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**IBERIA PARISH SHERIFF
(AN EX-OFFICIO PARISH TAX COLLECTOR)
New Iberia, Louisiana**

FINANCIAL REPORT

JUNE 30, 1967

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Release Date 2-18-98

IBERIA PARISH SHERIFF
(AS EX-OFFICIO PARISH TAX COLLECTOR)
Table of Contents

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT	1-2
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	3
Statement of Collections, Distributions and Unsettled Balances	4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	5-6
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS	7-8
SCHEDULE OF FINANCES	9



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The Honorable Sid Robert
Iberia Parish Sheriff
Ix-Officio Parish Tax Collector
New Iberia, Louisiana 70560

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities and the statement of collections, distributions and uncollected balances of the Tax Collector Fund (agency fund) of the Iberia Parish Sheriff as of and for the year ended June 30, 1997. The financial statements are the responsibility of the Iberia Parish Sheriff as Ix-Officio Parish 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 the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the assets and liabilities and the collections, distributions and uncollected balances of the Tax Collector Fund (agency fund) of the Iberia Parish Sheriff as of June 30, 1997 and for the year then ended in conformity with the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

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In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated December 5, 1997 on our consideration of the Iberville Parish Sheriff as Ex-Officio Parish Tax Collector's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants.

Raymond J. Keith, Senior S. Arthur

New Iberia, Louisiana

December 5, 1997

IBERIA PARISH SHERIFF
New Iberia, Louisiana
TAX COLLECTOR AGENCY FUND

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
June 30, 1987

ASSETS

Cash	<u>\$ 332,497</u>
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LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Due to taxing bodies and others	<u>\$ 332,497</u>
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IBERIA PARISH SHERIFF
 New Iberia, Louisiana
TAX COLLECTOR AGENCY FUND

STATEMENT OF COLLECTIONS, DISTRIBUTIONS AND UNSETTLED BALANCES
 Year Ended June 30, 1997

Unsettled balances at July 1, 1996		<u>\$ 215,281</u>
Collections:		
Ad valorem taxes	\$13,073,893	-
State revenue sharing	1,508,285	-
Sporting licenses	217,563	-
Interest on -		
Delinquent taxes	18,495	
Deposits of taxes, licenses	58,979	
Refunds and redemptions	57,366	
Tax notices	<u>2,187</u>	
Total collections		<u>14,925,368</u>
Total		<u>15,140,649</u>
Distributions:		
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries	173,859	
Louisiana Tax Commission	8,625	
Atchafalaya Basin Levee District	71,474	
Forest Protection District	5,181	
Techov-Vermillion Prefecture District	195,825	
Iberia Parish -		
Council	4,884,672	
School Board	6,364,285	
Recreation District No. 8	53,851	
Sheriff	2,830,188	
Assessor	456,938	
Pension funds	378,275	
Refunds and redemptions	<u>26,689</u>	
Total distributions		<u>14,808,152</u>
Unsettled balances at June 30, 1997		<u>\$ 332,497</u>

See Notes to Financial Statements.

IBERIA PARISH SHERIFF
New Iberia, Louisiana

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 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, state revenue sharing funds, and angling, hunting and trapping licenses.

Louisiana Revised Statute 24:217(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 uncollected balances due to 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.

Note 2. Cash

State law authorizes the Sheriff to deposit tax collections in a bank domiciled in the parish where the funds are collected. At June 30, 1997, the Sheriff had cash totaling \$332,497, representing uncollected balances. Deposit balances at June 30, 1997 of \$263,185 were fully secured through federal deposit insurance.

Note 3. State Revenue Sharing Funds

The revenue sharing funds provided by Act 27 of 1994 received during the year were allocated among the taxing bodies as follows:

Aichakileys Basin Lower District	\$ 22,189
Taylor - Vermilion Freshwater District	28,412
Recreation District No. 1	6,774
Iberia Parish:	
Council	603,634
School Board	994,343
Sheriff	216,012
Fusion funds	<u>36,833</u>
Total	<u>\$1,908,385</u>

IBERIA PARISH SHERIFF
New Iberia, Louisiana

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 4. Unsettled Balances

The unsettled cash balance at June 30, 1997 of \$332,487 consists of the following:

Motor vehicle property taxes	\$163,791
Spending licenses	26,508
Ad valorem taxes	77,822
Back taxes	66,734
Interest earned on taxes	<u>47,282</u>
Total	<u>\$332,487</u>



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

The Honorable Sid Hilbert
Iberia Parish Sheriff as
Ex-Officio Parish Tax Collector
New Iberia, Louisiana 70560

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, 1997, and have issued our report thereon dated December 5, 1997. Our report states that the statement of assets and liabilities and the statement of collections, distributions and unaffiliated 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 the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Iberia Parish Sheriff as Ex-Officio Parish Tax Collector's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws and regulations, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with these provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance that is required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 97-1.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Iberia Parish Sheriff as Ex-Officio Parish Tax Collector's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the 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 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 management and the Legislative Auditor. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Brownward, Poché, Lavoie & Szwajc

New Iberia, Louisiana

December 5, 1997

IBERIA PARISH SHERIFF
New Iberia, Louisiana

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
Year Ended June 30, 1997

I. Findings in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards

The following finding relates to the financial statements and is required to be reported in accordance with Government Auditing Standards:

Finding #97-1 -

The Iberia Parish Sheriff serving as Ex Officio Parish Tax Collector of Iberia Parish is required by Louisiana Revised Statute 35:1445 to give bonds in favor of the governor before commencing the discharge of his duties. These bonds are required by state statute to be filed with the clerk of the district court of the parish where the tax collector exercises the functions of his office. This bond was not recorded with the clerk's office for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1997.