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OUACHITA PARISH SHERIFF
(As Ex-Officio Parish Tax Collector)
Monroe, Louisiana

Financial Statements With
Independent Auditor's Report
As of and for the Year Ended
June 30, 1996

OUACHITA PARISH SHERIFF
(As Ex-Officio Parish Tax Collector)
Monroe, Louisiana

Financial Statements With
Independent Auditor's Report
As of and for the Year Ended
June 30, 1996

C O N T E N T S

	<u>Statement</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
Independent Auditor's Report		2
Financial Statements:		
Tax Collector Agency Fund:		
Statement of Assets and Liabilities Arising from Cash Transactions	A	5
Statement of Collections, Distributions, and Unsettled Balances Due to Taxing Bodies and Others	B	6
Notes to the Financial Statements		8
Independent Auditor's Reports Required by <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>:		
Report on Compliance With Laws and Regulations		12
Report on Internal Control Structure		14



Independent Auditor's Report

OUACHITA PARISH SHERIFF AND EX-OFFICIO TAX COLLECTOR Monroe, Louisiana

I have audited the financial statements of the Tax Collector Agency Fund of the Ouachita Parish Sheriff as of June 30, 1996, and for the year then ended, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Ouachita Parish Sheriff's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the 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. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

As described in note 1, the Ouachita Parish Sheriff is the ex-officio tax collector for the various taxing bodies within Ouachita Parish, and the accompanying financial statements present information only on his activities as parish tax collector. Further, the accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

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OUACHITA PARISH SHERIFF AND
EX-OFFICIO PARISH TAX COLLECTOR
Monroe, Louisiana
Independent Auditor's Report,
June 30, 1996

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to in the first paragraph present fairly the assets and liabilities arising from cash transactions of the Tax Collector Agency Fund of the Ouachita Parish Sheriff as of June 30, 1996, and the collections and distributions for the year then ended, on the basis of accounting as described in note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, I have also issued reports dated August 20, 1996, on the Ouachita Parish Sheriff's compliance with laws and regulations and my consideration of the agency's internal control structure.



West Monroe, Louisiana
August 20, 1996

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

OUACHITA PARISH SHERIFF
Monroe, Louisiana
TAX COLLECTOR AGENCY FUND

Statement of Assets and Liabilities
Arising from Cash Transactions
June 30, 1996

ASSETS

Cash

\$571,496

LIABILITIES

Due to taxing bodies and others

\$571,496

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

OUACHITA PARISH SHERIFF
Monroe, Louisiana
TAX COLLECTOR AGENCY FUND

Statement of Collections, Distributions, and
Unsettled Balances Due to Taxing Bodies and Others
For the Year Ended June 30, 1996

UNSETTLED BALANCES, JUNE 30, 1995	<u>\$947,888</u>
 COLLECTIONS	
Ad valorem taxes:	
Current year	29,562,301
Prior year	150,002
Protested taxes	32,980
Automobile dealers tax (net)	369,773
In lieu of taxes	89,677
State Revenue Sharing	2,584,131
Sportsman licenses	392,892
Fines, forfeitures, court costs and bond fees	2,242,319
Advertising	8,630
Tax notices, etc.	35,937
Interest on:	
NOW accounts	35,355
Delinquent taxes	54,932
Protested taxes held in escrow	14,493
Automobile dealers tax	1,916
Total collections	<u>35,575,338</u>
Total	<u>36,523,226</u>
 DISTRIBUTIONS	
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries	325,053
Tensas Basin Levee District	1,119,264
Louisiana Forestry Commission	12,014
Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement And Administration of Criminal Justice	48,974
Louisiana Tax Commission	10,759
Louisiana Help Our Wildlife Fund	155
Louisiana Department of Public Safety	21,396

(Continued)

OUACHITA PARISH SHERIFF
 Monroe, Louisiana
 TAX COLLECTOR AGENCY FUND
 Statement of Collections, Distributions,
 and Unsettled Balances Due to
 Taxing Bodies and Others
 For the Year Ended June 30, 1996

DISTRIBUTIONS: (CONTD)

Injury Trust Fund	\$34,499
State of Louisiana CMIS	20,107
Ouachita Parish:	
Assessor	870,667
Clerk of Court	109,765
Police Jury	12,595,695
School Board	11,604,293
Sheriff	5,309,664
Mosquito Abatement District	505,134
G.B. Cooley Hospital	700,217
West Ouachita Sewerage District	85,561
East Ouachita Recreation District	423,996
Fourth Judicial District:	
District Attorney	253,340
District Court	350,498
Judicial Expense Fund	111,334
Indigent Defender Board	285,454
Municipalities	530
Northwest Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory	121,731
Ouachita Citizen	18,784
Refunds	255
Pension funds	893,169
Other settlements	119,422
Total distributions	<u>35,951,730</u>
UNSETTLED BALANCES, JUNE 30, 1996	<u><u>\$571,496</u></u>

(Concluded)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

OUACHITA PARISH SHERIFF
Monroe, Louisiana
TAX COLLECTOR AGENCY FUND

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and For the Year Ended June 30, 1996

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

As provided by Article V, Section 27 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, the sheriff is the ex-officio tax collector of the parish and is responsible for the collection and distribution of ad valorem property taxes, parish licenses, state revenue sharing funds, and angling, hunting, and trapping licenses.

A. REPORTING ENTITY

Louisiana Revised Statute 24:517(D) requires the accounts of each parish tax collector to be audited annually. Accordingly, the accompanying financial statements reflect the financial activity of the sheriff related only to his responsibility as ex-officio parish tax collector. Amounts included in these financial statements are also included in the sheriff's annual general purpose financial statements.

B. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The accounts of the parish tax collector are established to reflect the collections imposed by law, and the distributions pursuant to such law, and unsettled balances due various tax recipient bodies and others. The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the cash basis of accounting, with collections recognized when received and distributions recognized when paid.

C. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

State law authorizes the sheriff to deposit tax collections, in interest bearing accounts, with a bank domiciled in the parish where the funds are collected. Further, the sheriff may invest these deposits in certificates of deposit or other investments permitted by law. At June 30, 1996, the sheriff has cash and cash equivalents (book balances) totaling \$571,496.

OUACHITA PARISH SHERIFF
 Monroe, Louisiana
 TAX COLLECTOR AGENCY FUND
 Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

These deposits are stated at cost, which approximates market. Under state law, these deposits, or the resulting bank balances, must be secured by federal deposit insurance 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. Cash (bank balances) at June 30, 1996, are secured as follows:

Bank balance	<u>\$570,364</u>
Federal deposit insurance	367,492
Pledged securities (uncollateralized)	<u>5,557,034</u>
Total	<u>\$592,452</u>

Because the pledged securities are held by a custodial bank in the name of the fiscal agent bank rather than in the name of the sheriff, they are considered uncollateralized (Category 3) under the provisions of GASB Codification C20.106; however, Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1229 imposes a statutory requirement on the custodial bank to advertise and sell the pledged securities within 10 days of being notified by the sheriff that the fiscal agent bank has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand.

2. STATE REVENUE SHARING FUNDS

The revenue sharing funds provided by Act 1220 of 1995 were distributed as follows:

Ouachita Parish:	
Assessor	\$98,600
Police Jury	705,705
School Board	886,729
Sheriff's General Fund	624,963
G.B. Cooley Hospital	81,427
East Ouachita Recreation District	23,279
Tensas Basin Levee District	101,489
Pension Funds	<u>61,939</u>
Total	<u>\$2,584,131</u>

**Independent Auditor's Reports Required
by *Government Auditing Standards***

The following independent auditor's reports on compliance with laws and regulations, and internal control structure are presented in compliance with the requirements of *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*, issued by the Society of Louisiana Certified Public Accountants and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor.



**Independent Auditor's Report on
Compliance With Laws and Regulations**

**OUACHITA PARISH SHERIFF AND
EX-OFFICIO TAX COLLECTOR
Monroe, Louisiana**

I have audited the financial statements of the Tax Collector Agency Fund of the Ouachita Parish Sheriff as of June 30, 1996, and for the year then ended and have issued my report thereon dated August 20, 1996.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards; *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*, issued by the Society of Louisiana Certified Public Accountants and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor. Those standards and the audit guide require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

Compliance with laws and regulations, applicable to the Tax Collector Agency Fund, is the responsibility of the sheriff's management. As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, I performed tests of the sheriff's compliance with certain provisions of laws and regulations. However, the objective of my audit of the financial statements was not to provide an opinion on overall compliance with such provisions. Accordingly, I do not express such an opinion.

The results of my tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

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OUACHITA PARISH SHERIFF AND
EX-OFFICIO TAX COLLECTOR

Monroe, Louisiana

Report on Compliance With

Laws and Regulations,

June 30, 1996

This report is intended for the use of management of the Ouachita Parish Sheriff and interested state agencies. This is not intended to limit the distribution of this report, which is a matter of public record.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Vernon R. ...", is written over the typed name.

West Monroe, Louisiana

August 20, 1996

**Independent Auditor's Report
on Internal Control Structure**

**OUACHITA PARISH SHERIFF AND
EX-OFFICIO TAX COLLECTOR
Monroe, Louisiana**

I have audited the financial statements of the Tax Collector Agency Fund of the Ouachita Parish Sheriff as of June 30, 1996, and for the year then ended and have issued my report thereon dated August 20, 1996.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

The management of Ouachita Parish Sheriff is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure. In fulfilling this responsibility, estimates and judgments by management are required to assess the expected benefits and related costs of internal control structure policies and procedures. The objectives of an internal control structure are to provide management with reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, and that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly to permit the preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles or other comprehensive basis of accounting. Because of inherent limitations in any internal control structure, errors or irregularities may nevertheless occur and not be detected. Also, projection of any evaluation of the structure to future periods is subject to the risk that procedures may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the effectiveness of the design and operation of policies and procedures may deteriorate.

In planning and performing my audit of the financial statements of the Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Tax Collector Agency Fund for the year ended June 30, 1996, I obtained an understanding of the internal control structure. With respect to the internal control

OUACHITA PARISH SHERIFF AND
EX-OFFICIO PARISH TAX COLLECTOR
Monroe, Louisiana
Report on Internal Control Structure,
June 30, 1996

structure, I obtained an understanding of the design of relevant policies and procedures and whether they have been placed in operation, and I assessed control risk, in order to determine my auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing my opinion on the financial statements and not to provide an opinion on the internal control structure. Accordingly, I do not express such an opinion.

My consideration of the internal control structure would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control structure that might be material weaknesses under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the specific internal control structure elements does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that errors or irregularities in amounts that would be material in relation to the 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. I noted no matters involving the internal control structure and its operation that I considered to be material weaknesses as defined above.

This report is intended for the use of management of the Ouachita Parish Sheriff and interested state agencies. This is not intended to limit the distribution of this report, which is a matter of public record.



West Monroe, Louisiana
August 20, 1996