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Financial Report

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AMBULANCE SERVICE DISTRICT

No. 1 OF LAFOURCHE PARISH

Cut Off, Louisiana

December 31, 2003

and

December 31, 2002

Under provisions of state law, this report is a public document. A copy of the report has been submitted to the 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 8-11-04

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FINANCIAL SECTION

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MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

This section of AMBULANCE SERVICE DISTRICT NO. 1 OF LAFOURCHE PARISH annual financial report presents background information and management's analysis of the Ambulance District's financial performance during the fiscal year that ended December 31, 2003. Please read it in conjunction with the financial statements in this report.

Financial Highlights

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- The Ambulance District's total assets increased by \$195,857 due to an increase in cash and cash equivalents, receivables and net capital assets.
- During the year, the Ambulance District's total operating revenues increased \$87,709 from prior year. The Ambulance District had an increase in operating expenses of \$238,963. The increase in operating expenses was primarily due to an increase in salaries and related benefits and insurance cost.
- The Ambulance District increased net assets by \$188,745.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This financial report consists of four parts: Management's Discussion and Analysis, Basic Financial Statements, and Supplementary Information and various governmental compliance reports and schedules by certified public accountants and management. The Basic financial Statements also include notes to the financial statements, which explain some of the information in the financial statements in more detail.

Required Basic Financial Statements

The Basic Financial Statements of the Ambulance District report information about the Ambulance District using Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) accounting principles. These statements offer short-term and long-term financial information about its activities. The Statement of Net Assets includes the Ambulance District's assets and liabilities and provide information about the nature and amounts of investments in resources (assets) and the obligations to Ambulance District creditors (liabilities). It also provides the basis for computing rate of return, evaluating the capital structure of the Ambulance District and assessing the liquidity and financial flexibility of the Ambulance District. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are accounted for in the Statement of Revenue, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets. This statement measures the success of the Ambulance District's operations over the past two years and can be used to determine whether the Ambulance District has been able to recover all of its costs through its patient service revenue and other revenue sources. The final required financial statement is the Statement of Cash Flows. The primary purpose of this statement is to provide information about the Ambulance District's cash from operations, investing and financing activities, and to provide answers to such questions as where did cash come from, what was cash used for and what was the change in cash balance during the reporting period.

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MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Financial Analysis of the Ambulance District

The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets report information about the Ambulance District's activities. These two statements report the net assets of the Ambulance District and changes in them. Increases or decreases in the Ambulance District's net assets are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. However, other non-financial factors such as changes in the economic conditions, population growth and new or changed government legislation.

Net Assets

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A Summary of the Ambulance District's Statement of Net Assets is present in Table 1 below:

TABLE 1 Statement of Net Assets (in thousands)

	<u>Decem</u>	<u>her 31</u> 2004	Dollar <u>Change</u>	Percentage <u>Change</u>
Current and Other Assets Capital Assets – Net	\$1,985,645 <u>542,647</u>	\$1,832,870 <u>499,565</u>	\$152,775 <u>43,082</u>	8.3 % <u>8.6 %</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$2,528,292</u>	\$2,332,435	<u>\$ 195,857</u>	8.4 %
Current Liabilities	\$ 73,734	\$ 66,622	\$ 7,112	10.7 %
Total Liabilities	<u>\$73,734</u>	<u>\$ 66,622</u>	<u>\$7,112</u>	<u> </u>
Net Assets Invested in Capital Assets Unrestricted	542,647 1,911,911	499,565 1,766,248	43,082 <u>145,663</u>	8,6 % <u>8.2 %</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>\$2,454,558</u>	\$2,265,813	<u>\$ 188,745</u>	83%

As can be seen in Table 1, total assets increased from \$2,332,435 to \$2,528,292 in fiscal year 2003. The change in total net assets results primarily from increases in cash, receivables and net capital assets.

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MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Summary of Revenue, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets

TABLE 2 Condensed Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets

	Years Ended December 31			
		2003		2.002
Net Patient Service Revenue, (Net of Provision for Bad Debts of \$339,937 for 2003 and \$377,244 for 2002)	\$	818,505	\$	731,087
Other Revenue, Net		1,088		<u></u>

Total Operating Revenue	819,593	731,884
Depreciation Other operating expenses	86,844 1,264,021	85,217 1,026,685
Total Operating Expenses	1,350,865	1,111,902
Loss From Operations Non-operating Income	(531,272) 720,017	(380,018) <u>698,880</u>
Change in Net Assets	188,745	318,862
Net Assets – Beginning of Year	2,265,813	<u> 1,946,951</u>
Net Assets – End of Year	<u>\$_2,454,558</u>	<u>\$ 2,265,813</u>

Sources of Revenue

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Operating Revenue

During fiscal year 2003, the Ambulance District derived the majority of its total revenue from patient service revenue. Patient service revenue includes revenue from the Medicare and Medicaid programs and patients, or their third-party payors, who receive ambulance care.

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MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Non-operating Revenue

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The majority of Non-operating revenue is from millage (Ad valorem) taxes received by the district. The district received millage (Ad valorem) taxes of \$694,490 in 2003 and \$657,693 in 2002 net of assessor's fees of \$22,288 in 2003 and \$20,941 in 2002. The district also receives revenue sharing of approximately \$10,000 per year and has investment income from its investments which consist mainly of money market accounts and certificates of deposits.

Table 3 presents the gross charges billed for patient services and the number of amublance trips for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002.

TABLE 3 Gross Charges Billed and Ambulance Trips

Year Ended December 31

	2003	2002
Gross Charges Billed	\$1,158,442	\$1,108,331
Number of Trips	3,009	2,978

Summary of Cash Flows

TABLE 4

Condensed Statements of Cash Flows

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	Year Ended		
	December 31,		
	2003	2002	
Cash and Cash Equivalents Provided By (Used In)			
Operating Activities	\$(463,382)	\$(278,546)	
Non-capital Financing Activities	657,495	538,877	
Capital and Related Financing Activities	(129,926)	(189,680)	
Investing Activities	14,588	17,289	
Net Increase In Cash and Cash Equivalents	78,775	87,940	
Cash and Cash Equivalents			
Beginning of Year	873,705	<u>_785,765</u>	

End of Year





MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

TABLE 5

Capital Assets

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The Ambulance District's capital assets activities are included in Table 4 below:

		Capital Assets		
	December 31	December 31	Dollar	Percentage
	2002	2002	<u>Change</u>	Change
		<u> </u>		
Buildings	\$ 465,748	\$347,893	\$117,855	33.9 %
Vehicles (Ambulances)	296,116	296,116	-	0 %
Furniture and Equipment				
Furniture and Fixtures	94,720	91,187	3,533	3.9 %
Medical Equipment	80,989	80,989	-	0 %
Communication Equipme	nt 50,969	48,152	2,817	5.9 %
Other Equipment	38,025	32,304	5,721	<u> 17.7 %</u>
	1,026,567	896,641	129,926	14.5 %
Accumulated Depreciation	n <u>483,920</u>	397,076	<u>_86,844</u>	21.9 %

Net Capital Assets <u>\$ 542,647</u> <u>\$499,565</u> \$ <u>43,082</u> <u>8.6.%</u>

Major capital asset events during the current fiscal year included the following:

- The district capitalized cost associated with a garage addition at its operations center in the amount of \$100,638.
- The district purchased \$29,288 of various medical and other equipment.

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets and Rates

The district's Board of Directors and management considered the following factors and indicators when setting next year's budget, rates and fees. These factors and indicators include:

- The Economy
- Changes in Medicare Regulations
- Changes in Medicaid Regulations
- Changes in Health Care Industry
- Millage Rate

The district's millage rate will be the same for 2004. Accordingly, tax revenues are ' expected to remain consistent with the prior year. A small increase in operating revenue is projected due to an expected change in fee schedules and call volume. This will compensate for the slump experienced by the first phase of Medicare fee schedule changes in 2003. Insurance expense is projected to increase for the year 2004. The district does not expect any significant variances for its other revenues or expenses.

Contacting the District's Financial Manager

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, customers and creditors with a general overview of the District's finances and to demonstrate the District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact District Administration.

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Board of Commissioners Ambulance Service District No. 1 of Lafourche Parish

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

I have audited the accompanying basic financial statements of Ambulance Service District No. 1 of Lafourche Parish, component unit of the Lafourche Parish Council, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003 and December 31, 2002, as listed in the table of contents. These basic financial statements are the responsibility of the management of Ambulance Service District No. 1 of Lafourche Parish. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these basic financial statements based on my audits.

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

In my opinion, the basic financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Ambulance Service District No. 1 of Lafourche Parish as of December 31, 2003 and December 31, 2002, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

As discussed in Note J to the basic financial statements, effective January 1, 2003, the Ambulance District adopted Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statements No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments;* No. 37, *Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments: Omnibus;* and No. 38, *Certain Financial Statement Note Disclosures.* The financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2002 have been restated to conform to this presentation.

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MEMBERS AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS LOUISIANA SOCIETY OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (Continued)

Management's discussion and analysis on pages i through vi are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, I have also issued my report dated June 18, 2004 on my consideration of Ambulance Service District No. 1 of Lafourche Parish internal control over financial reporting and my tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in

considering the results of my audits.

My audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying financial information listed as supplementary information in the table of contents is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements of **Ambulance Service District No. 1 of Lafourche Parish.** Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the basic financial statements and, in my opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Aldon G. Wahl, Jr. Certified Public Accountant

June 18, 2004





STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

Decemi	<u>per 31</u> ,	
2003		2002

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	952,480	\$ 873,705
Investments		169,783	168,882
Patients accounts receivable, less allowance			
for doubtful accounts of \$210,620 and			
\$253,634 respectively		149,146	122,432
Millage tax receivable, less allowance			
for doubtful accounts of \$7,168 and			
\$ 20,359 respectively		687,322	637,334
Prepaid expenses	<u> </u>	26,864	 30,467
Total current assets		1,985,595	1,832,820

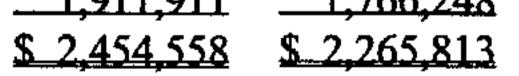
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NON CURRENT ASSETS

CAPITAL ASSETS Depreciable, net	542,647499,565
OTHER ASSETS	5050
Total noncurrent assets	542,697499,615
Total assets LIABILITIES	<u>\$_2,528,292</u> <u>\$_2,332,435</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES Accounts payable Accrued vacation and sick pay Payroll liabilities payable	\$ 14,577 \$ 9,541 54,820 55,577 4,337 1,504
Total current liabilities	73,73466,622
Total liabilities NET ASSETS	73,73466,622
Invested in capital assets Unrestricted	542,647 499,565







The accompany notes are an integral part of these financial statements. (3)

STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

	Decemb	<u>er 31</u>
	2003	2002
NET PATIENT SERVICE REVENUE, Net		
of Provision for Bad Debts of \$339,937 for 2003		
and \$377,244 for 2002	\$ 818,505	\$ 731,087
OTHER OPERATING REVENUE	1,088	797
Total operating revenues	<u>819,593</u>	<u>731,884</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES:		
Contractual services	23,600	23,600
Depreciation	86,844	85,217
Fuel	13,801	11,617
Insurance - general	149,910	106,301
Insurance - medical	63,630	46,415
Medical supplies	39,736	32,993
Miscellaneous expenses	5,380	6,224
Office and general supplies	15,242	9,488
Payroll taxes and retirement	86,083	70,588
Postage	3,325	3,639
Professional fees	3,600	3,600
Repairs and maintenance	27,246	23,477
Salaries	797,804	660,443
Telephone	13,328	12,591
Uniforms	5,504	2,356
Utilities	15,832	13,353
Total operating expenses	1,350,865	_1,111,902
Operating income (loss)	(531,272)	(380,018)
NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES): Millage tax, net of assessor's fees		
of \$22,288 in 2003 and \$20,941 in 2002	694,490	657,693
Revenue sharing	10,038	10,044
Investment income	15,489	31,143
Total nonoperating revenue (expenses)	720,017	<u> </u>
Change in net assets	188,745	318,862





NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR

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The accompany notes are an integral part of these financial statements. (4)

STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

	December 31,	
	2003	2002
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Cash received from patients and third-party payors	\$ 793,527	\$ 740,300
Cash payments to employees for services and benefits	(945,441)	(772,783)
Cash payments to suppliers of goods and services	(311,468)	(246,063)
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(463,382</u>)	<u> (278,546</u>)
CASH FLOWS FROM NON-CAPITAL FINANCING ACTI	VITIES:	
Millage tax	647,457	528,833
Revenue sharing	10,038	10,044
Net cash provided by non-capital		
financing activities	<u> </u>	538,877

CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED

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FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Acquisition of capital assets	(129,926)	(_189,680)
Net cash used for capital and		
related financing activities	_(_129,926)	(_189,680)
CASH FLOWS FROM (USED IN) INVESTING ACTIVITIE	S:	
Purchase of investment securities	(5,659)	(13,854)
Net increase in fair value of investments	20,247	31,143
Net cash provided by investing activities	14,588	17,289
NET INCREASE(DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH		
EQUIVALENTS	78,775	87,940
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS –		
BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u> </u>	785,765
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS –		
END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 952,480</u>	<u>\$ 873,705</u>

The accompany notes are an integral part of these financial statements. (5)

STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Continued)

December 31, 2003 2002

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RECONCILATION OF OPERATING LOSS TO NET CASH USED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES

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Operating loss	\$ (531,272)	\$ (380,018)
Adjustments to reconcile operating loss		
to net cash used in operating activities		
Depreciation	86,844	85,217
Provision for uncollectible accounts	339,937	377,244
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
(Increase) decrease in receivables	(369,606)	(365,200)
(Increase) decrease in prepaid expenses	3,603	(3,628)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	5,036	3,176
Increase (decrease) in accrued vacation and sick pay	(757)	3,159
Increase (decrease) in payroll liabilities payable	2,833	1,504
Net cash provided by (used in)		
operating activities	<u>(463,382</u>)	<u>(278,546</u>)
NON-CASH INVESTING, CAPITAL,		
AND FINANCING ACTIVITIES	\$ -	S -

The accompany notes are an integral part of these financial statements. (6)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE A

DESCRIPTION OF REPORTING ENTITY AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

REPORTING ENTITY

Ambulance Service District No. 1 of Lafourche Parish was created by the Police Jury of the Parish of Lafourche on November 22, 1978. The district serves the area of Lafourche Parish served by Hospital Service District No. 1 of Lafourche Parish (Tenth Ward of Lafourche Parish). The Ambulance District was created to own and operate ambulances for the care and transportation of persons suffering from illness, injury or disabilities which require ambulance care.

Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 14 established criteria for determining which component units should be considered part of the reporting entity 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
 - a. The ability of the Parish 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.
- 2. Organizations for which the Parish does not appoint a voting majority but are fiscally dependent on the Parish.
- 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 Lafourche Parish Council appoints all members of the district's governing board it has the ability to impose its will on the District, and therefore the Ambulance District was determined to be a component unit of Lafourche Parish. The accompanying basic financial statements present information only on the funds maintained by the Ambulance District and do not present information on Lafourche Parish, the general government services provided by that government unit, or the other governmental units that comprise the financial reporting entity.

The district has reviewed all of its activities and determined that there are no potential component units which should be included in the financial statements.

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

NOTE A

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DESCRIPTION OF REPORTING ENTITY AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

The financial statements of the Ambulance Service District No. 1 of Lafourche Parish have been prepared in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) as applied to government units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. Pursuant to Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 20, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Proprietary Funds and Other Governmental Entities That Use Proprietary Fund Accounting, the district has elected to apply the provisions of all relevant pronouncements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB), including those issued on or before November 30, 1989, that do not conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements.

PROPRIETARY FUND ACCOUNTING

The ambulance district utilizes the proprietory fund method of accounting whereby revenue and expenses are recognized on the accrual basis. Substantially all revenues and expenses are subject to accrual.

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

Basis of Accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures (or expenses) are recognized and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied. The accrual basis of accounting is followed in recording revenues and expenses by the district. Under the accrual basis of accounting revenues are recognized when they are earned and expenses are recognized when incurred.

REVENUES

Ad valorem taxes are recognized in the year the taxes are levied. Net patient revenues (ambulance charges) are recognized when the services are rendered.

EXPENSES

Expenses are recognized when the related liability is incurred.

CAPITAL ASSETS-PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Property plant and equipment are recorded at cost. Donated equipment is recorded at fair value at the date of donation, which is then treated as cost. Depreciation is computed under the straight-line method of depreciation based on the estimated useful lives of the individual assets. Depreciation is charged as an expense to operations. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs

that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend asset lives are expensed as incurred. Major replacements and improvements are capitalized at cost.

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

NOTE A

DESCRIPTION OF REPORTING ENTITY AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

STATEMENTS OF REVENUE, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

For purposes of presentation, transactions deemed by management to be ongoing, major or central to the provision of ambulance care services are reported as operating revenues and expenses. Peripheral or incidental transactions are reported as non-operating income and expense.

NET ASSETS

Net assets represent the difference between assets and liabilities. Net asset classifications are defined as follows:

Net Assets Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt – Consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowings used for the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets. Net assets invested in capital assets, net of related debt is reduced by unspent debt proceeds. The district had no debt at December 31, 2003 and December 31, 2002.

Restricted Net Assets - Net assets are reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use, either through external constraints imposed by creditors (such as through debt convenants), grantors, contributors, laws or regulations of other governments or constraints imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Unrestricted Net Assets – This component of net assets consists of constraints placed on net assets that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "invested in capital assets, net of related debt," as described above.

The district first applies restricted resources when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net assets are available. The district had no restricted net assets at December 31, 2003 and December 31, 2002.

CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Cash includes demand deposits and certificates of deposit in banks and are recorded at cost plus accrued interest.

Louisiana state law allows all political subdivisions to invest excess funds in obligations of the United States, certificates of deposit of any bank domiciled or having a branch office in the State of Louisiana or any other federally insured investments, guaranteed investment contracts and

investment grade (A-1/P-1) commercial paper of domestic corporations.

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

NOTE A

DESCRIPTION OF REPORTING ENTITY AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

CASH AND INVESTMENTS (continued)

State law requires deposits (cash and certificates of deposits) of all political subdivisions be fully collateralized at all times. Acceptable collateralization includes the FDIC insurance and the market value of securities purchased and pledged to the political subdivision. Obligations of the United States, the State of Louisiana and certain political subdivisions are allowed as security for deposits. Obligations furnished as security must be held by the political subdivision or with an unaffiliated bank or trust company for the account of the political subdivision.

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the District considers all cash on hand, demand deposits, money market accounts and certificates of deposit with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

REVENUE RECOGNITION - PROPERTY TAXES

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, January and February. Ad valorem taxes (which are based on population and homesteads in the parish) are recorded in the year the taxes are levied. The Lafourche Parish Tax Collector bills and collects taxes for the district.

NET PATIENT SERVICE REVENUE AND RELATED RECEIVABLE

The district provides care to patients even though they may lack adequate insurance or may be covered under contractual arrangements that do not pay full charges. As a result, the district is exposed to certain credit risks. The district manages such risk by regularly reviewing it's accounts and contracts, and by providing appropriate allowances.

Trade receivables are carried at original invoice amount less an estimate made for doubtful receivables based on a review of all outstanding amounts on a timely basis. Management estimates the allowance for doubtful accounts by identifying troubled accounts and by using historical experience applied to an aging of accounts. Trade receivables are written off when deemed uncollectible. Recoveries of trade receivables previously written off are recorded when received.

ALLOWANCE FOR DOUBTFUL ACCOUNTS

The allowance for doubtful accounts is maintained at an amount which presents accounts receivable at their realizable value. Receivables are written off against the allowance for doubtful accounts in the year the accounts are determined to be uncollectible.

COMPENSATED ABSENCES

Compensated absences (vacation leave and sick pay) are accounted for in accordance with GASB Statement No. 16.

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

NOTE A

DESCRIPTION OF REPORTING ENTITY AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

COMPENSATED ABSENCES (continued)

Vacation and sick leave are determined by length of service for full-time employees as follows:

1 year completed	1 week vacation and 1 week sick leave
2-4 years	2 weeks vacation and 2 week sick leave
5 years or more	3 weeks vacation and 3 weeks sick leave

Vacation leave must be used within the next twelve months or its is forfeited. Sick leave can be banked up to 160 hours. Sick leave in excess of 160 hours is paid to employees on their anniversary date. Vacation and sick leave are paid to employees upon termination of employment.

USE OF ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

NOTE B

CASH AND INVESTMENTS

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

At December 31, 2003 and 2002, the carrying amount of the ambulance district's cash was \$952,480 and \$873,705, respectively, and the bank balance was \$982,138 and \$894,150, respectively. Cash and cash equivalents are stated at cost, which approximates market. The carrying amounts for cash and cash equivalents at December 31, 2003 and December 31, 2002 respectively, are as follows:

	December 31, 2003		December 31, 2002	
Noninterest-bearing demand deposits	\$	_	\$	-
Interest-bearing demand deposits		32,269		15,388
Moneymarket accounts		719,271		760,517
Certificates of deposits		200.940		97.800



DEPOSITS

The deposits at December 31, 2003, were secured and categorized into three categories of credit risk as follows:

(11)

AMBULANCE SERVICE DISTRICT NO. 1 OF LAFOURCHE PARISH NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Çash	Equivalents
	·····

	Cash	Certificates Other <u>of Deposit Describe)</u> Total
Carrying Amount on Balance Sheet	<u>\$751,540</u>	<u>\$ 200.940</u> <u>\$ 952.480</u>
Bank Balances:		
a: Insured (FDIC) or collateralized		
with securities held by the entity		
or its agent <u>in the entity's name</u>	783,064	<u> 199,074 </u>
b. Collateralized with securities held		
by pledging financial institution's		
trust department or agent <u>in the</u> <u>entity's name</u>		
c. Uncollateralized, including any securities held for the entity but <u>not in the entity's name</u>		
TOTAL Bank Balances	<u>\$783.064</u>	<u>\$ 199,074 \$ </u>

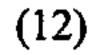
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The deposits at December 31, 2002, were secured and categorized into three categories of credit risk as follows:

Cash Equivalents

Certificates Other Cash of Deposit Describe) Total Carrying Amount on Balance Sheet <u>\$ 97,800 \$</u> <u>\$775,905</u> <u>\$ 873,705</u> Bank Balances: a: Insured (FDIC) or collateralized with securities held by the entity or its agent in the entity's name 796,350 97,800 894,150 b. Collateralized with securities held by pledging financial institution's trust department or agent in the entity's name c. Uncollateralized, including any securities held for the entity but not in the entity's name TOTAL Bank Balances \$796,350 <u>97,800 \$</u> \$894,150 <u>\$</u>_

The district's balances were entirely insured or entirely collateralized by securities held by the district's agent in the district's name.



AMBULANCE SERVICE DISTRICT NO. 1 OF LAFOURCHE PARISH NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

INVESTMENTS

Investments are stated at fair value. The district accounts for its investments in accordance with GASB Statement 31. This statement requires investments to be carried at fair value with unrealized changes being recorded in the statements of revenues, expenses and changes retained earnings.

Investments can be classified according to the level of risk to the entity. The following categories list each type of investment disclosing the carrying amount, market value, and applicable category of risk.

Category 1 – Insured or registered in the entity's name, or securities held by the entity or its agent in the entity's name

Category 2 – Uninsured and unregistered with securities held by the counterparty's trust department or agent in the entity's name

Category 3 – Unsecured and unregistered with securities held by the counterparty, or by its trust department or agent but not in the entity's name.

Investments at December 31, 2003 are as follows:

	<u>Catego</u>	ry of R	<u>isk</u> 3	Fund	Amount	Value
Type of Investment						
Repurchase Agreements	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u> </u>
U.S. Government Securities	<u> </u>	<u> </u>			·-··	<u> </u>
Common & Preferred Stock						
Commercial Paper				<u> </u>		
Corporate Bonds	<u> </u>	<u> </u>			<u> </u>	
Governmental Mutual Fund				169,783	169,783	169,783
TOTAL	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$169,783</u>	<u>\$169,783</u>	<u>\$169,783</u>
Investments at December 31, 2002 are as follows: Mutual Carrying Fair						
	<u>Catego</u>	ry of R	<u>isk</u> _1	<u>Fund</u> 3	Amount	<u>Value</u>
Type of Investment						
Repurchase Agreements	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	\$	<u>\$</u>	
U.S. Government Securities						
Common & Preferred Stock		<u></u>				

Commercial Paper	<u> </u>	<u></u>			<u></u>	
Corporate Bonds				<u></u>		
Governmental Mutual Fund				168,882	168,882	168,882
TOTAL	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$168,882</u>	<u>\$168,882</u>	<u>\$168,882</u>

(13)

AMBULANCE SERVICE DISTRICT NO. 1

OF LAFOURCHE PARISH

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

NOTE C

CAPITAL ASSETS PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

A summary of property and equipment at December 31, 2003 and 2002 is as follows:

	Estimated	Decembe	er 31,
	life in years	2003	2002
Buildings	15-39	\$ 465,748	\$347,893
Vehicles (Ambulances)	5	296,116	296,116
Furniture and Equipment			
Furniture and Fixtures	5-8	94,720	91,187
Medical Equipment	5-8	80,989	80,989
Communication Equipment	5-8	50,969	48,152
Other Equipment	5-8	38,025	32,304
		1,026,567	896,641
Accumulated Depreciation		<u>483,920</u>	397,076
		<u>\$ 542,647</u>	<u>\$499,565</u>

Depreciation expense charged to operations for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002 were \$86,844 and \$85,217 respectively.

The following changes occurred in the property and equipment account:

5	Ų	I - I 4		
	Balance			Balance
	December 31			December 31
	2002	Additions	Deletions	2003
Capital Assets, Being Depreciate	ed:			
Buildings	\$ 347,893	\$ 117,855	\$	\$ 465,748
Vehicles (Ambulances)	296,116			296,116
Furniture and Equipment	91,187	3,533		94,720
Medical Equipment	80,989			80,989
Communication Equipment	48,152	2,817		50,969
Other Equipment	32,304	5,721		38,025
Total Capital Assets				
Being Depreciated	<u>\$ 896,641</u>	<u> 129,926</u>		<u>\$ 1,026,567</u>
Less Accumulated Depreciation	For:			
Buildings	\$ 135,937	\$ 14,719	\$	\$ 150,656
Vehicles (Ambulances)	102,502	49,441		151,943
Furniture and Equipment	59,222	8,655		67,877
Medical Equipment	59,210	4,577		63,787
Communication Equipment	26,918	4,489		31,407
Other Equipment	13,287	4,963		18,250

Total Accumulated Depreciation 397,076 86,844 483,920 -Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net 499,565 ____43,082 542,647 ____ Total Capital Assets, Net <u>\$ 499,565</u> <u>\$_43,082</u> 542,647 ____

(14)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

NOTE C CAPITAL ASSETS PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (continued)

,	Balance December 31 2001	Additions	Deletions	Balance December 31 2002
Capital Assets, Being Depreciated:				
Buildings	\$ 327,758	\$ 20,135	\$	\$ 347,893
Vehicles (Ambulances)	246,352	102,849	53,085	296,116
Furniture and Equipment	68,464	22,723		91,187
Medical Equipment	67,103	13,886		80,989
Communication Equipment	38,169	9,983		48,152
Other Equipment	12,200	20,104	·····	32,304
Total Capital Assets				
Being Depreciated	760,046	<u>189,680</u>	53,085	896,641
Less Accumulated Depreciation Fo	r:			
Buildings	122,826	13,111		135 ,93 7
Vehicles (Ambulances)	100,506	55,081	53,085	102,502
Furniture and Equipment	52,497	6,725		59,222
Medical Equipment	54,926	4,284		59,210
Communication Equipment	23,324	3,594		26,918
Other Equipment	10,865	2,422		13,287
Total Accumulated				
Depreciation	364,944	85,217	53,085	397,076
Total Capital Assets Being				
Depreciated, Net	<u>\$ 395,102</u>	<u>\$_104,463</u>	<u>s</u>	<u>\$ 499,565</u>
Total Capital Assets, Net	<u>\$ 395,102</u>	<u>\$ 104,463</u>	\$ <u></u>	\$ <u>499,565</u>

NOTE D

PENSION PLAN

During 1991 the district established a plan under Section 408K of the Internal Revenue Code. Employees are automatically enrolled in the SEP (Small Employer Pension) or 408 (k) type plan after three (3) years of continuous full-time service. Lafourche Ambulance District's contribution rate will be set by the Board of Commissioners annually. The rate will be based on the employees gross earnings. The employee is allowed to contribute an amount up to, but not to exceed, fifteen (15%) percent of his/her gross earnings when combined with the employer's contribution. Employee contributions are allowed after one year of full-time service. Employees are 100% vested at the time of their enrollment. The plan does not issue a stand-alone report.

(15)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

NOTE D

PENSION PLAN (continued) SPECIFIC PROVISIONS

1. Full-time employees are eligible upon completion of three (3) years of uninterrupted service. Leave of absence or other non-paid leave does not count toward accumulation of seniority.

2. Employee contributions will be calculated on a percentage of the employee's gross earnings on a pre-taxed basis.

3. Contributions will begin the month following the employee's third anniversary date.

4. Other regulations governing options such as premature withdrawals and changes in contribution rates, etc. are specified in the original contract.

5. The employer's contribution rate was five (5) percent of gross wages of qualifying employees for 2003, 2002 and 2001.

6. Other than its contribution made to the participants' accounts and recorded as expenditures, the district does not guarantee benefits under the plan.

7. All amounts are maintained in each individual's account administered by an insurance company.

The total payroll for the year 2003 was \$797,804 of which \$492,620 was covered by the plan. For 2003, the district's contribution was \$24,631 (5% of covered payroll). Employee contributions to the plan amounted to \$20,127 for 2003.

The total payroll for the year 2002 was \$660,443 of which \$408,000 was covered by the plan. For 2002, the district's contribution was \$20,400(5% of covered payroll). Employee contributions to the plan amounted to \$20,525 for 2002.

The total payroll for the year 2001 was \$576,209 of which \$315,360 was covered by the plan. For 2001, the district's contribution was \$15,768 (5% of covered payroll). Employee contributions to the plan amounted to \$19,649 for 2001.

NOTE E CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS

During the year the Ambulance District was party to an intergovernmental agreement with Fire Protection District No. 3 of Lafourche Parish. The Fire District provides communication services, including dispatching of calls, on a twenty-four hour a day basis, seven days a week for the Ambulance District at a fee of \$5,000 per quarter.

(16)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

NOTE F

POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The Ambulance District has no Post Employment Benefits.

NOTE G

PER DIEM PAID BOARD MEMBERS

Per diem payments are presented on Schedule I

No per diem was paid to members of the Board of Commissioners for the year ended December 31, 2003.

NOTE H

RISK MANAGEMENT

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to workers compensation; torts; theft

of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and natural disasters for which the District carries commercial insurance. No settlements were made during the year that exceeded the District's insurance coverage.

NOTE I

BUSINESS AND CREDIT CONCENTRATIONS

The District grants credit to patients, substantially all of who are local residents. The district generally does not require collateral or other security extending credit to patients; however, it routinely obtains assignments of (or is otherwise entitled to receive) patients' benefits payable under health insurance programs, plans or policies (e.g., Medicare, Medicaid, Blue Cross and commercial insurance policies).

NOTE J

ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

The District has adopted GASB No. 34, Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments. GASB Statement No. 34 established standards for external financial reporting for all state and local entities. It requires the classification of net assets into three components, as described in Note A. The adoption of GASB Statement No. 34 had no effect on the basic financial statements except for the classification of net assets in accordance with the statement, the change from the indirect to the direct method of reporting cash flows from operating activities, and the inclusion of bad debts as a reduction of net patient service revenue instead of a component of operating expenses.

NOTE K CONTINGENT LIABILITIES – JUDGEMENTS, CLAIMS, AND SIMILAR CONTINGENCIES

There is no litigation pending against the district that is required to be disclosed in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 5.

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AMBULANCE SERVICE DISTRICT NO. I OF LAFOURCHE PARISH

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

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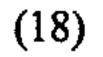
NOTE L NET PATIENT SERVICE REVENUE AND RECEIVABLES

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Presented below is a summary of net patient service revenues and receivables for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002.

	2003	2002
Gross Patient Service Revenue	\$ 1,158,442	\$ 1,108,331
Less: Provision for Bad Debts	(339,937)	<u>(377,244</u>)

Net Patient Service Revenue	<u>\$ 818,505</u>	<u>\$731,087</u>
	2003	2002
Patient Accounts Receivables	\$ 359,766	\$ 376,066
Less Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	(210,620)	(_253,634)
Net Patient Accounts Receivables	<u>\$ 149,146</u>	<u>\$ 122,432</u>



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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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AMBULANCE SERVICE DISTRICT NO. 1

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OF LAFOURCHE PARISH

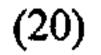
SCHEDULE I

SCHEDULE OF PER DIEMS PAID COMMISSIONERS

For the year ended December 31, 2003

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No per diems were paid to commissioners



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SPECIAL REPORTS OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

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PHONE: (985) 693-7755

ALDON G. WAHL, JR., CPA

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

P.O. Box 965

LAROSE, LA 70373

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

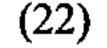
Board of Commissioners Ambulance Service District No. 1 of Lafourche Parish

I have audited the basic financial statements of AMBULANCE SERVICE DISTRICT NO. 1 of LAFOURCHE PARISH, component unit of Lafourche Parish, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2003, and have issued my report thereon dated June 18, 2004. I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

FAX: (985) 693-8033

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether AMBULANCE SERVICE DISTRICT NO. 1 of LAFOURCHE PARISH's basic financial statements are free of material misstatement, I 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 those provisions was not an objective of my audit and, accordingly, I do not express such an opinion. The results of my tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.



MEMBERS AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS LOUISIANA SOCIETY OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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

(continued)

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing my audit, I considered AMBULANCE SERVICE DISTRICT NO. 1 of LAFOURCHE PARISH's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine my auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing my opinion on the basic 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 components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the basic 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.

This report is intended for the information of the Board of Commissioners, management, the State of Louisiana and the Legislative Auditor of the State of Louisiana and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. Under Louisiana Revised Statue 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

Aldon G. Wahl, Jr. Certified Public Accountant

June 18, 2004



SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

I SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

A) Financial Statements

Type of auditor's report issued: unqualified

Internal control over financial reporting:

* Material weakness(es) identified?

* Reportable condition(s) identified that are not considered to be material weakness?

_yes X_no

_Yes X_none reported

and the second second

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?

_yes X_no

B) Federal Awards

Ambulance Service District No. 1 of Lafourche Parish did not receive federal awards during the year ended December 31, 2003.

II FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS

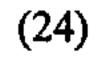
No matters were reported

III FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

Not applicable.

IV MANAGEMENT LETTER

A management letter was not issued in connection with the audit for the year ended December 31, 2003.



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REPORTS BY MANAGEMENT

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

SECTION I INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE MATERIAL TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

INTERNAL CONTROL

No material weaknesses were reported during the audit for the year ended December 31, 2002.

No reportable conditions were reported during the audit for the year ended December 31, 2002.

COMPLIANCE

No material weaknesses were reported during the audit for the year ended December 31, 2002.

No reportable conditions were reported during the audit for the year ended December 31, 2002.

SECTION II INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE MATERIAL TO FEDERAL AWARDS

Ambulance Service District No. 1 of Lafourche Parish did not receive federal awards during the year ended December 31, 2002.

SECTION III MANAGEMENT LETTER

A management letter was not issued in connection with the audit for the year ended December 31, 2002.



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MANAGEMENT'S CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

SECTION I INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE MATERIAL TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

INTERNAL CONTROL

No material weaknesses were reported during the audit for the year ended December 31, 2003.

No reportable conditions were reported during the audit for the year ended December 31, 2003.

COMPLIANCE

No material weaknesses were reported during the audit for the year ended December 31, 2003.

No reportable conditions were reported during the audit for the year ended December 31, 2003.

SECTION II INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE MATERIAL TO FEDERAL AWARDS

Ambulance Service District No. 1 of Lafourche Parish did not receive federal awards during the year ended December 31, 2003.

SECTION III MANAGEMENT LETTER

A management letter was not issued in connection with the audit for the year ended December 31, 2003.

