louisiana Legislature.

The Clerk's total payroll was \$768,844. The payroll for the Clerk's employees covered by the retirement system was \$651,949. Generally, all regular employees earning a minimum of \$300 per month and who are under the age of 68 are eligible to participate in the System. Benefits vest with 12 years of service. At retirement age, employees are entitled to annual benefits equal to three percent of their highest paid three (3) year average salary for each year of credited service.

**CLERK OF COURT  
LAFOURCHIE PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)  
June 30, 1998

*Note 6*      ***Louisiana Retirement System (Continued)***

Most employees may retire at age 55 with a minimum of 12 years of credited service. The System also provides death and disability benefits. Benefits are established by state statute.

The Louisiana Clerks of Court Retirement and Relief Fund issues publicly available financial reports that include financial statements and required supplementary information for the Clerks of Court Retirement & Relief Fund. That report may be obtained by writing to The Louisiana Clerk's of Court Retirement & Relief Fund, 11745 Breckenridge Avenue, Suite B-1, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70816 or by calling (504) 235-1162 or 1-800-256-6660.

In addition to a portion of the parish's ad valorem and state revenue sharing, that are required to the System (which constitute major funding of the System), covered employees are required by state statute to contribute 2- 1/2 percent of gross salary, to which the Clerk of Court adds a 10 percent contribution as an employer's match.

The Lafourche Parish Clerk's contribution for the years ended June 30, 1995, 1997, and 1998 were \$67,155 (10% of covered payroll), \$71,244 (31% of covered payroll), and \$89,008 (10-1/2 % of covered payroll), respectively which were equal to the required contributions for each year.

*Note 7*      ***Expenses of the Clerk of Court Paid by the Parish Council***

Certain operating expenses of the Clerk's office are paid by the Parish Council. At June 30, 1998, these consist of utilities for the building where the Clerk's office is located. The amount of the utilities paid by the Parish Council is indeterminate.



**CLERK OF COURT  
LAFORCHE PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)  
June 30, 1998

**Note #**                    **Post-retirement Benefits**

The Clerk of Court, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana provides certain continuing 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 by the Clerk of Court. The Clerk of Court recognizes the cost of providing these benefits (the Clerk's portion of premiums) as an expenditure when the monthly premiums are due. For the year ended June 30, 1998, the cost of these benefits for six retirees totaled \$11,101.

**Note #**                    **Operating Lease**

The Clerk of Court entered into an operating lease with the Town of Lakeport for office space on July 1, 1997. This lease provides for monthly payments of \$133.25. The lease term is four years with an option to renew for another four year term.

**Note #0**                    **Risk Management**

**GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE**

The Clerk of Court is exposed to various risks of loss related to tort, theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The Clerk of Court purchases the following commercial insurance policies for any and all claims relating to the above types of risks:

**CLERK OF COURT  
LAFOURCHE PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)  
June 30, 1998

*Note 10*      **Risk Management (Continued)**

TYPE OF INSURANCE	LIMITS	DEDUCTIBLE
County Clerk & Recorder Professional Liability	\$1,000,000 in the "Full Prior Acts Coverage"	\$3,000/claim
Business Auto Liability	Uninsured motorist - \$300,000 Liability - \$500,000 Medical payments - \$3,000	\$500 \$250
General Liability	\$300,000/occurrence \$300,000/general	\$500/claim
Official Bond & Cash Bond	\$ 10,000/Amount of Bond	NONE
Public Employees Retirement Bond	\$5,000/Amount of Bond	NONE
Worker's Compensation	\$100,000/occurrence \$500,000/Injury	NONE
Commercial Property	Replacement Cost	\$500

The Clerk's payment of the deductible is the only liability associated with his general liability insurance. There has been no significant reductions in insurance coverage from coverage in the prior years. The amount of settlements have not exceeded insurance coverage for each of the past three fiscal years.

**HEALTH INSURANCE**

The Clerk of Court provides health and life insurance to his employees through the Louisiana Clerk of Court Association. Under this insurance program, the Clerk pays initial premiums based on the level of the employee's participation and has no further liabilities on any claims.

**CLERK OF COURT  
LAFOURCHE PARISH, LOUISIANA**

*Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)*  
June 30, 1998

**UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION**

The Clerk of Court funds its unemployment claims through the State of Louisiana Office of Employment Security. Each quarter the Clerk submits a report of wages paid and pays .50% of taxable wages as an unemployment tax to the Office of Employment Security. Besides the unemployment tax, the Clerk has no further liability associated with unemployment claims.

***SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION***

### **AGENCY FUNDS**

*Agency Funds are used to account for assets held by the Clerk of Court as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governments, and/or other funds.*

#### ***Advance Deposit Fund***

*The Advance Deposit Fund, as provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 15:443, is used to account 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 15:475, is used to account 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.*

**CLERK OF COURT  
LAFOURCHE PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Agency Funds  
Comparing Balance Sheet  
June 30, 1998

	<u>Advance Deposit Fund</u>	<u>Registry of the Court Fund</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash in banks:			
Demand deposits	\$73,591	\$79,035	\$152,626
Investments	1,672,408	1,214,280	2,886,688
Due from State of Louisiana	<u>10,201</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>10,201</u>
<b>Total assets</b>	<u>\$1,756,201</u>	<u>\$1,293,315</u>	<u>\$3,049,516</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Due to salary fund	\$079,352		\$079,352
Due to others	<u>1,186,819</u>	<u>\$1,214,285</u>	<u>2,401,104</u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<u>\$1,266,171</u>	<u>\$1,214,285</u>	<u>\$2,480,456</u>

**CLERK OF COURT  
LAFOURCHE PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Agency Funds  
Combining Schedule of Changes in Unsettled Deposits  
For the Year ended June 30, 1998

	Advance Deposit	Registry	Totals
Unsettled Deposits at July 1, 1997	\$ 1,183,188	\$ 11,380,315	\$ 12,563,503
<b>Additions:</b>			
Deposits			
Suits and Successions	1,284,510		1,284,510
Judgements		1,178,218	1,178,218
Interest earned on investments		121,332	121,332
Total additions	1,284,510	1,299,550	2,584,060
Total	2,467,698	12,679,865	15,146,817
<b>Reductions:</b>			
Client's costs (transferred to General Fund)	684,565	4,210	688,775
Settlements to litigants	247,322	11,063,312	11,310,634
Attorney, curator, and notary fees	24,880		24,880
Witnesses, appraisers, keepers, etc.	5,635		5,635
Stenographer's fees	14,800		14,800
Clerk's fees	175,124		175,124
Other reductions	123,153		123,153
Total reductions	1,264,641	11,067,522	12,332,163
Unsettled deposits at June 30, 1998	\$ 1,183,057	\$ 1,612,343	\$ 2,795,400



# STAGNI & COMPANY, LLC

## REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING BASED ON AN AUDIT OF GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

Honorable Vernon Rodrigue  
Clark of Court, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana

We have audited the general-purpose financial statements of the Clerk of Court, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana as of and for the year ended June 30, 1998 and have issued our report thereon dated August 27, 1998. We conducted our 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.

### Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Clerk of Court, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with these provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Clerk of Court, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our 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 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. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

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To the Clerk of Court, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana

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This report is intended for the information of management and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

*Stacy & Company*

Houssiere, Louisiana

August 27, 1998



**CLERK OF COURT**  
**LAFOURCHE PARISH, LOUISIANA**  
Summary Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs  
For the Year Ended June 30, 1988

**A. SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS**

1. The auditor's report expresses an unqualified opinion on the general-purpose financial statements of the Clerk of Court, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana.
2. No reportable conditions relating to the audit of the financial statements are reported in the Report on Compliance and Internal Control over Financial Reporting Based on an Audit of Financial Statements in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards.
3. No instances of noncompliance material to the financial statements of the Clerk of Court, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana were disclosed during the audit.
4. A management letter was not issued in connection with the audit of the financial statements.

- B.** There were no findings relating to the financial statements that are required to be reported in accordance with GAGAS.