FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

COMPILATION REPORT

VILLAGE OF FRENCH SETTLEMENT, LOUISIANA

2379

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 8-4-04



General Purpose Financial Statement As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2003

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ACCOUNTANT'S COMPILATION REPORT

The Honorable Mayor, Clyde L. Wheat And Members of the Board of Alderman Village of French Settlement, Louisiana

We have compiled the accompanying general purpose financial statements of the Village of French Settlement, Louisiana, as of December 31, 2003, in accordance with the Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

A compilation is limited to presenting in the form of financial statements information that is the representation of management of the Village of French Settlement. We have not audited or reviewed the accompanying general purpose financial statements and, accordingly, do not express an opinion or any other form of assurance on them.

In accordance with the Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide and the provisions of state law, we have issued a report, dated April 1, 2004, on the results of our agreed-upon procedures.

Partithurait Shettinille

April 1, 2004

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VILLAGE OF FRENCH SETTLEMENT, LOUISIANA COMBINED BALANCE SHEET - ALL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUPS DECEMBER 31, 2003

	 vernmental und Type	Account Group	
	General Fund	General Fixed Assets	Total (Memo Only)
ASSETS			
Cash	\$ 127,177	s -	\$ 1 27,177
Accounts receivable	11,503	-	11,503
Due from other governments	270	-	270
Fixed Assets	-	372,804	372,804
Total Assets	\$ 138,950	\$ 372,804	\$ 511,754

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable	\$	1,348	\$ -	\$ 1,348
Salaries payable		2,231	-	\$ 2,231
Accrued expenses		1,355	-	1,355
Total Liabilities	••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••	4,934		4,934
FUND EQUITY				
Investment in general fixed assets		-	372,804	372,804
Fund balance:				
Unreserved - undesignated		134,016		134,016
Total Equity		134,016	372,804	506,820
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$	138,950	\$ 372,804	\$ 511,754

See accompanying notes and accountants' compilation report.



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VILLAGE OF FRENCH SETTLEMENT, LOUISIANA STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE **GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPE - GENERAL FUND** FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

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REVENUES	
Fines	\$ 78,205
Franchise fees	66,285
French Settlement Police Department	2,614
Occupational licenses	6,185
La Commission on Law Enforcement grant	2,988
Permits	1,638
Beer tax	1,072
Miscellaneous	4,009
Library	1,260
FEMA	3,296
Entergy narmership	_

Linciej	Paraneramp	
Interest		

1,205
168,757
71,130
92,328
3,439
166,897
1,860
132,156
\$ 134,016



See accompanying notes and accountants' compilation report.





VILLAGE OF FRENCH SETTLEMENT, LOUISIANA STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE BUDGET AND ACTUAL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPE - GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

Variance

Favorable (Unfavorable) Actual Budget REVENUES 22,555 78,205 55,650 Fines 7,585 66,285 58,700 Franchise fees 164 2,614 2,450 French Settlement Police Department (215) 6,185 6,400 Occupational licenses 2,986 2,988 2 La Commission on Law Enforcement grant (2,462) 1,638 4,100 Permits (728) 1,072 1,800 Beer tax (9,696) 4,009 13,705 Miscellaneous 460 1,260 800 Library

Rural Development

3,295

Entergy partnership	1	-	. (1)
Interest	2,000	1,205	(795)
TOTAL REVENUES	145,609	168,757	23,148
EXPENDITURES			
General and administrative			(1.210)
Salaries and wages	32,300	33,610	(1,310)
Accounting	1,300	1,429	(129)
Advertisement	300	300	-
Commissions	1,000	881	119
Conventions	1,800	2,634	(834)
Coroner	1,000	-	1,000
Contributions	4,500	4,500	-
Dues and fees	750	771	(21)
Janitorial supplies	200	203	(3)
Miscellaneous	2,502	1,853	649
Municipal grant - entergy	2	-	2
Insurance	5,800	5,106	694
Legal	500	55	445
Office supplies	2,000	2,432	(432)
Outside Maintenance	2,000	1,805	· 195
Payroll related expenses	3,000	3,518	(518)
Postage	1,000	926	74
Repairs	2,500	2,620	(120)
Rural development	-	-	-
Travel	1,500	1,192	308
	5,300	7,180	(1,880)
Utilities	-)	115	(115)

Website fee Total General and Administrative



3,296

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See accompanying notes and accountants' compilation report.



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VILLAGE OF FRENCH SETTLEMENT, LOUISIANA STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE BUDGET AND ACTUAL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPE - GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

Public Safety			
Salaries	39,900	41,181	(1,281)
Fuel and oil	4,500	4,243	257
Capital outlay	25,000	24,010	99 0
Insurance	2,500	5,217	(2,717)
Miscellaneous	1,651	731	920
Officer's liability	3,000	2,246	754
Retirement	4,500	4,943	(443)
Repairs	5,000	1,254	3,746
Supplies	6,000	5,295	705
Uniforms	2,500	•	2,500
Grant	3,302	3,208	94
	97,853	92,328	5,525
Streets			
Repairs	3,500	3,439	61
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	170,607	166,897	3,825
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	(24,998)	1,860	19,323
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING OF YEAR	82,542	132,156	(49,614)
FUND BALANCE, END OF YEAR	57,544	134,016	(30,291)

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See accompanying notes and accountants' compilation report.

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<u>NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</u> AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

INTRODUCTION

The Village of French Settlement is the governing authority for the Village of French Settlement and is a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana. The village is operated under a Mayor-Board of Alderman form of government. The Mayor, alderman and alderwomen serve four-year terms.

Louisiana Revised Statute 33:321 gives the village various powers in regulating and directing affairs of the village and its inhabitants. The more notable of these is the power to make regulations for its own government; to regulate the construction and maintenance of roads, bridges, and drainage systems; to regulate the sale of alcoholic beverages; and to provide for health and welfare of the poor, disadvantaged, and unemployed in the village. Funding to accomplish these tasks is provided by fines, beer and alcoholic beverage permits, franchise taxes, and various other state and federal grants.

1. <u>SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES</u>

A. Reporting Entity

As the governing authority of the incorporated limits of French Settlement, for reporting purposes, the Village of French Settlement is the financial reporting entity for French Settlement, Louisiana. The financial reporting entity consists of (a) the primary government (village), (b) organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable, and (c) other organization for which nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 14 established criteria for determining which component units should be considered part of the Village of French Settlement for financial reporting purposes. The basis criterion for including a potential unit within the reporting entity is financial accountability. The GASB has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. These criteria include:

- 1. Appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body, and
 - a. The ability of the village 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 village.
- 2. Organizations for which the village does not appoint a voting majority but are fiscally dependent on the village.
- 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.





NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

1. <u>SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES</u> (continued)

Based on the previous criteria, the village has determined that there are no component units.

B. Fund Accounting

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

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

Governmental Funds

Government funds are used to account for all or most of the municipality'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 debt. The Village's governmental fund is a general fund.

- 1. General Fund the principal fund of the village's office and accounts for the operations of the village's office. Sources of revenue include fines, licenses, permits and property taxes. General operating expenditures are paid from this fund.
- C. Basis of Accounting

All governmental funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Their revenues are recognized when they become measurable and available as current assets. Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related fund liability is incurred, except that principal and interest on general long-term debt are recognized when due. Purchases of various operating supplies are regarded as expenditures at the time purchased.

D. Budget Practices

A budget for the year ending December 31, 2003, was formally adopted in December, 2002.

E. Cash and Cash Equivalents and Investments

Cash includes amounts in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, and money market accounts. Cash equivalents include amounts in time deposits and those investments with original maturities of 90 days or less. Under state law, the village may deposit funds in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, money market accounts, or time deposits with state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having their principal offices of Louisiana.





<u>NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</u> <u>AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003</u>

1. <u>SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES</u> (continued)

State statutes authorize the Village of French Settlement to invest in United States bonds, treasury notes and bills, or certificates or time deposits or state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having principal offices in Louisiana. In addition, local governmental in Louisiana are authorized to invest in the Louisiana Asset Management Pool, Inc. (LAMP), a non-profit corporation formed by an initiative of the State of Louisiana, which operates a local government investment pool. Investments are stated at cost.

F. Inventories

Purchase of various operating supplies are regarded as expenditures at the time purchased. Inventories of such supplies (if any) are not recorded as assets at the close of the fiscal year.

G. Fixed Assets

Fixed assets of governmental funds are recorded as expenditures at the time purchased or constructed, and the related assets are capitalized (reported) in the general fixed assets account group. Public domain or infrastructure are not capitalized. All fixed assets are valued at historical cost or estimated cost if historical cost is not available.

H. Compensated Absences

The village has no policy relating to vacation and sick leave.

I. Fund Equity

Reserves

Reserves represent those portions of fund equity legally segregated for a specific future use.

Designated Fund Balance

Designations of fund balance are used to show the amounts within unreserved fund balance which are intended to be used for specific purposes, but are not legally restricted. The fund balance is designated for a future drainage project.

J. Total Column on Balance Sheet

The total column on the balance sheet is captioned Memorandum Only to indicate that it is presented only to facilitate financial analysis. Data in this column does not present financial position in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. Neither is such data comparable to a consolidation.





<u>NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</u> AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

2. <u>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</u>

At December 31, 2003, the village has cash and cash equivalents (book balances) totaling \$127,177, as follows:

	<u> </u>	
Demand Deposits	\$	12,510
Louisiana Assets Management Pool		114,667
Total	<u>\$</u>	127.177

These deposits are stated at cost, which approximates market. Under state law, these deposits (or resulting bank balances) must be secured by federal deposit insurance or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal agent bank. The market value of the pledged securities plus the federal deposit insurance must at all times equal the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent. These securities are held in the name of the pledging fiscal agent bank in a holding or custodial bank that is mutually acceptable to both parties. At December 31, 2003, the village has \$11,547 in deposits (collected bank balances). The \$11,547 consists of a non-interest bearing account. It is secured from risk by \$11,547 of federal deposit insurance. In addition, local governments in Louisiana are authorized to invest in the Louisiana Asset Management Pool, Inc., (LAMP), a nonprofit corporation formed by an initiative of the State Treasurer and organized under the laws of Louisiana, which operates a local government investment pool. Investments are stated at cost.

3. **INVESTMENTS**

At December 31, 2003, the village had investments in the Louisiana Asset Management Pool, Inc. (LAMP), a local government investment pool (see Summary of Significant Accounting Policies). In accordance with GASB Codification Section 150.165, the investment of LAMP at December 31, 2003, is not categorized in the three categories provided by GASB Codification Section 150.164 because the investment is in the pool of funds and therefore not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book entry form. LAMP is administered by LAMP, Inc. A non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana, which was formed by an initiative of the State treasurer in 1993. The corporation is governed by a board of directors comprising the State Treasurer, representatives from various organizations of local government, the Government Finance Officers Association of Louisiana, and the Society of Louisiana CPA's. Only local governments having contracted to participate in LAMP have an investments interest in its pool of assets. The primary objective of LAMP is to provide a safe environment for the placement of public funds in short-term, high-quality investments. The LAMP portfolio includes only securities and other obligations in which local governments in Louisiana are authorized to invest. Accordingly, LAMP investments are restricted to securities issued, guaranteed, or backed by the U.S. Treasury, the U.S. government or one of its agencies, enterprises, or instrumentalities, as well as repurchase agreements collateralized by those securities. The dollar weighted average portfolio maturity of LAMP assets is restricted to not more than 90 days, and consist of no securities with a maturity in excess of 397 days. The LAMP is designed to be highly liquid to give its participants immediate access to their account balances. Since all o the investments are considered less than 90 days, the investments are classified as cash equivalents on the balance sheet of the village.



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<u>NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</u> AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

4. **RECEIVABLES**

The receivables of \$11,503 at December 31, 2003, were from amounts due for franchise taxes.

5. **DUE FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL UNITS**

The amounts due from other governmental units as of December 31, 2003 consisted of the following:

Des France Chat	Total
Due From State	
Beer Tax	<u> </u>
Total Due From Other	
Governments	<u>\$ 270</u>

6. **PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT**

A summary of changes in general fixed assets follows:

	Balance 01/01/03	Additions	<u>Deletions</u>	Balance 12/31/03
Land	\$ 16,838	\$-	\$-	\$ 16,838
Buildings & parking area	255,397	-	-	255,397
Furniture & equipment	50,352	-	-	50,352
Vehicles & equipment	26,207	24,010		<u>50,217</u>
Total	<u>\$348,794</u>	<u>\$ 24.010</u>	<u>s -</u>	<u>\$372,804</u>



<u>NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</u> <u>AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003</u>

7. <u>AMOUNTS PAID ELECTED OFFICIALS</u>

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	Amount
Clyde L. Wheat, Mayor	\$ 6,000
Jennifer Guitreau, Alderwoman	1,563
Patience Pollet, Alderwoman	1,563
Linda Hutchinson, Alderwoman	1,563
Harry Brignac, Chief of Police	21,600
Total	<u>\$_32,289</u>

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON **APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES**

The Honorable Mayor, Clyde L. Wheat And Members of the Board of Aldermen Village of French Settlement, Louisiana

We have performed the procedures included in the Louisiana Government Audit Guide and enumerated below, which were agreed to by the management of the Village of French Settlement, Louisiana and the Legislative Auditor, State of Louisiana, solely to assist the users in evaluating management's assertions about the Village of French Settlement, Louisiana's compliance with certain laws and regulations during the year ended December 31, 2003, included in the accompanying Louisiana Attestation Questionnaire. This agreed-upon procedures engagement was performed in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of the specified users of the report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

Public Bid Law:

Select all expenditures made during the year for material and supplies exceeding \$15,000, or 1. public works exceeding \$100,000, and determine whether such purchases were made in accordance with LSA-RS 38:2211-2251 (the public bid law).

Purchases were made in accordance with bid law.

Code of Ethics for Public Officials and Public Employees:

- Obtain from management a list of the immediate family members of each board member as 2. defined by LSA-RS 42:1101-1124 (the code of ethics), and a list of outside business interest of all board members and employees, as well as their immediate families.
 - Management provided us with the required list including the noted information.

Obtain from management a listing of all employees paid during the period under examination. 3.

Management provided us with the required list.

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Determine whether any of those employees included in the list obtained from management in 4. agreed-upon procedures (3) were also included on the list obtained from management in agreedupon procedures (2) as immediate family members.

None were included.

Budgeting

5. Obtain a copy of the legally adopted budget and all amendments.

> Management provided us with a copy of the original budget and amendments to the budget during the year.

6. Trace the budget adoption and amendments to the minute book.

We were able to trace the original budget and amendments to the minutes.

7. Compare the revenues and expenditures of the final budget to actual revenues and expenditures to determine if actual revenues or expenditures exceed budgeted amounts by more than 5%.

Actual revenues were more than budgeted amounts, but expenditures did not exceed budget amounts by more than 5%.

Accounting and Reporting:

- 8. Randomly select 6 disbursements made during the period under examination and:
 - (a) trace payments to supporting documentation as to proper amount and payee,

We examined supporting documentation for each of the six selected disbursements and found that payment was for proper amount and made to the correct payee.

(b) determine if payments were properly coded to the correct fund and general ledger account, and

All six of the payments were properly coded to the correct fund and general ledger account.

determine whether payments received approval from proper authorities. (c)

Inspection of the documentation supporting each of the six selected disbursements indicated approval from the board of aldermen.



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Meeting:

9. Examine evidence indicating that agendas for meetings recorded in the minute book were posted or advertised by LSA-RS 42:1 through 42:12 (the open meetings law).

The village properly complied with the requirements of the open meetings law.

Debt:

10. Examine bank deposits for the period under examination and determine whether any such deposits appear to be proceeds of banks loans, bonds, or like indebtedness.

Inspection of all bank deposit slips for the period under examination showed that none of the deposits appear to be proceeds of bank loans, bonds, or like indebtedness.

Advances and Bonuses:

Examine payroll records and minutes for the year to determine whether any payments have been 11. made to employees which may constitute bonuses, advances, or gifts.

No payments to employees appear to be bonuses, advances, or gifts.

We were not engaged to, and did not, perform an examination, the objective of which would be the expression of any opinion on management's assertion. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the use of management of the Village of French Settlement, Louisiana and the Legislative Auditor, State of Louisiana, and should not be used by those who have not agreed to the procedures and taken responsibility for the sufficiency of the procedures for their purposes. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Pastlethant + netwill

April 1, 2004



LOUISIANA ATTESTATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Postlethwaite & Netterville, APAC P. O. Box 1190 Donaldsonville, LA 70346

In connection with the compilation of our financial statements as of December 31, 2003, and for the period then ended, and as required by Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513 and the Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide, we make the following representation to you. We accept full responsibility for our compliance with the following laws and regulations and the internal controls over compliance with such laws and regulations. We have evaluated our compliance with the following laws and regulations prior to make these representations.

These representations are based on the information available to us, the Village of French Settlement, as of

Public Bid Law

It is true that we have complied with the public bid law, LSA-RS Title 38:2212, and, where applicable, the regulations of the Division of Administration, State Purchasing Office.

> Yes (X) No ()N/A ()

Code of Ethics for Public Officials and Public Employees

It is true that no employees have accepted anything of value, whether in the form of a service, loan, or promise, from anyone that would constitute a violation of LSA-RS 42:1101-1124.

> Yes(X) No()N/A ()

It is true that no member of the immediate family of any member of the governing authority, or the chief executive of the governmental entity, has been employed by the governmental entity after April 1, 1980, under circumstances that would constitute a violation of LSA-RS 42:1119.

> No () Yes (X) N/A ()

Budgeting

We have complied with the state budgeting requirements of the Local Government Budget Act (LSA-RS) 39:1301-14) or the budget requirements of LSA-RS 39:43.

> N/A () Yes (X) No ()

Accounting and Reporting

All non-exempt governmental records are available as a public record and have been retained for at least three years, as required by LSA-RS 44:1, 44:7, 44:31, and 44:36.

$$Yes(X) No.() N/A()$$

We have filed our annual financial statements in accordance with LSA-RS 24:514, 33:463, and/or 39:92, as applicable.

Yes (X) No () N/A ()

We have had our financial statements audited or compiled in accordance with LSA-RS 24:513. N/A () Yes (X) No ()

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Meetings

We have complied with the provisions of the Open Meetings Law, provided in RS 42:1 through 42:12. No () Yes (X) N/A ()

Debt

It is true we have not incurred any indebtedness, other than credit for 90 days or less to make purchases in the ordinary course of administration, nor have we entered into any lease-purchase agreements, without the approval of the State Bond Commission, as provided by Article VII, Section 8 of the 1974 Louisiana Constitution, Article VI, Section 33 of the 1974 Louisiana Constitution, and LSA-RS 47:1410.60.

No() Yes (X) N/A ()

Advances and Bonuses

It is true we have not advanced wages or salaries to employees or paid bonuses in violation of Article VII, Section 14 of the 1974 Louisiana Constitution, LSA-RS 14:138, and AG opinion 79-729.

> Yes (X) No () N/A ()

We have disclosed to you all known noncompliance of the foregoing laws and regulations, we well as any contradictions to the foregoing representation. We have made available to you documentation relating to the foregoing laws and regulations.

We have provided you with any communications from regulatory agencies or other sources concerning any possible noncompliance with the foregoing laws and regulations, including any communications received between the end of the period under examination and the issuance of this report. We acknowledge our responsibility to disclose to you any known noncompliance which may occur subsequent to the issuance of your report.

	Mayor	Algole & Wheat
<u> </u>	Treasurer	NSu white
	Town Clerk	NSue Whitz



SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

NON COMPLIANCE

2003-01 AUDIT LAWS

Criteria: LSA-RS24:513 (5)(a) requires the engagement to be completed within six months of the close of the entity's fiscal year.

Effect: The Village's financial statements were not submitted timely.

This finding resulted from the CPA firm inadvertently not submitting the financial statements on a timely basis.



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