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**JUDICIAL EXPENSE FUND FOR THE
TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT**

**Component Unit of the
Avoyelles Parish Police Jury
Marksville, Louisiana**

Financial Statements

December 31, 1998

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Release Date 7-21-99

Ducote & Company
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**JUDICIAL EXPENSE FUND FOR THE
TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT**

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Independent Auditors' Report

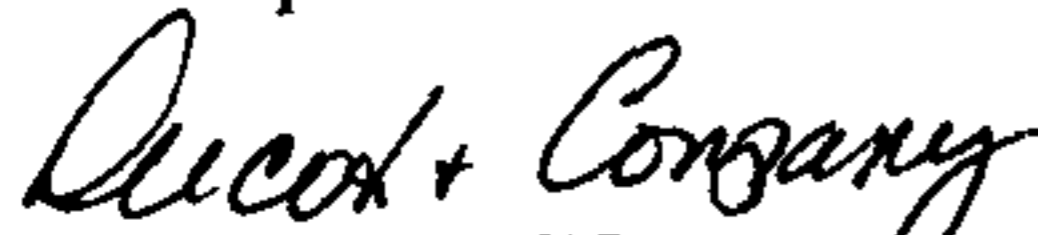
The Honorable Kerry Spruill, Judge
Twelfth Judicial District Court
Marksville, Louisiana

We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial statements of the Judicial Expense Fund of the Twelfth Judicial District Court of Louisiana, a component unit of the Avoyelles Parish Police Jury, as of and for the year ended December 31, 1998, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the District Court'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 Government 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 financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. 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 Judicial Expense Fund of the Twelfth Judicial District Court of Louisiana, a component unit of the Avoyelles Parish Police Jury as of December 31, 1998, and the results of its operations for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued a report dated June 8, 1999 on our consideration of the Judicial Expense Fund of the Twelfth Judicial District Court of Louisiana's internal control structure over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws and regulations.


DUCOTE & COMPANY
Marksville, Louisiana
June 8, 1999

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

The Honorable Kerry Spruill, Judge
Twelfth Judicial District Court
Marksville, Louisiana

We have audited the general-purpose financial statements of the Judicial Expense Fund of the Twelfth Judicial District Court, for the year ended December 31, 1998, and have issued our report thereon dated June 8, 1999. 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 Judicial Expense Fund of the Twelfth Judicial District Court's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws and regulations, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those 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.

Honorable Spruill
Page 2
June 8, 1999

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Twelfth Judicial District's Court's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the general-purpose financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control structure 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 components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the 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 internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

This report is intended for the information of the management of the governing body and the Legislative Auditor of the State of Louisiana. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Ducote & Company
DUCOTE & COMPANY
Marksville, Louisiana
June 8, 1999

**GENERAL PURPOSE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**
(combined statements - overview)

**JUDICIAL EXPENSE FUND FOR THE
TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
COMBINED BALANCE SHEET - ALL FUND TYPES
AND ACCOUNT GROUPS**

December 31, 1998

	<u>Governmental</u> <u>Fund Type</u>	<u>Account</u> <u>Group</u>	<u>Totals</u>
	<u>Special</u> <u>Revenue</u>	<u>General</u> <u>Fixed Assets</u>	<u>(Memo Only)</u>
ASSETS			
Cash	\$ 51,191	\$ -	\$ 51,191
Accounts receivable	6,060	-	6,060
Prepaid expenses	1,387	-	1,387
Machinery and equipment	<u>-</u>	<u>24,340</u>	<u>24,340</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 58,638</u>	<u>\$ 24,340</u>	<u>\$ 82,978</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY			
Liabilities:			
Accounts payable	\$ 195	\$ -	\$ 195
Accrued expenses	<u>2,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,000</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>2,195</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,195</u>
Fund Equity:			
Investment in general fixed assets	-	24,340	24,340
Fund balance, unreserved	<u>56,443</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>56,443</u>
Total Fund Equity	<u>56,443</u>	<u>24,340</u>	<u>80,783</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY	<u>\$ 58,638</u>	<u>\$ 24,340</u>	<u>\$ 82,978</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

**JUDICIAL EXPENSE FUND FOR THE
TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
Year Ended December 31, 1998**

REVENUES

Special assessment fees	\$ 72,898
Interest	<u>1,509</u>
Total revenues	<u>74,407</u>

EXPENDITURES

General government	
Salaries	62,800
Payroll taxes and insurance	8,399
Education and travel	1,931
Capital outlay	6,612
Other expenses	<u>5,578</u>
Total expenditures	<u>85,320</u>

EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES	(10,913)
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING	<u>67,356</u>
FUND BALANCE, ENDING	<u>\$ 56,443</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

**JUDICIAL EXPENSE FUND FOR THE
TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL
Year Ended December 31, 1998**

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
Special assessment fees	\$ 70,000	\$ 72,898	\$ 2,898
Interest	<u>-</u>	<u>1,509</u>	<u>1,509</u>
Total revenues	<u>70,000</u>	<u>74,407</u>	<u>4,407</u>
EXPENDITURES			
General government			
Salaries	69,600	62,800	6,800
Payroll taxes and insurance	28,640	8,399	20,241
Education and travel	20,000	1,931	18,069
Capital outlay	2,000	6,612	(4,612)
Other expenses	<u>2,500</u>	<u>5,578</u>	<u>(3,078)</u>
Total expenditures	<u>122,740</u>	<u>85,320</u>	<u>37,420</u>
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES	(52,740)	(10,913)	41,827
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING	<u>67,356</u>	<u>67,356</u>	<u>-</u>
FUND BALANCE, ENDING	<u>\$ 14,616</u>	<u>\$ 56,443</u>	<u>\$ 41,827</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUDICIAL EXPENSE FUND FOR THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 1998

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Judicial Expense Fund of the Twelfth Judicial District Court was created by Louisiana R.S. 13:996.33. The accounting and reporting policies of the Judicial Expense Fund for the Twelfth Judicial District Court conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governmental units. Such accounting and reporting procedures also conform to requirements of Louisiana Revised Statutes 24:517.

The following is a summary of the more significant policies:

FINANCIAL REPORTING ENTITY

Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 14 established criteria for determining component units of an oversight entity. The basic - but not the only - criterion for determining a component unit is the oversight's ability to exercise oversight responsibility. The most significant manifestation of this ability is financial interdependency. Other manifestations of the ability to exercise oversight responsibility include, but is not limited to,: 1) selection of governing authority; 2) the designation of management; and 3) the ability to significantly influence operations and accountability for fiscal matters.

The Judicial Expense Fund is a part of the operations of the district court system. The district court system is fiscally dependent on the police jury for office space and courtrooms. The substance of the relationship between the district court system and the police jury is that the police jury has approval authority over its capital budget.

Based on the above criteria it has been determined that the Judicial Expense Fund of the Twelfth Judicial District Court of Louisiana is a component unit of the Avoyelles Parish Police Jury.

**JUDICIAL EXPENSE FUND FOR THE
TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
December 31, 1998**

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

FUND ACCOUNTING:

The accounts of the Court are organized on the basis of funds or account groups, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund or account group are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues and expenditures. Resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are to be controlled.

GOVERNMENTAL FUND

Governmental funds account for all or most of the Judicial Expense Fund of the Twelfth Judicial District Court's general activities, including the collection and disbursement of specific or legally restricted monies, the acquisition or construction of general fixed assets, and the servicing of general long-term obligations. Governmental funds include:

SPECIAL REVENUE FUND

Special revenue funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes.

GENERAL FIXED ASSETS GROUP

The general fixed assets group is used to account for fixed assets used in governmental fund type operations for control purposes. All fixed assets are valued at historical cost or estimated historical cost if actual historical cost is not available. Donated fixed assets are valued at their estimated fair value on the date of donation. No depreciation is recorded on general fixed assets.

**JUDICIAL EXPENSE FUND FOR THE
TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
December 31, 1998**

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING:

Basis of accounting refers to when revenue and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. All governmental funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when they become measurable and available as net current assets. Expenditures are recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related fund liability is incurred.

BUDGETARY PRACTICES

In accordance with Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1301 through 39:1314, the Judicial Expense Fund of the Twelfth Judicial District Court is required to adopt an annual budget, but is not subject to the public participation laws as the proposed expenditures are less than \$250,000. All annual appropriations lapse at year end. Encumbrance accounting is not utilized.

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AND INVESTMENTS

Cash includes amounts in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, and time deposits. Cash equivalents include amounts in time deposits and those investments with original maturities of 90 days or less. Under state law, the Judicial Expense Fund of the Twelfth Judicial District Court may deposit funds in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, or time deposits with state banks organized under Louisiana law or any other state of the United States, or under the laws of the United States.

Under state law, the Judicial Expense Fund of the Twelfth Judicial District Court may invest in United States bonds, treasury notes, or certificates. These are classified as investments if their original maturities exceed 90 days; however, if the original maturities are 90 days or less, they are classified as cash equivalents. Investments are stated at cost.

**JUDICIAL EXPENSE FUND FOR THE
TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
December 31, 1998**

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

TOTAL COLUMNS ON COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The total columns presented in the combined financial statements are captioned Memorandum Only to indicate that they are presented only to facilitate financial analysis. No consolidating entries or other eliminations were made in the aggregation of the totals; thus, they do not present consolidated information and do not purport to present financial position, results of operations or changes in financial position in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

NOTE 2 - CASH

At year end, the cash consisted of deposits with banks, with a carrying value of \$51,191 and a bank balance of \$51,292. The bank balance was fully covered by federal depository insurance.

NOTE 3 - CHANGES IN GENERAL FIXED ASSETS

The following is a summary of changes in the general fixed assets account group for the year ended December 31, 1998:

	<u>Balance 12/31/97</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Retirements</u>	<u>Balance 12/31/98</u>
Machinery and Equipment	<u>\$ 17,728</u>	<u>\$ 6,612</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$24,340</u>
Total General Fixed Assets	<u>\$ 17,728</u>	<u>\$ 6,612</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$24,340</u>

JUDICIAL EXPENSE FUND FOR THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
December 31, 1998**

NOTE 4 – YEAR 2000 RESOLUTION

The stages identified by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board as being necessary to implement a year 2000-compliant system are: Awareness Stage, Assessment Stage, Remediation Stage, and Validation/Testing Stage.

The Judicial Expense Fund is currently in the Remediation Stage of the implementation of a Year 2000 compliant system.

The progress to date by the Twelfth Judicial District Judicial Expense Fund with regards to Y2000 compliance is:

Awareness Stage: The Twelfth Judicial District Judicial Expense Fund has purchased only a limited amount of equipment, comprised of furniture and fixtures and some computer equipment. The majority of the equipment utilized in the Twelfth Judicial District Court System has been purchased by the Avoyelles Parish Clerk of Court and the Avoyelles Parish Police Jury.

Assessment and Remediation Stages: Management is currently working with a consultant to perform test to determine which items of equipment used by the Twelfth Judicial District Judicial Expense Fund are not Y2000 compliant. Only the equipment used in the Twelfth Judicial District Court System that has been purchased with Judicial Expense Funds is being evaluated by the consultant. The Avoyelles Parish Clerk of Court, through its own Y2000 Plan, is evaluating and testing the computers and related software utilized in the Twelfth Judicial District Court System. The Avoyelles Parish Police Jury, through its own Y2000 Plan, is evaluating and testing equipment related to the facilities housing the Twelfth Judicial District Court System.

Validation/Testing Stage: Management of the Twelfth Judicial District Judicial Expense Fund anticipates beginning this stage in July 1999 and completing the testing by October 1999.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**JUDICIAL EXPENSE FUND FOR THE
TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
Year Ended December 31, 1998**

Section I – Internal Control and Compliance Material to the Financial Statements

None

Section II – Management Letter

None

**JUDICIAL EXPENSE FUND FOR THE
TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN FOR
CURRENT YEAR FINDINGS
Year Ended December 31, 1998**

Section I – Internal Control and Compliance Material to the Financial Statements

None

Section II – Management Letter

None