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DARNALL, SIKES, KOLDER, FREDERICK & RAINEY

(A CORPORATION OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS)

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Honorable Sid Hebert
Iberia Parish Sheriff as
Ex-Officio Tax Collector
New Iberia, Louisiana

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities and the statement of collections, distributions, and unsettled balances of the Tax Collector Fund (agency fund) of the Iberia Parish Sheriff as of and for the year ended June 30, 1996. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Iberia Parish Sheriff as Ex-Officio Tax Collector. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

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

As described more fully in Note 1, the accompanying statements present information only on the Tax Collector Fund (agency fund). Further, the accompanying statements have been prepared on the cash basis of accounting which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the assets and liabilities and the collections, distributions, and unsettled balances of the Tax Collector Fund (agency fund) of the Iberia Parish Sheriff as of and for the year ended June 30, 1996, on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

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In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued a report dated August 23, 1996 on our consideration of the Iberia Parish Sheriff's internal control structure and a report dated August 23, 1996 on its compliance with laws and regulations.

Darnall, Sikes, Kolder, Frederick & Rainey

A Corporation of Certified Public Accountants

Lafayette, Louisiana
August 23, 1996

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

IBERIA PARISH SHERIFF
New Iberia, Louisiana
Tax Collector Agency Fund

Statement of Assets and Liabilities
June 30, 1996

ASSETS

Cash and interest-bearing deposits	\$215,281
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LIABILITIES

Due to taxing bodies and others	\$215,281
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

IBERIA PARISH SHERIFF
New Iberia, Louisiana
Tax Collector Agency Fund

Statement of Collections, Distributions, and Unsettled Balances
Year Ended June 30, 1996

Unsettled balances at July 1, 1995	<u>\$ 367,933</u>
Collections:	
Ad valorem taxes	11,724,586
State revenue sharing	1,508,675
Sporting licenses	172,877
Interest on -	
Delinquent taxes	8,389
Deposits of taxes, licenses, et cetera	39,826
Refunds and redemptions	10,300
Tax notices, etc.	<u>3,142</u>
Total collections	<u>13,467,795</u>
 Total	 <u>13,835,728</u>
Distributions:	
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries	145,978
Louisiana Tax Commission	4,272
Atchafalaya Basin Levee District	76,546
Forest Protection District	5,133
Teche-Vermilion Freshwater District	177,366
Iberia Parish -	
Council	4,363,971
School Board	6,129,223
Recreation District No. 8	27,056
Sheriff	1,859,907
Assessor	436,766
Pension funds	378,513
Refunds and redemptions	15,280
Tax notices, etc.	<u>436</u>
Total distributions	<u>13,620,447</u>
 Unsettled balances at June 30, 1996	 <u>\$ 215,281</u> <u>=====</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

IBERIA PARISH SHERIFF
New Iberia, Louisiana

Notes to Financial Statements

(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 occupational licenses, state revenue sharing funds, and angling, hunting, and trapping licenses.

Louisiana Revised Statute 24:517(D) requires that the accounts of each tax collector be audited annually. Accordingly, the accompanying statement reflects financial activity of the Sheriff relating only to his responsibility as ex-officio tax collector. Amounts included in this report are also included in the Sheriff's annual general purpose financial statements.

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

(2) Interest-Bearing Deposits

State law authorizes the Sheriff to deposit tax collections in a bank domiciled in the parish where the funds are collected. At June 30, 1996, the Sheriff has interest-bearing deposits (book balances) totaling \$215,281, representing unsettled tax collections. Deposit balances (bank balances) at June 30, 1996 of \$219,894 are fully secured through federal deposit insurance.

(3) State Revenue Sharing Funds

The revenue sharing funds provided by Act 37 of 1994 received during the year were allocated among the taxing bodies as follows:

Atchafalaya Basin Levee District	\$ 24,108
Teche-Vermilion Freshwater District	28,580
Recreation District #8	6,875
Iberia Parish:	
Council	634,235
School Board	569,463
Sheriff	209,663
Pension funds	<u>35,751</u>
Total	<u>\$1,508,675</u>

IBERIA PARISH SHERIFF
New Iberia, Louisiana

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

(4) Unsettled Balances

The unsettled cash balance at June 30, 1996 of \$215,281 consists of the following:

Motor vehicle property taxes	\$140,479
Sporting licenses	25,808
Protest taxes	45,459
Back taxes	1,199
Interest earned on taxes	<u>2,336</u>
	<u>\$215,281</u>

INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL STRUCTURE BASED ON AN AUDIT OF BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

The Honorable Sid Hebert
Iberia Parish Sheriff as
Ex-Officio Tax Collector
New Iberia, Louisiana

We have audited the Tax Collector Fund (agency fund) financial statements of the Iberia Parish Sheriff as of and for the year ended June 30, 1996, and have issued our report thereon dated August 23, 1996. Our report states that the statement of assets and liabilities and the statement of collections, distributions, and unsettled balances have been prepared on the cash basis of accounting which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

We conducted our 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 we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

The Iberia 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. 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.

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In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the Tax Collector Fund, for the year ended June 30, 1996, we obtained an understanding of the internal control structure. With respect to the internal control structure, we obtained an understanding of the design of relevant policies and procedures and whether they have been placed in operation, and we assessed control risk in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the general purpose financial statements and not to provide an opinion on the internal control structure. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

We noted a certain matter involving the internal control structure and its operation that we consider to be a reportable condition under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control structure that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the entity's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the general purpose financial statements.

Inadequate Segregation of Accounting Functions

Finding:

Due to the small number of bookkeeping and accounting employees, the Sheriff did not have adequate segregation of functions within the accounting system.

Recommendation:

Based upon the size of the administrative office and the cost-benefit of additional personnel, it may not be feasible to achieve complete segregation of duties.

Response:

No response is considered necessary.

A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more 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.

Our consideration of the internal control structure would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control structure that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses as defined above. We believe the reportable condition described above is a material weakness.

This report is intended for the information of management. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Darnall, Sikes, Kolder, Frederick & Rainey

A Corporation of Certified Public Accountants

Lafayette, Louisiana
August 23, 1996

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

The Honorable Sid Hebert
Iberia Parish Sheriff as
Ex-Officio Tax Collector
New Iberia, Louisiana

We have audited the Tax Collector Fund (agency fund) financial statements of the Iberia Parish Sheriff as of and for the year ended June 30, 1996, and have issued our report thereon dated August 23, 1996. Our report states that the statement of assets and liabilities and the statement of collections, distributions, and unsettled balances have been prepared on the cash basis of accounting which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

We conducted our 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 we 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 Fund is the responsibility of the Iberia Parish Sheriff. As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of the Sheriff's compliance with certain provisions of laws and regulations. However, the objective of our audit was not to provide an opinion on overall compliance with such provisions. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

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

This report is intended for the information of management. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Darnall, Sikes, Kolder, Frederick & Rainey

A Corporation of Certified Public Accountants

Lafayette, Louisiana
August 23, 1996

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