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Legislative Auditor

TENNES PARISH TAX COLLECTOR
St. Joseph, Louisiana

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND AUDITOR'S REPORT

June 30, 1997

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Release Date: 7-22-97

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DOCUMENT

TENSAS PARISH TAX COLLECTOR
St. Joseph, Louisiana

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND AUDITOR'S REPORT

June 30, 1987

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Honorable Jeff Brin
Treasurer Parish Sheriff and
Ex-Officio Tax Collector
St. Joseph, Louisiana

We have audited the financial statements of Tax Collector Agency Fund of Tensas Parish Sheriff as-of and for the year ended June 30, 1997, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Tensas Parish Sheriff's management. 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; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and *Louisiana Governmental Audit Rules*, issued by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor and the Louisiana Society of Certified Public Accountants. These 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 statements presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in note A, the Tensas Parish Sheriff is the official tax collector for the various taxing bodies within Tensas Parish, and the accompanying financial statements present information only on its activities as parish tax collector. Further, the accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the basis of such receipts and disbursements which is a comprehensive basis of accounting under their generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to in the first paragraph present fairly the assets and liabilities arising from such transactions of Tax Collector Agency Fund of Tensas Parish Sheriff as-of June 30, 1997, and the receipts and disbursements for the year then ended, on the basis of accounting as described in note A.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated December 22, 1997 on our consideration of Tax Collector Agency Fund of Tensas Parish Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants.

Waughspack & Associates (P.A.C.)

Belle Rose, Louisiana
December 22, 1997

TEXAS PUBLIC TAX COLLECTOR
St. Joseph, Louisiana

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES (AGENCY FUND)
June 30, 1987

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,750
Total Assets	<u>\$ 4,750</u>

LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY

Liabilities:	
Due to taxing bodies and others	\$ 4,750
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 4,750</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

TERRAS PARISH TAX COLLECTION
St. Joseph, Louisiana

STATEMENT OF COLLECTIONS, DISTRIBUTIONS, AND UNSETTLED BALANCES (AGENCY FUND)
For the Year ended June 30, 1997

UNSETTLED BALANCES AT JUNE 30, 1996,	
DUK TO TAKING BOARDS AND OTHERS	<u>\$ 2,000</u>
COLLECTIONS	
Ad Valorem taxes	2,031,681
Ad Valorem taxes paid under protest	1,201
Angling, hunting, and trapping licenses	33,989
Interest on:	
Delinquent taxes	1,279
MOM accounts	3,074
State revenue sharing	286,170
Refuge revenue sharing	47,888
Tax notes, etc.	<u>4,831</u>
Total collections	<u>2,969,823</u>
Total	<u>2,971,823</u>
DISTRIBUTIONS	
Terras Parish:	
Assessor	157,364
Drainage Districts	84,058
Parish Jury	706,415
School Board	846,442
Sheriff	371,486
Fifth Louisiana Levee District	97,699
Louisiana Forestry Commission	3,917
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries	28,874
Louisiana Tax Commission	1,072
Parish funds	62,854
Refunds and reimbursements	<u>319</u>
Total distributions	<u>2,583,833</u>
UNSETTLED BALANCES AT JUNE 30, 1997,	
DUK TO TAKING BOARDS AND OTHERS	<u>\$ 4,000</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

THOMAS PARISH TAX COLLECTOR
St. Joseph, Louisiana

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 1997

NOTE A - 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, refuge revenue sharing, and angling, hunting, and trapping licenses.

Louisiana Revised Statute 1241(7)(d) requires that the accounts of each tax collector be audited annually. Accordingly, the accompanying statement reflects financial activity of the sheriff related 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 various taxing bodies and others. The accompanying financial statement has been prepared on the cash basis of accounting, with collections recognized when received and distributions reflected when paid.

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash in interest bearing bank demand deposits. State law authorizes the sheriff to deposit tax collections in a bank designated in the parish where the funds are collected. As June 30, 1997, the sheriff has \$28,557 (bank balances) on deposit with a local financial institution in interest bearing demand accounts. These cash balances, representing uncollected tax and license collections, are interest earned are fully secured through federal deposit insurance.

NOTE B - REVENUE SHARING FUNDS

The revenue and state revenue sharing funds provided by Act 38 of 1996 were distributed as follows:

Fifth Louisiana Lower District	\$ 13,500
Thomas Parish:	
Assessor	16,915
Crescent District	11,114
Police Jury	30,198
School Board	32,704
Sheriff	33,658
Various position funds	5,835
Total	<u>\$ 149,124</u>

TERRAS PARISH TAX COLLECTOR
St. Joseph, Louisiana

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 1997

NOTE C - REPAIRS BENEFIT SHARING

The salary revenue sharing funds provided by Act 14 (S.C. 315) of 1996 were distributed as follows:

First Louisiana Lease District	
Texas Parish	\$ 3,687
Assessor	
Drainage Division	3,066
School Board	1,715
Shreve	31,643
	<u>38,111</u>
Total	\$ 42,808

NOTE D - LIABILITIES TO TAXING BODIES AND OTHERS

Liabilities to taxing bodies and others as of June 30, 1997 consisted of the following:

1996 Ad Valorem taxes paid under protest	\$ 1,187
1997 Ad Valorem taxes paid under protest	1,696
1998 Ad Valorem taxes paid under protest	1,311
Unamortized interest earned on taxes paid under protest	
Unamortized interest earned on NOW account for current Ad Valorem taxes collected	108
	<u>18</u>
Total	\$ 4,302

NOTE E - AD VALOREM TAXES PAID UNDER PROTEST

Included in the unrestricted balances due to taxing bodies and others is \$4,104 of Ad Valorem taxes paid under protest, plus interest earned to date on the investment of these funds, totaling \$158. These funds are held pending resolution of the protest.

AUDITOR'S REPORT REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

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

Honorable Jeff Britt
Thomas Parish Sheriff and
Ex-Officio Tax Collector
St. Joseph, Louisiana

We have audited the financial statements of Tax Collector Agency Fund of Thomas Parish Sheriff, as of and for the year ended June 30, 1997, and have issued our report thereon dated December 23, 1997. We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and *Louisiana Department Audit Code*, issued by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor and the Louisiana Society of Certified Public Accountants.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Tax Collector Agency Fund of Thomas Parish Sheriff's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we 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 these provisions was not an objective of our audit and, 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*.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered Tax Collector Agency Fund of Thomas Parish Sheriff'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. However, we noted certain matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be reportable conditions. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control over financial reporting that, in our judgment, could adversely affect Tax Collector Agency Fund of Thomas Parish Sheriff's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements. Reportable conditions are described as follows:

Finding:	There is ineffective segregation of duties to have effective internal control.
Cause:	This condition is due to the size of the accounting staff.
Recommendation:	No action recommended.
Management's response:	We concur with the finding.

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. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all weaknesses in the internal control that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, we consider the reportable conditions described above to be material weaknesses.

This report is intended for the information of the Texas Parish Sheriff, Legislative Auditor, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Wagnon & Associates (LLC)

11111 Rosa, Louisiana
December 21, 2007