#### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

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To the Board of Directors of Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority Gonzales, Louisiana

#### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

#### **Opinions**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority (the Authority), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Authority, as of June 30, 2025, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Authority and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

#### Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

#### Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit
  procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an
  opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is
  expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

#### Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information on pages 4-7 and 23 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

#### Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of compensation, benefits and other payments to the agency head and the schedule of collections, distributions, and costs of collections are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedule of compensation, benefits and other payments to the agency head and the schedule of collections, distributions, and costs of collections are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

#### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 24, 2025, on our consideration of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Authority's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Diez, Dupuy & Ruis Gonzales, Louisiana October 24, 2025

The Management's Discussion and Analysis of the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority's financial performance presents a narrative overview and analysis of Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority's financial activities for the year ended June 30, 2025. This document focuses on the current year's activities resulting changes, and currently known facts. Please read this document in conjunction with the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority's financial statements, which begin on page 8.

#### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The Authority's net position decreased \$42,246.
- The General Fund reported no change in fund balance.
- The Authority collected a total of \$244 million in taxes, license, occupancy, and interest/penalties in the Custodial Fund, which represents a \$1.6 million decrease from the previous year.
- Sales tax collections decreased compared to prior year because of the stable economic spending and pressures of inflation mainly in the retail, remote sellers, and construction industries Parish wide.

#### OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The following graphic illustrates the minimum requirements for the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority as established by Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 34, Basic Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis for State and Local Governments

Ma	nagement Discussion and Analysis
	Basic Financial Statements
Rec	quired Supplementary Information
	(Other than MD&A)
	Supplementary Information

These financial statements consist of four sections - Management's Discussion and Analysis (this section), the basic financial statements (including the notes to the financial statements), required supplementary information, and supplementary information.

#### **Basic Financial Statements**

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities provide information about the activities of the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority as a whole and present a long-term view of the Authority's finances. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accounting basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities report the Authority's net position and changes in them. One can think of the Authority's net position, the difference between assets and liabilities, as one way to measure the Authority's financial health, or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the Authority's net position is an indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating.

The Authority's basic services are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year end that are available for spending. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the Authority's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the Authority's activities as well as what remains for future spending.

Fiduciary funds report assets held for others and a corresponding liability due to those parties. The taxes collected by the Authority flow through this fund. The Authority only reports on a custodial fund. Custodial funds are presented on an economic resource measurement focus and full accrual basis of accounting.

#### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE ENTITY

#### Statement of Net Position

2024

	ZUZ3	2024
Capital assets, net	\$ 58,054	\$ 53,394
Right-to-use assets, net	286,116	 350,367
Total Assets	\$ 344,170	\$ 403,761
Current liabilities	\$ 65,231	\$ 61,953
Noncurrent liabilities	392,789	 413,412
Total Liabilities	458,020	 475,365
Net Investment in capital assets and		
right-to-use assets	13,939	11,577
Unrestricted deficit	 (127,789)	 (83,181)
Total Net Position	(113,850)	(71,604)
Total Liabilities and Net Position	\$ 344,170	\$ 403,761

Net position of the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority decreased by \$42,246 from the previous fiscal year. The decrease is the result of increase in the compensated absences accrual recorded at year end 2025.

#### Statement of Activities

	 2025	 2024
General revenues Intergovernmental Total revenue	\$ 2,230,754 2,230,754	\$ 2,085,727 2,085,727
Expenses	 2,273,000	2,080,330
Change in net position	\$ (42,246)	\$ 5,397

The Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority's total revenues increased by \$145,027 or 7.0% from the previous year. The total cost of all programs and services increased by \$192,670 or 9.3% from the previous year.

#### **Long-Term Liabilities**

The Authority's long-term liabilities consist of its compensated absences payable, lease liabilities, and prepaid deposit on building lease.

The Authority had \$122,089 in compensated absences payable at year end compared to \$77,481 at the previous year end, an increase of \$44,608 or 57.6%. The Authority had \$330,231 in lease liability at year end compared to \$392,184 in prior year. The decrease is due to reduction of principal payments during the year. A prepaid deposit of \$5,700 is recorded as a long-term liability based on the building lease terms. This amount shall be returned to the Authority after the expiration of the lease and delivery of the premises.

#### Capital Assets

At the end of 2025, the Authority had invested, net of accumulated depreciation, \$58,054 in equipment, furniture, and fixtures. The Authority had a right-to-use asset, net of accumulated amortization of \$286,116. The assets include rental of a building and equipment. (See Table below)

	Governme	ental Activities
Equipment, furniture, and fixtures	\$	379,335
Less: Accumulated depreciation		(321,281)
Total	\$	58,054
Right-to-use assets	\$	601,108
Less: Accumulated amortization		(314,992)
Total	\$	286,116

#### VARIATIONS BETWEEN ORIGINAL AND FINAL BUDGETS

There were no amendments to the Authority's general fund budget during the year.

#### ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET

The Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority's Board Members considered the following factors and indicators when setting next year's budget, rates, and fees. These factors and indicators include:

1. Intergovernmental revenues (based on personnel and operating expenses)

The budget for 2026 year is approximately the same as the 2025 fiscal year budget.

#### CONTACTING THE ASCENSION PARISH SALES AND USE TAX AUTHORITY'S MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority's finances and to show the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority's accountability for the money it receives. Any questions about this report or requests for additional information may be directed to the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority, Attention: Kressy Krennerich, Administrator, at Post Office Box 1718, Gonzales, Louisiana 70707; (225) 621-2635.

### STATEMENT OF NET POSITION JUNE 30, 2025

#### **ASSETS**

Capital assets, net	\$ 58,054
Right-to-use assets, net	 286,116
Total Assets	\$ 344,170
LIABILITIES	
Current liabilities:	
Current portion of long-term liabilities	\$ 65,231
Long-term liabilities:	
Compensated absences payable	122,089
Deposits	5,700
Lease liabilities	 265,000
Total Liabilities	 458,020
NET POSITION	
Net investment in capital assets and right-to-use assets	13,939
Unrestricted deficit	 (127,789)
Total Net Position	 (113,850)
Total Liabilities and Net Position	\$ 344,170

### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

	Expenses		Charges for Services		ar	et Expense ad changes Net Position
Functions/Programs						
Governmental activities						
General government	\$	2,254,412	\$	-	\$	2,254,412
Interest expense		18,588		-		18,588
Total governmental activities	\$	2,273,000	\$			2,273,000
	General R					
	Intergov	vernmental				2,230,754
	Total ge	eneral revenues				2,230,754
	Change in	net position				(42,246)
	Net positi	on, beginning of year	r			(71,604)
	Net positi	on, end of year			\$	(113,850)

## BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUND JUNE 30, 2025

#### **ASSETS**

Due from other governments	\$	-
Total Assets	\$	010 110 100 010
<u>LIABILITIES</u>		
Accounts payable	\$	_
Total Liabilities		-
FUND BALANCE		
Unassigned	Name of the American	BA
Total Fund Balance	Bhu bhu an tha	<u>-</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$	_

## RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCE SHEET TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION JUNE 30, 2025

Total fund balance - Governmental Fund	;	\$ -
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:		
Cost of capital assets	379,335	
Less: accumulated depreciation	(321,281)	58,054
Cost of right-to-use assets	601,108	
Less: accumulated amortization	(314,992)	286,116
Long-term liabilities:		
Compensated absences		(122,089)
Deposits		(5,700)
Lease liabilities		 (330,231)
Total net position - Governmental Activities	<u>.</u>	\$ (113,850)

## STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE GOVERNMENTAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

REVENUES	
Intergovernmental	\$ 2,230,754
Total revenues	2,230,754
EXPENDITURES	
General Government:	
Personnel	1,547,275
Travel	22,040
Operating services	167,850
Supplies	73,080
Professional services	318,015
Capital outlay	21,953
Debt Service:	
Principal	61,953
Interest	18,588
Total expenditures	2,230,754
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES	
OVER EXPENDITURES	-
Fund balance - beginning of year	
Fund balance - end of year	\$ -

## RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE OF GOVERNMENTAL FUND TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

Net change in fund balance - governmental fund		\$ -
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:		
Capital outlay capitalized	21,953	
Depreciation expense	(17,293)	4,660
Amortization expense	(64,251)	(64,251)
Long-term liabilities:		
Principal payments on lease liabilities		61,953
Changes in compensated absences payable	-	 (44,608)
Change in net position - Governmental Activities		\$ (42,246)

## STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION FIDUCIARY FUND JUNE 30, 2025

	Custodial Fund	
<u>ASSETS</u>		
Cash and cash equivalents Accounts receivables	\$	22,154,491 21,046,840
Total Assets		43,201,331
<u>LIABILITIES</u>		
Accounts payable		42,434,927
Total Liabilities	·	42,434,927
NET POSITION		
Restricted for organizations and other governments	\$	766,404

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION FIDUCIARY FUND JUNE 30, 2025

ADDITIONS	Custodial Fund
<u>ADDITIONS</u>	
Sales tax collections	\$ 238,987,780
Occupancy license	3,107,173
Hotel tax	1,486,240
Late payment interest and penalties	746,341
Interest income	133,742
Total additions	244,461,276
DEDUCTIONS	
Transfer to taxing authorities	241,984,329
Tax refunds and fees	2,990,006
Total deductions	244,974,335
Net changes in fiduciary net position	(513,059)
Net position, beginning	1,279,463
Net position, ending	\$ 766,404

#### 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

As provided in Article VII, Section 3 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority (Authority) serves as the collector of sales and use taxes for the parish. The Authority was created October 5, 1989 for the purpose of collecting, administering and distributing the various sales and use taxes levied by entities and the hotel/motel tax within Ascension Parish, and the occupational license tax for the Ascension Parish Council. The Authority is governed by a Board of Directors. The Board is composed of the Chief Administrative Officer (or appointee) for each governing authority of any participating entity having a history of collecting in excess of \$1,000,000 of sales taxes for two consecutive years. As of year-end, the Board consisted of members from the Authority, Ascension Parish Council, Ascension Parish School Board, the Ascension Parish Sheriff, the City of Gonzales, the City of Donaldsonville, and the West Ascension Parish Hospital Service District. The accounting and reporting policies of the Authority conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applicable to governments. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles.

#### Basis of Presentation, Basis of Accounting

#### Government-wide Statements:

The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the primary government. These statements include the financial activities of the overall government, except for fiduciary activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange transactions.

The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the Authority's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include fees for the collection of taxes. Revenues that are not associated as program revenues, including interest revenue presented as general revenues, if received during the year.

#### Fund Financial Statements:

The fund financial statements provide information about the Authority's funds. Separate statements for each fund category are presented. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major funds. For the Authority, there is only one major fund, the General Fund. The General Fund is the Authority's primary operating fund. It accounts for all finance resources of the general government, except those accounted for in another fund.

#### Government-wide Financial Statements:

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus, and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred regardless of when the related cash flows take place. Non-exchange transactions, in which the Authority gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange may include grants and donations. Revenue from grants, entitlements, and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Exchange transactions in which the Authority gives or receives value in exchange for services rendered consist of the charges for collection services which are recognized when the services are provided and the revenue is earned.

#### 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

#### Basis of Presentation, Basis of Accounting (continued)

Governmental Fund Financial Statements:

Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available. The Authority considers all revenues reported in the governmental fund to be available if the revenues are collected within sixty days after year-end. Interest is considered to be susceptible to accrual. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for claims and judgments and compensated absences, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental fund.

#### Fiduciary Fund Financial Statements:

The Custodial Fund is used to account for assets held by the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority in a trustee capacity or as an agent for the taxing authorities. Custodial funds are accounted for on the full accrual basis of accounting. Collections of sales taxes are recognized when received and expenditures are recognized when the related fund liability is incurred, regardless of when the related cash flow takes place.

#### **Budgetary Accounting**

Formal budgetary accounting is employed as a management control. The Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority prepares and adopts a budget prior to July 1 of each year for its general fund in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statutes. The operating budget is prepared based on prior year's revenues and expenditures and the estimated increase therein for the current year, using the modified accrual basis of accounting. The Authority amends its budget when projected revenues are expected to be less than budgeted revenues by five percent or more and/or projected expenditures are expected to be more than budgeted amounts by five percent or more. All budget appropriations lapse at year end.

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

#### Capital Assets

Capital assets are carried at historical costs. Depreciation of all exhaustible capital assets used by the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority is charged as an expense against operations in the Statement of Activities. Capital assets net of accumulated depreciation is reported on the Statement of Net Position. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful life of the assets, generally 5 to 10 years for moveable property. Expenditures for maintenance, repairs and minor renewals are charged to earnings as incurred. Major expenditures for renewals and betterments are capitalized. The Authority maintains a threshold level of \$500 or more for capitalizing capital assets.

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

#### **Compensated Absences**

Employees accrue from 10 to 12 days of sick leave per year depending upon the number of months worked. Sick leave may be accumulated without limitation. Upon death or retirement, unused accumulated sick leave of up to 45 days is paid to employees or their heirs at the employee's current rate of pay. The accrual computation for earned sick leave is calculated on a 45-day maximum per employee. Sick leave is not payable upon discharge or termination. Upon retirement, unpaid accumulated sick leave is used in the retirement benefit computation as earned service.

All 12-month employees earn from 10 to 20 days of annual vacation leave per year depending on length of service with the School Board. Vacation time does not vest.

Sick and vacation leave that has been claimed by employees as of the end of the fiscal year is recorded as an expense in the year claimed. Sick leave has been accrued as of the end of the fiscal year and is valued using employees' current rates of pay. Accrued sick and vacation leave will be paid from future years' resources. No allowance is made for the immaterial amounts of sick leave forfeited when employees resign or retire.

#### Leases

The Authority has leases for office space and equipment. The Authority determines if an arrangement is a lease at inception. The leases are recorded as right-to-use assets and leases payable in the statement of net position. Right-to-use assets represent the Authority's right to use the underlying asset for the lease term. Right-to-use assets and leases payable are recognized at commencement date based on the net present value of lease payments over the lease term discounted using an appropriate incremental borrowing rate. The Authority's incremental borrowing rate is based on the information available at the commencement date in determining the present value of the lease payments. The value of an option to extend or terminate a lease is reflected to the extent it is reasonably certain management will exercise the option. Right-to-use assets are amortized on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Interest expense is recognized as a component of the lease payment.

#### **Net Position**

For the government-wide statement of net position, net position is reported as restricted when constraints placed on net position use either:

- Net investment in capital assets consists of historical costs of capital assets less accumulated depreciation and less any debt that remains outstanding that was used to finance those assets.
- Restricted net position consists of assets that are restricted by the Authority's grantors (both federal and state).
- Unrestricted all other net position is reported in this category.

#### **Fund Equity of Fund Financial Statements**

Accounting standards require the governmental fund balance to be reported in as many as five classifications as listed below:

#### 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

#### **Fund Equity of Fund Financial Statements (continued)**

- 1. Nonspendable represents amounts that are not expected to be converted to cash because they are either not in spendable form or legally contractually required to be maintained intact.
- 2. Restricted represents balances where constraints have been established by parties outside the Authority or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- 3. Committed represents balances that can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the Authority's highest level of decision-making authority.
- 4. Assigned -represents balances that are constrained by the Authority's intent to be used for specific purposes, but are not restricted nor committed.
- 5. Unassigned represents balances that have not been assigned to other funds and that have not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes within the general fund.

When expenditures are incurred for the purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted amounts are available, the Authority reduces restricted amounts first, followed by unrestricted amounts. When expenditures are incurred for the purposes for which committed, assigned, and unassigned amounts are available, the Authority reduces committed amounts first, followed by assigned amounts and then unassigned amounts.

#### **Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### Intergovernmental agreement

The Authority has an intergovernmental agreement with the Taxing Authorities within Ascension Parish for the purpose of administering and distributing sales and use taxes levied by the participating entities. The agreement provides that the School Board employs the Administrator and all other employees of the Authority. The Authority's employees are subject to the School Board's employment policies and procedures. The School Board pays all expenditures of the Authority. However, the agreement states that the costs of operating, maintaining, and administering the Authority shall be borne jointly by the participating entities on a prorated basis on a ratio of the entity's taxes collected to total taxes collected.

#### 2. **DEPOSITS WITH FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS**

#### **Deposits with Financial Institutions**

Cash and cash equivalents include demand deposits at local financial institutions with a carrying value of \$22,154,491 at June 30, 2025. Deposits in financial institutions can be exposed to custodial credit risk. Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a financial institution failure, the Authority's deposits may not be returned to them. To mitigate this risk, state law requires deposits to be secured by federal deposit insurance and/or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal agent financial institution. As of June 30, 2025, the Authority's bank balance was fully collateralized or FDIC insured and therefore not exposed to custodial credit risk.

#### 3. CAPITAL ASSETS

A summary of the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority's capital and right-to-use assets at June 30, 2025 follows:

	Balance July 1, 2024	Additions	Retirements	Balance June 30, 2025
Capital Assets				
Furniture, fixtures and				
equipment	\$ 364,846	\$ 21,953	\$(7,464)	\$ 379,335
Less accumulated	•	. ,	, (-,,	<i>*</i> ,
depreciation	(311,452)	(17,293)	7 <b>,4</b> 64	(321,281)
Total Capital Assets, net	\$ 53,394	\$ 15,049	\$ -	\$ 58,054
Right-to-use Assets				
Leased building	\$ 568,437	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 568,437
Leased equipment	32,671	· -	<u>-</u>	32,671
Less accumulated	Í			,1
amortization	(250,741)	(64,251)	н	(314,992)
Total Right-to-use Assets, net	\$ 350,367	\$ (49,202)	\$ -	\$ 286,116

For the year ended June 30, 2025, depreciation expense for capital assets was \$17,293 and amortization expense for right-to-use assets was \$64,251.

#### 4. COMPENSATED ABSENCES

At June 30, 2025, employees of the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority had accumulated \$122,089 in annual leave benefits. The following is a summary of the changes in accumulated annual leave benefits for the year ended June 30, 2025:

Compensated absences payable, beginning of year	\$ 77,481
Additions	125,064
Deletions	 (80,456)
Compensated absences payable, end of year	\$ 122,089

#### 5. TAXES PAID UNDER PROTEST

Louisiana Revised Statute 47:1576 provides that taxpayers, at the time of payment of all taxes due, may give notice to the tax collector of their intention to file suit for recovery of all or a portion of the total taxes paid upon receipt of a notice, the amount paid shall be segregated and held by the Authority for a period of thirty days. If a suit is filed within 30 days, the segregated funds shall be held pending the outcome of the suit. If the taxpayer prevails, the Authority shall refund the amount due with interest from the date the funds were received by the Authority. There was \$515,661 in sales taxes paid under protest as of June 30, 2025. These amounts are held and reported in the Authority's custodial fund cash and cash equivalents account balance.

#### 6. LEASES

The Authority has entered into agreements to lease office space and equipment. The lease agreements qualify as other than short-term leases under GASB 87 and; therefore, have been recorded at the present value of the future minimum lease payments as of the date of their inception.

#### 6. **LEASES** (continued)

The Authority leases office space as a tenant under a non-cancelable lease expiring in ten years. The agreement was executed on March 1, 2020 and requires 120 monthly payments as follows:

Term	Monthly Rent
Years 1-3	\$5,700
Years 4-7	\$6,000
Years 8-10	\$6,300

There are no variable payment components of the lease. The lease liability is measured at an incremental borrowing rate of 5%. The lease provides for a renewal option for two ten-year options to renew. The base rent during any renewal period, shall increase by 10% in year 1 and year 6 of each renewal period. If no notice is given, the lease shall renew on a month-to-month basis at \$7,000 and a six month notice of cancellation is required.

The Authority leases a copy machine under a lease expiring in 4 years. The agreement was executed in May 2024 and requires 48 monthly payments of \$414.34. There are no variable payment components of the lease. The lease liability is measured at an incremental borrowing rate of 6.5%.

The Authority leases a postage meter machine under a lease expiring in 3 years. The agreement was executed in July 2023 and requires 60 monthly payments of \$213.21. There are no variable payment components of the lease. The lease liability is measured at an incremental borrowing rate of 6.5%.

The Authority leases equipment under a lease expiring in 3 years. The agreement was executed in July 2023 and requires 60 monthly payments of \$84.17. There are no variable payment components of the lease liability is measured at an incremental borrowing rate of 6.5%.

The future minimum lease obligation and net present value of these minimum lease payments as of June 30, 2025 are as follows:

Year Ending	Pi	Principal		nterest
June 30,	Pa	Payments		yments
2026	\$	65,231	\$	15,309
2027		69,892		11,848
2028		74,454		8,083
2029		71,184		4,416
2030		49,470		932
	\$	330,231	\$	40,588

The following is a summary of the long-term liabilities for leases payable for the year ended June 30, 2025:

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance	Due Within One Year
Governmental Activities: Lease liabilities Total long-term liabilities	\$ 392,184 \$ 392,184	\$ - \$ -	\$ 61,953 \$ 61,953	\$ 330,231 \$ 330,231	\$ 65,231 \$ 65,231

#### 7. COLLECTIONS ON BEHALF OF OTHER TAXING AUTHORITIES

The following are the total collections, collection costs, and final distributions for the year ended June 30, 2025.

	Total		Co	Collection		Final		
		Collections	Costs		Distribution			
School Board (2%)	\$	106,706,995	\$	938,746	\$	105,768,249		
Parish Council (1%)		40,325,083		421,872		39,903,211		
Drainage District (0.5%)		24,003,385		216,037		23,787,348		
City of Gonzales (2%)		21,402,757		133,181		21,269,576		
District No. 2 (0.5%)		19,803,229		208,571		19,594,658		
Sheriff (0.5%)		19,798,724		195,135		19,603,589		
City of Donaldsonville (2%)		3,596,057		22,436		3,573,621		
Hospital District (0.5%)		2,107,342		18,540		2,088,802		
Sorrento (2%)		908,488		6,194		902,294		
Tanger Mall DD (1%)		936,364		5,868		930,496		
Conway EDD (1%)		102,032		670		101,362		
Occupancy Tourism (2%)		832,682		5,021		827,661		
Occupancy Gonzales (2%)		654,318		3,927		650,391		
OLT		3,037,627		54,556		2,983,071		
	\$	244,215,083	\$	2,230,754	\$	241,984,329		

The Authority distributes all taxes and licenses and interest collected each month to the respective entities less any funds paid under protest which are put in escrow accounts (see note 5).

#### 8. LITIGATION

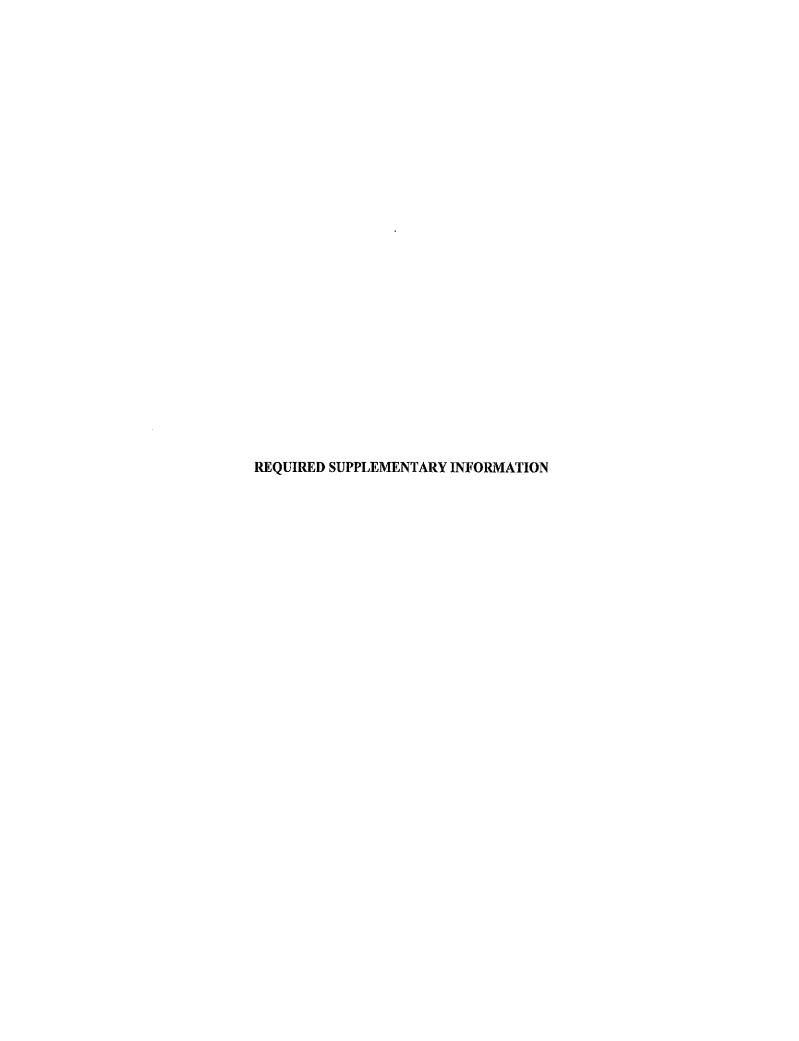
The Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority is involved in litigation as a defendant in numerous lawsuits and claims at June 30, 2025. In the opinion of the Authority's management and legal counsel, it is difficult to predict the outcome of these claims. As such, no liability has been recorded.

#### 9. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated subsequent events through October 24, 2025, the date that the financial statements were available to be issued, noting no subsequent events occurring after this date have been evaluated for inclusion in these financial statements.

#### 10. IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW ACCOUNTING GASB PRONOUNCEMENT

The Authority implemented GASB No. 101, Compensated Absences, which provides guidance to better meet the information needs of financial statement users by updating the recognition and measurement guidance for compensated absences. That objective is achieved by aligning the recognition and measurement guidance under a unified model and by amending certain previously required disclosures.



#### BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

		Budgeted	Amounts	Actual	Fir	riance with nal Budget avorable	
		Original	Final	Amounts	(Un	(Unfavorable)	
REVENUES							
Intergovernmental	\$	2,263,223	\$ 2,263,223	\$ 2,230,754	\$	(32,469)	
Total Revenues		2,263,223	2,263,223	2,230,754	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	(32,469)	
EXPENDITURES							
General Government:							
Personnel Personnel		1,596,593	1,596,593	1,547,275		49,318	
Travel		27,000	27,000	22,040		4,960	
Operating services		271,430	271,430	167,850		103,580	
Supplies		68,250	68,250	73,080		(4,830)	
Professional services		270,000	270,000	318,015		(48,015)	
Capital outlay		29,950	29,950	21,953		7,997	
Debt Service:							
Principal		-	-	61,953		(61,953)	
Interest		_	-	18,588		(18,588)	
Total Expenditures		2,263,223	2,263,223	2,230,754		113,010	
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES						-	
FUND BALANCE							
Beginning of year	<del></del>	-				-	
End of year	_\$		\$ -	\$ -	\$	_	



## SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND OTHER PAYMENTS TO THE AGENCY HEAD FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

Agency Head: Kressynda Krennerich, Tax Administrator

<u>Purpose</u>	 Amount		
Salary	\$ 117,487		
Retirement	25,168		
Benefits-insurance	12,278		
Travel	2,023		
Registration fees	1,375		
Conference travel	6,632		
	\$ 164,963		

#### SCHEDULE OF COLLECTIONS, DISTRIBUTIONS, AND COSTS OF COLLECTIONS-CASH BASIS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

1		Collections	
	a.	Sales and Use Tax	\$ 239,461,764
	b.	All other Taxes	4,593,413
	c.	Interest	417,377
	d.	Penalties	462,707
	e.	Fees	-
		Total Collections Received	244,935,261
	f.	Less Collections Received and Held in Escrow	1,838
		Total Collections Available for Disbursement	 244,933,423
2		Amounts Disbursed to Each Local Taxing Authority (Net of Collection Costs)	
		Ascension Parish School Board (2.0%)	105,765,168
		Parish of Ascension (1.0%)	39,903,211
		EA Drainage District (0.5%)	23,787,348
		City of Gonzales (2.0%)	21,269,576
		City of Donaldsonville (2.5%)	3,573,621
		WA Hospital District (0.5%)	2,088,802
		Town of Sorrento (2.0%)	902,294
		Parish District #2 (0.5%)	19,594,658
		Ascension Parish Sheriff (0.5%)	19,603,589
		Tanger Economic Development District (1.0%)	930,496
		Conway Economic Development District (1.0%)	101,361
		Ascension Parish Occupancy Tourism (2.0%)	827,661
		City of Gonzales Occupancy (2.0%)	650,391
		Occupational Licenses and Taxes	2,983,071
		Total Amounts Disbursed to Local Taxing Authorities	 241,981,247
3		Total Amount Retained by Collector	 2,952,176
4		Amounts Disbursed for Costs of Collections	
	a.	Collector Employee Salaries	1,056,819
	b.	Collector Employee Benefits	397,199
	c.	Contracted Collector Services	318,014
	d.	All Other Costs of Collection	908,488
			 2,680,520
5		Balance in Excess (Deficiency) of Costs of Collection	\$ 271,656
		The second secon	 1,000

OTHER REPORTING REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS



### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENTAUDITING STANDARDS

Board of Directors Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority Gonzales, Louisiana

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority (Authority), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated October 24, 2025.

#### Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Authority's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements, on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or, significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

#### Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Authority's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those 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 or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

#### Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Gonzales, Louisiana

October 24, 2025

### ASCENSION PARISH SALES AND USE TAX AUTHORITY SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

#### **SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS**

- 1. The independent auditors' report expressed an unmodified opinion on whether the financial statements of the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority (the Authority) were prepared in accordance with GAAP.
- No significant deficiencies related to the audit of the financial statements were reported in the Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards. No material weaknesses were identified.
- 3. No instances of noncompliance material to the financial statements of the Authority which is required to be reported in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, were disclosed during the audit.

#### FINDINGS - FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT

None noted.

#### FINDINGS - COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS

None noted.

### ASCENSION PARISH SALES AND USE TAX AUTHORITY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

#### FINDINGS - FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT

None noted.

#### FINDINGS - COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS

None noted

# ASCENSION PARISH SALES & USE TAX AUTHORITY GONZALES, LOUISIANA STATEWIDE AGREED UPON PROCEDURES

**JUNE 30, 2025** 



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

To the Board of Directors, and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor:

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the control and compliance (C/C) areas identified in the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's (LLA's) Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs) for the fiscal period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. The Ascension Parish Sales & Use Tax Authority's management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

Ascension Parish Sales & Use Tax Authority has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of the engagement, which is to perform specified procedures on the C/C areas identified in LLA's SAUPs for the fiscal period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. Additionally, LLA has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate for its purposes. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

The procedures and associated findings are as follows:

#### 1) Collections (excluding electronic funds transfers)

A. Obtain a listing of deposit sites for the fiscal period where deposits for cash/checks/money orders (cash) are prepared and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 deposit sites (or all deposit sites if less than 5).

Obtained a listing of deposit sites and management's representation that listing is complete.

B. For each deposit site selected, obtain a listing of collection locations and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one collection location for each deposit site (i.e. 5 collection locations for 5 deposit sites), obtain and inspect written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if there are no written policies or procedures, then inquire of employees about their job duties) at each collection location, and observe that job duties are properly segregated at each collection location such that:

Obtained a listing of collection locations and management's representation that listing is complete.

i. Employees responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers/registers;

Not applicable, the Authority does not receive cash; therefore, the need for cash drawers/registers are not necessary.

ii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not responsible for preparing/making bank deposits, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling collection documentation (e.g. pre-numbered receipts) to the deposit;

No exceptions noted.

iii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for posting collection entries to the general ledger or subsidiary ledgers, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling ledger postings to each other and to the deposit; and

No exceptions noted.

iv. The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or agency fund additions, is (are) not also responsible for collecting cash, unless another employee verifies the reconciliation.

No exception noted.

C. Obtain from management a copy of the bond or insurance policy for theft covering all employees who have access to cash. Observe that the bond or insurance policy for theft was in force during the fiscal period.

No exceptions noted.

- D. Randomly select two deposit dates for each of the 5 bank accounts selected for Bank Reconciliations procedure #3A (select the next deposit date chronologically if no deposits were made on the dates randomly selected and randomly select a deposit if multiple deposits are made on the same day). Alternately, the practitioner may use a source document other than bank statements when selecting the deposit dates for testing, such as a cash collection log, daily revenue report, receipt book, etc. Obtain supporting documentation for each of the 10 deposits and:
  - i. Observe that receipts are sequentially pre-numbered.

No exceptions noted.

ii. Trace sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.

No exceptions noted.

iii. Trace the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.

No exceptions noted.

iv. Observe that the deposit was made within one business day of receipt at the collection location (within one week if the depository is more than 10 miles from the collection location or the deposit is less than \$100 and the cash is stored securely in a locked safe or drawer).

Deposits were not made within one business day of receipt at the collection location.

Management's response: The Authority strives to deposit collections within one day of receipt. However, circumstances come up that hinder this process to extend to an additional day(s). None the less, the Authority will continue to make sure daily collections are deposited within one business day going forward.

v. Trace the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.

No exceptions noted.

We were engaged by Ascension Parish Sales & Use Tax Authority to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and applicable standards of *Government Auditing Standards*. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of Ascension Parish Sales & Use Tax Authority and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

This report is intended solely to describe the scope of testing performed on those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs, and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on control or compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the LLA as a public document.

Gonzales, Louisiana October 17, 2025

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