

**CITY COURT OF
NATCHITOCHEs, LOUISIANA
ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

DECEMBER 31, 2023

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
Financial Report
December 31, 2023

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CITY COURT OF NATCHITOCHEs, LOUISIANA

P. O. Box 70

Natchitoches, LA 71458-0070

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

This section of the City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana's (hereafter referred to as the City Court) annual financial report presents an overview and analysis of the City Court's financial activities for the year ended December 31, 2023. The intent of the MD&A is to look at the City Court's financial performance as a whole. It should, therefore be read in conjunction with this report. Certain comparative information is presented to provide an overview of the City Court's operations.

Financial Highlights

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities provide information about the activities of the City Court as a whole and presents a longer-term view of the City Court's finances. These statements tell how these services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

- The Statement of Net Position presents all of the City Court's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources with the difference between the two reported as "net position". Over time, increases or decreases in the City Court's net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the City Court is improving or deteriorating.
- The Statement of Activities presents information showing how the City Court's net position changed during the current year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Therefore, some revenues and some expenses that are reported in this statement will not result in cash flows until future years.

Fund Financial Statements

The services provided by the City Court are financed through governmental funds. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The City Court uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The City Court conducts its day-to-day operations through a governmental fund, the General Fund. These statements provide a short-term view of the City Court's finances and assists in determining whether there will be adequate financial resources available to meet the current needs of the City Court. The City Court also maintains a Fiduciary Fund, in which the funds are simply held for other parties and cannot be used for any of the City Court's activities, it is not included in the government-wide statement, but is separately reported in the statement of the Fiduciary Fund.

A summary of the basic government-wide financial statements is as follows:

Summary of the Statement of Net Position

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
ASSETS:		
Current Assets	\$ 167,125	\$ 118,250
Capital Assets (net)	<u>20,878</u>	<u>25,202</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 188,003</u>	<u>\$ 143,452</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>61,653</u>	<u>43,192</u>
LIABILITIES:		
Payroll Liabilities	\$ 437	\$ 942
Long-term Liabilities	<u>227,111</u>	<u>194,133</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 227,548</u>	<u>\$ 195,075</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$ 21,515</u>	<u>20,849</u>
NET POSITION:		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$ 20,878	\$ 25,202
Unrestricted	<u>(20,285)</u>	<u>(54,121)</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 593</u>	<u>\$ (28,919)</u>

Summary of the Statement of Net Position

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
REVENUES:		
Program Revenues-		
Fees, Fines & Charges for Services	\$ 257,418	\$ 192,621
EXPENSES:		
Current-		
Judicial Expense	<u>227,906</u>	<u>117,701</u>
Change in Net Position	<u>\$ 29,512</u>	<u>\$ 74,920</u>

The City Court's assets exceeded its liabilities by \$593 (net position) for the year. For prior year, the net position was (\$28,919).

Unrestricted Net Position is a deficit of \$20,285 at year end due to Net Pension Liability. This is an increase of \$33,836 from prior year.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The operations of the City Court of Natchitoches are not affected by most economic conditions. The City Court derives its revenue solely from fees levied by the City Court.

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budget

The City Court's management considered many factors when setting the operating budget for the next fiscal year. As there are very minimal changes expected in the next fiscal year, the budget for FY 2024 should not change significantly from the FY 2023 budget.

Contacting the City Court

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens and creditors with a general overview of the City Court's finances and to show the City Court's accountability for the money it receives. Any questions about this report or requests for additional information may be directed to City Court of Natchitoches at P.O. Box 70, Natchitoches, LA 71458-0070

T | C | B | T
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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT

Honorable Robert Owsley
City Court of Natchitoches
P. O. Box 70
Natchitoches, Louisiana 71458-0070

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the fiduciary fund of the City Court of Natchitoches (City Court), a component unit of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes which collectively comprise the City Court’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, the major fund, and the fiduciary fund of the City Court as of December 31, 2023, 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 and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the City Court and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related 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 these 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 City Court’s ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statements date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's 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 opinion. 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 City Court'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 City Court'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, Budgetary Comparison Schedule, Schedule of Employer's Share of Net Pension Liability, and Schedule of Employer's Contributions 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 City Court's basic financial statements. The Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer and Justice System Funding Schedule – Collecting/Disbursing is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is 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 supplementary information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the 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 April 25, 2024, on our consideration of the City Court'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 City Court'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 City Court's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

In accordance with the requirements of the Louisiana Legislative Auditor, we have issued a report, dated April 25, 2024, on the results of our state wide agreed-upon procedures performed in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards*. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of testing performed on those control and compliance areas identified in the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's state wide agreed-upon procedures, and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on control or compliance.

Thomas, Cunningham, Broadway & Todtenbier, CPA's

Thomas, Cunningham, Broadway & Todtenbier CPA's
Natchitoches, Louisiana

April 25, 2024

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

GOVERNMENT-WIDE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
Statement of Net Position
December 31, 2023

	Governmental Activities
ASSETS:	
Current Assets:	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 167,125
Non-current Assets:	
Capital Assets (net)	20,878
Total Assets	\$ 188,003
Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$ 61,653
LIABILITIES:	
Current Liabilities:	
Payroll Liabilities	\$ 437
Long-Term Liabilities	
Net Pension Liability	227,111
Total Liabilities	\$ 227,548
Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$ 21,515
NET POSITION:	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$ 20,878
Unrestricted	(20,285)
Total Net Position	\$ 593

See accompanying notes and independent auditor's report.

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
Statement of Activities
December 31, 2023

Activities	Expenses	Program Revenues <u>Fees, Fines & Charges for Services</u>	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position <u>Governmental Activities</u>
Governmental Activities.			
Judicial	<u>\$ 227,906</u>	<u>\$ 257,418</u>	\$ 29,512
			<u>(28,919)</u>
			<u>\$ 593</u>

See accompanying notes and independent auditor's report.

FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
Balance Sheet - Governmental Fund
December 31, 2023

	<u>General Fund</u>
ASSETS:	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ <u>167,125</u>
LIABILITIES:	
Payroll Liabilities	\$ 437
FUND BALANCE:	
Unassigned	<u>166,688</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$ <u>167,125</u>

See accompanying notes and independent auditor's report.

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
 Reconciliation of Governmental Fund
 Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position
 December 31, 2023

Total Fund Balance for the Governmental Fund at December 31, 2023	\$ 166,688
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Total Net Position reported for Governmental Activities in
Statement of Net Position is different because:

The following used in Governmental Activities are
not current financial resources and, therefore, are
not reported in the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet-

Capital Assets (Net)	20,878
Deferred Outflows of Resources	61,653

The following are not due and payable in the current period,
and, therefore, are not reported in the Governmental
Funds Balance sheet-

Net Pension Liability	(227,111)
Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>(21,515)</u>

Total Net Position of Governmental Activities at December 31, 2023	<u>\$ 593</u>
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City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance-
Governmental Fund
December 31, 2023

	<u>General Fund</u>
REVENUES:	
Fees, Fines & Charges for Service	<u>\$ 257,418</u>
EXPENDITURES:	
Judicial-	
Current-	
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 107,543
Office & Supplies	68,793
Maintenance	4,865
Conference Expense	17,369
Miscellaneous	776
Insurance	4,224
Marshal's Expense	4,468
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 208,038</u>
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures	\$ 49,380
Fund Balance-Beginning of Year	117,308
Fund Balance-End of Year	<u>\$ 166,688</u>

See accompanying notes and independent auditor's report.

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
 Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures,
 and Changes in Fund Balance of the Governmental Fund
 to the Statement of Activities
 December 31, 2023

Net change in fund balance-governmental fund	\$	49,380
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Some revenues reported in the Statement of Activities do not provide current financial resources and these are not reported as revenues in governmental funds. Some expenses reported in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in the funds. These timing differences are summarized below:

Deprecation Expense		(4,324)
Pension Expense		<u>(44,463)</u>

Change in net position per statement of activities at December 31, 2023	\$	<u>593</u>
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City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
Statement of Fiduciary Net Position
Fiduciary Fund
December 31, 2023

	<u>Custodial Fund</u>
Assets:	
Cash	\$ <u>222,613</u>
Liabilities:	
Due to Others	\$ <u>222,613</u>

See accompanying notes and independent auditor's report.

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position
Fiduciary Fund
December 31, 2023

	<u>Custodial Fund</u>
Additions:	
Court Costs/Fines	\$ 273,719
Deductions:	
Disbursements to Other Governments	<u>230,550</u>
Changes in Liabilities	43,169
Liabilities - Beginning	<u>179,444</u>
Liabilities - Ending	<u>\$ 222,613</u>

See accompanying notes and independent auditor's report.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

Introduction:

The City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana is a component unit of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana. As provided for by Chapter 7 of Title 13 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, the City Court has jurisdiction in all civil matters in the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana. As provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 13:1952, the City Court presides over civil, criminal, traffic and juvenile cases. Civil claims include personal injury, contract, and landlord-tenant cases up to a certain amount. The City Court, also, has criminal jurisdictions over misdemeanors that are offenses generally punishable by a fine of not more than a certain amount and/or a jail term of not more than six months. All fines, costs, and forfeitures levied by the judges are collected by the City Court, Natchitoches Parish Police Department and the City Marshal. The City Court is directed by the City Judge, who is elected to a term of six years.

The accounting and reporting policies of the City Court of Natchitoches conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governmental units. Such accounting and reporting policies also conform to the requirements of Louisiana Revised Statutes 24:518.

1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:

The accompanying basic financial statements of the City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana, have been prepared in conformity with governmental accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The accompanying basic financial statements have been prepared in conformity with GASB Pronouncements.

A. Reporting Entity-

As the governing authority of the City, for reporting purposes, the City of Natchitoches is the financial reporting entity. The financial reporting entity consists of (a) the primary government (City of Natchitoches), (b) organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable, and (c) other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 14 established criteria for determining which component units should be considered part of the City of Natchitoches for financial reporting purposes. The basic criteria for including a potential component unit within the reporting entity is financial accountability. The GASB has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. This criteria includes:

1. Appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body and
 - a. The ability of the City to impose its will on that organization and/or
 - b. The potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to or impose specific financial burdens on the City.
2. Organizations for which the City does not appoint a voting majority but are fiscally dependent on the City.
3. Organizations for which the reporting entity financial statements would be misleading if data of the organization is not included because of the nature or significance of the relationship.

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

Because of item 2 above, the City Court of Natchitoches, was determined to be a component unit of the City of Natchitoches, the financial reporting entity. The accompanying financial statements present information only on the funds maintained by the City Court and do not present information on the City, the general government services provided by that governmental unit, or the other governmental units that comprise the financial reporting entity.

B. Basis of Presentation-

Government-Wide Financial Statements (GWFS)

The Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities report information about the reporting government as a whole. They include all funds of the reporting entity. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange revenues.

The Statement of Net Position presents the government-type activities on a consolidated basis, which recognizes all long-term assets and receivables as well as long-term debt and obligations.

The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the City Court's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function. Program revenues include (a) fees and charges paid by the recipient for goods or services offered by the program, and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues

C. Fund Accounting-

The financial statements of the City Court are organized into funds, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues and expenditures, or expenses, as appropriate. Government resources are allocated to and accounted for in the individual funds based upon the purpose for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. Funds are classified into two categories: governmental and fiduciary. An emphasis is placed on major funds within the governmental category. A fund is considered major if it is the primary operating fund of the City Court or meets the following criteria:

- a Total assets, liabilities, revenues, or expenditures/expenses of that individual governmental or enterprise fund are at least 10 percent of the corresponding total for all funds of that category or type; and
- b Total assets, liabilities, revenues, or expenditures/expenses of the individual governmental fund or enterprise fund are at least 5 percent of the corresponding total for all governmental and enterprise funds combined.

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

The funds of the City Court are described below:

Governmental Fund-

General Fund

The general fund is the general operating fund of the City Court. It is used to account for all financial resources and is considered to be major.

Fiduciary Fund-

Custodial Fund

Custodial funds are used to account for assets held by the City Court in a trustee capacity or as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governments, and/or other funds. These funds are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations.

D. Measurement Focus/Basis of Accounting-

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues or expenditures/expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. It relates to the timing of the measurements made regardless of the measurement focus applied.

Accrual Basis - Government-Wide Financial Statements (GWFS)

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the City Court as a whole. Both of these statements have been prepared using the economic measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, and liabilities resulting from exchange and exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange takes place.

Modified Accrual Basis - Fund Financial Statements (FFS)

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. Governmental fund types use the flow of current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when susceptible to accrual; i.e., when they are both measurable and available. "Measurable" means the amount of the transaction can be determined and "available" means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. The City Court considers all revenues "available" if collected within 60 days after year-end. Expenditures are generally recorded under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related liability is incurred. The exceptions to this general rule are that (1) unmatured principal and interest on long-term debt, if any, are recorded when due and (2) claims and judgments and compensated absences are recorded as expenditures when paid with expendable available financial resources.

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

E. Assets, Liabilities, and Equity-

Cash and Interest-Bearing Deposits-

For purposes of the Statement of Net Position, cash and interest-bearing deposits include all demand accounts, savings accounts, and certificates of deposit of the City Court.

Capital Assets-

Capital assets, which include property, plant, and equipment, are reported in the governmental activities column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are capitalized at historical cost or estimated cost if historical cost is not available. Donated assets are recorded as capital assets at their estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The City Court maintains a threshold level of \$500 or more for capitalizing capital assets.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of that asset or materially extend the life of that asset are not capitalized.

Depreciation of all exhaustible capital assets is recorded as an expense in the Statement of Activities, with accumulated depreciation reflected in the Statement of Net Position. Depreciation is provided over the assets' estimated useful lives using the straight-line method of depreciation. The range of useful lives by type of asset is as follows:

Furniture, computers, office equipment	5 years
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Compensated Absences-

Employees of the City Court do not accrue or "carry forward" vacation or sick leave, therefore no entry is made to record compensated absences.

Equity Classifications-

In the government-wide statements, equity is classified as net position and displayed in three components:

- a. Net investment in capital assets - Consists of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
- b. Restricted net position - Consists of net resources with constraints placed on their use either by (1) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (2) law through constitutional provision or enabling legislation.
- c. Unrestricted net position - All other net resources that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "net investment in capital assets".

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

When an expense is incurred for the purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available, management applies unrestricted resources first, unless a determination is made to use restricted resources. The policy concerning which to apply first varies with the intended use and legal requirements. This decision is typically made by management at the incurrence of the expense.

In the fund statements, governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance and displayed in five components. The following classifications describe the relative strength of the spending constraints placed on the purposes for which resources can be used:

- a. Nonspendable fund balance - amounts that are not in a spendable form (such as prepaid expenses) or are required to be maintained intact;
- b. Restricted fund balance - amounts constrained to specific purposes by their providers (such as grantors, bondholders, and higher levels of government), through constitutional provisions, or by enabling legislation;
- c. Committed fund balance - amounts constrained to specific purposes by a government itself, using its highest level of decision-making authority; to be reported as committed, amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the government takes the same highest level action to remove or change the constraint;
- d. Assigned fund balance - amounts a government intends to use for a specific purpose; intent can be expressed by the governing body or by an official or body to which the governing body delegates the authority;
- e. Unassigned fund balance - amounts that are available for any purpose; positive amounts are reported only in the general fund.

The General Fund has an unassigned fund balance of \$166,688. If applicable, the City Court would typically use restricted fund balances first, followed by committed resources and assigned resources as appropriate opportunities arise, but reserves the right to selectively spend unassigned resources first and to defer the use of these other classified funds.

F. Budget-

Prior to the beginning of each fiscal year, the City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana adopts a budget for the next fiscal year. The budget is open for public inspection. All budgetary appropriations lapse at the end of the fiscal year. The budget is prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting.

G. Estimates-

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require 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, expenditures and expenses during the reported period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

H. Pensions-

For purposes of measuring the Net Pension Liability, Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the retirement systems and additions to deductions from the fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the retirement systems. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. See Note 4, for more information on the retirement system

I. Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources-

The Statement of Net Position reports a separate section for deferred outflows and (or) deferred inflows of financial resources. Deferred outflows of resources represent a consumption of net position that applies to future periods and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until the applicable period. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net position that applies to future periods and will not be recognized as an inflow of resources until that time.

2. Cash and Cash Equivalents:

The cash and cash equivalents of the City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana were subject to the following risk:

Custodial Credit Risk: Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, the City Court will not be able to recover its deposits. 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 or exceed 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. 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 City Court that the fiscal agent bank has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand. Further, Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1224 states that securities held by a third party shall be deemed to be held in the City Court's name.

Bank account balances at December 31, 2023, totaled \$398,781 and were fully secured by FDIC insurance and pledged securities.

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

3. Capital Assets:

Capital asset balances and activity for the year ended December 31, 2023, is as follows:

<u>Governmental Activities</u>	<u>Balance 01-01-23</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	<u>Balance 12-31-23</u>
Capital Assets:				
Furniture, computers, equipment	\$30,270	\$ 0	\$0	\$30,270
Less: Accumulated Depreciation:				
Furniture, computers, equipment	<u>5,068</u>	<u>4,324</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>9,392</u>
Net Capital Assets	<u>\$25,202</u>	<u>\$4,324</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$20,878</u>

4. Pension Plan:

Pensions

For purposes of measuring the Net Pension Liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Louisiana State Employees Retirement System (LASERS) and additions to/deductions from LASERS' fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by LASERS. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

Plan Description

Employees of the City Court are provided with pensions through cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit plan administered by LASERS. Section 401 of Title 11 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes (La. R.S. 11:401) grants to LASERS Board of Trustees and the Louisiana Legislature the authority to review administration, benefit terms, investments, and funding of the plan. LASERS issues a publicly available financial report that can be obtained at www.lasersonline.org.

Benefits Provided

The following is a description of the plan and its benefits and is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to the appropriate statutes for more complete information.

Retirement

The age and years of creditable service required in order for a member to retire with full benefits are established by statute, and vary depending on the member's hire date, employer, and job classification. Our rank and file members hired prior to July 1, 2006 may either retire with full benefits at any age upon completing 30 years of creditable service, at age 55 upon completing 25 years of creditable service, and at age 60 upon completing ten years of creditable service depending on their plan. Those members hired between July 1, 2006 and June 1, 2015, may retire at age 60 upon completing five years

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

4 Pension Plan (continued):

of creditable service and those hired on or after July 1, 2015 may retire at age 62 upon completing five years of creditable service. The basic annual retirement benefit for members is equal to 2.5% to 3.5% of average compensation multiplied by the number of years of creditable service. Additionally, members may choose to retire with 20 years of service at any age, with an actuarially reduced benefit.

Average compensation is defined as the member's average annual earned compensation for the highest 36 consecutive months of employment for members employed prior to July 1, 2006. For members hired July 1, 2006 or later, average compensation is based on the member's average annual earned compensation for the highest 60 consecutive months of employment. The maximum annual retirement benefit cannot exceed the lesser of 100% of average compensation or a certain specified dollar amount of actuarially determined monetary limits, which vary depending upon the member's age at retirement. Judges, court officers, and certain elected officials receive an additional annual retirement benefit equal to 1.0% of average compensation multiplied by the number of years of creditable service in their respective capacity. As an alternative to the basic retirement benefits, a member may elect to receive their retirement benefits throughout their life, with certain benefits being paid to their designated beneficiary after their death.

Act 992 of the 2010 Louisiana Regular Legislative Session, changed the benefit structure for LASERS members hired on or after January 1, 2011. This resulted in three new plans: regular, hazardous duty, and judges. The new regular plan includes regular members and those members who were formerly eligible to participate in specialty plans, excluding hazardous duty and judges. Regular members and judges are eligible to retire at age 60 after five years of creditable service and, may also retire at any age, with a reduced benefit, after 20 years of creditable service. Hazardous duty members are eligible to retire with twelve years of creditable service at age 55, 25 years of creditable service at any age or with a reduced benefit after 20 years of creditable service. Average compensation will be based on the member's average annual earned compensation for the highest 60 consecutive months of employment for all three new plans. Members in the regular plan will receive a 2.5% accrual rate, hazardous duty plan a 3.33% accrual rate, and judges a 3.5% accrual rate. The extra 1.0% accrual rate for each year of service for court officers, the governor, lieutenant governor, legislators, House clerk, sergeants at arms, or Senate secretary, employed after January 1, 2011, was eliminated by Act 992. Specialty plan and regular members, hired prior to January 1, 2011, who are hazardous duty employees have the option to transition to the new hazardous duty plan.

Act 226 of the 2014 Louisiana Regular Legislative Session established new retirement eligibility for members of LASERS hired on or after July 1, 2015, excluding hazardous duty plan members. Regular members and judges under the new plan are eligible to retire at age 62 after five years of creditable service and, may also retire at any age, with a reduced benefit, after 20 years of creditable service. Average compensation will be based on the member's average annual earned compensation for the highest 60 consecutive months of employment. Members in the regular plan will receive 2.5% accrual rate, and judges a 3.5% accrual rate, with the extra 1.0% accrual rate based on all years of service as a judge.

A member leaving employment before attaining minimum retirement age, but after completing certain minimum service requirements, becomes eligible for a benefit provided the member lives to the minimum service retirement age, and does not withdraw their accumulated contributions. The minimum service requirement for benefits varies depending upon the member's employer and service classification.

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

4 Pension Plan (continued):

Deferred Retirement Benefits

The State Legislature authorized LASERS to establish a Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP). When a member enters DROP, their status changes from active member to retiree even though they continue to work and draw their salary for a period of up to three years. The election is irrevocable once participation begins. During DROP participation, accumulated retirement benefits that would have been paid to each retiree are separately tracked. For members who entered DROP prior to January 1, 2004, interest at a rate of one-half percent less than the System's realized return on its portfolio (not to be less than zero) will be credited to the retiree after participation ends. At that time, the member must choose among available alternatives for the distribution of benefits that have accumulated in the DROP account. Members who enter DROP on or after January 1, 2004, are required to participate in LASERS Self-Directed Plan (SDP) which is administered by a third-party provider. The SDP allows DROP participants to choose from a menu of investment options for the allocation of their DROP balances. Participants may diversify their investments by choosing from an approved list of mutual funds with different holdings, management styles, and risk factors.

Members eligible to retire and who do not choose to participate in DROP may elect to receive at the time of retirement an initial benefit option (IBO) in an amount up to 36 months of benefits, with an actuarial reduction of their future benefits. For members who selected the IBO option prior to January 1, 2004, such amount may be withdrawn or remain in the IBO account earning interest at a rate of one-half percent less than the System's realized return on its portfolio (not to be less than zero). Those members who select the IBO on or after January 1, 2004, are required to enter the SDP as described above.

Disability Benefits

Generally, active members with ten or more years of credited service who become disabled may receive a maximum disability retirement benefit equivalent to the regular retirement formula without reduction by reason of age.

Upon reaching retirement age, the disability retiree may receive a regular retirement benefit by making application to the Board of Trustees.

For injuries sustained in the line of duty, hazardous duty personnel in the Hazardous Duty Services Plan will receive a disability benefit equal to 75% of final average compensation or 100% of final average compensation if the injury was the result of an intentional act of violence.

Survivor's Benefits

Certain eligible surviving dependents receive benefits based on the deceased member's compensation and their relationship to the deceased. The deceased regular member hired before January 1, 2011 who was in state service at the time of death must have a minimum of five years of service credit, at least two of which were earned immediately prior to death, or who had a minimum of twenty years of service credit regardless of when earned in order for a benefit to be paid to a minor or handicapped child. Benefits are payable to an unmarried child until age 18, or age 23 if the child remains a full-time student. The aforementioned minimum service credit requirement is ten years for a surviving spouse with no minor children, and benefits are to be paid for life to the spouse or qualified handicapped child.

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

4 Pension Plan (continued):

The deceased regular member hired on or after January 1, 2011, must have a minimum of five years of service credit regardless of when earned in order for a benefit to be paid to a minor child. The aforementioned minimum service credit requirements for a surviving spouse are 10 years, 2 years being earned immediately prior to death, and active state service at the time of death, or a minimum of 20 years of service credit regardless of when earned. A deceased member's spouse must have been married for at least one year before death.

Permanent Benefit Increases/Cost-of-Living Adjustments

As fully described in Title 11 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, the System allows for the payment of permanent benefit increases, also known as cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs), that are funded through investment earnings when recommended by the Board of Trustees and approved by the State Legislature.

Employer Contributions

The employer contribution rate is established annually under La. R.S. 11:101-11.104 by the Public Retirement Systems' Actuarial Committee (PRSAC), taking into consideration the recommendation of the System's Actuary. Each plan pays a separate actuarially-determined employer contribution rate. However, all assets of LASERS are used for the payment of benefits for all classes of members, regardless of their plan membership. Rates for the year ended June 30, 2023 are as follows:

<u>Plan</u>	<u>Plan Status</u>	<u>Employer Contribution Rate</u>
Appellate Law Clerks	Closed	40.40%
Appellate Law Clerks hired on or after 7/1/06	Closed	40.40%
Alcohol Tobacco Control	Closed	43.90%
Bridge Police	Closed	39.30%
Bridge Police hired on or after 7/1/06	Closed	39.30%
Corrections Primary	Closed	39.20%
Corrections Secondary	Closed	43.40%
Harbor Police	Closed	46.70%
Hazardous Duty	Open	46.10%
Judges hired before 1/1/2011	Closed	44.80%
Judges hired after 12/31/2010	Closed	43.80%
Judges hired on or after 7/1/15	Open	43.80%
Legislators	Closed	36.60%
Optional Retirement Plan (ORP)		
Hired before 7/1/06	Closed	37.90%
Hired on or after 7/1/06	Closed	37.90%
Peace Officers	Closed	41.80%
Regular Employees		
Hired before 7/1/06	Closed	40.40%
Hired on or after 7/1/06	Closed	40.40%
Hired on or after 1/1/2011	Closed	40.40%
Hired on or after 7/1/15	Open	40.40%
Special Legislative Employees	Closed	38.60%
Wildlife Agents	Closed	52.20%
Aggregate Rate		41.00%

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

4. Pension Plan (continued):

The City Court's contractually required composite contribution rate for the year ended June 30, 2023 was 43.8% of annual payroll, actuarially determined as an amount that, when combined with employee contributions, is expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year, with an additional amount to finance any Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability. Contributions to the pension plan from the City Court were \$32,027 for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

At December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022, the City Court reported a liability of \$227,111 and \$194,133, respectively, for its proportionate share of the Net Pension Liability. The Net Pension Liability was measured as of June 30, 2023 and the total pension liability used to calculate the Net Pension Liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The City Court's proportion of the Net Pension Liability was based on a projection of the City Court's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating employers, actuarially determined. At June 30, 2023, the City Court's proportion was .00339%, which was an increase of .00082% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2022.

For the year ended December 31, 2023, the City Court recognized pension expense of \$15,180 minus employer's amortization of change in proportionate share and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions of \$3,946.

At December 31, 2023, the City Court reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 4,917	\$ 0
Changes in assumption	0	0
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	1,298	0
Changes in employer's proportion of beginning net pension liability	37,360	3,979
Differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of employer contributions	3,014	17,536
Subsequent Measurement Contributions	15,064	0
Total	\$61,653	\$21,515

\$61,653 is reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from City Court contributions subsequent to measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the Net Pension Liability in the year ended December 31, 2023. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year ended June 30:	
2024	\$15,156
2025	1,710
2026	11,186
2027	(2,978)
Total	\$25,074

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

4 Pension Plan (continued):

Actuarial Assumptions

A summary of the actuarial methods and assumptions used in determining the total pension liability as of June 30, 2023 are as follows:

Valuation Date	June 30, 2023																		
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal																		
Actuarial Assumptions:																			
Expected Remaining																			
Service Lives	2 years.																		
Investment Rate of Return	7.25% per annum.																		
Inflation Rate	2.30% per annum.																		
Mortality	Non-disabled members – The RP-2014 Blue Collar (males/females) and White Collar (females) Healthy Annuitant Tables projected on a fully generational basis by Mortality Improvements Scale MP-2018. Disabled members – Mortality rates based on the RP-2000 Disabled Retiree Mortality Table, with no projection for mortality improvement.																		
Termination, Disability, and Retirement	Termination, disability, and retirement assumptions were projected based on a five-year (2014-2018) experience study of the System's members.																		
Salary Increases	Salary increases were projected based on a 2014-2018 experience study of the System's members. The salary increase ranges for specific types of members are:																		
	<table border="0" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Member Type</th> <th style="text-align: center; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Lower Range</th> <th style="text-align: center; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Upper Range</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Regular</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3.0%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">12.8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Judges</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2.6%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Corrections</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3.6%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">13.8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hazardous Duty</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3.6%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">13.8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wildlife</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3.6%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">13.8%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Member Type	Lower Range	Upper Range	Regular	3.0%	12.8%	Judges	2.6%	5.1%	Corrections	3.6%	13.8%	Hazardous Duty	3.6%	13.8%	Wildlife	3.6%	13.8%
Member Type	Lower Range	Upper Range																	
Regular	3.0%	12.8%																	
Judges	2.6%	5.1%																	
Corrections	3.6%	13.8%																	
Hazardous Duty	3.6%	13.8%																	
Wildlife	3.6%	13.8%																	
Cost of Living Adjustments	The present value of future retirement benefits is based on benefits currently being paid by the System and includes previously granted cost of living increases. The projected benefit payments do not include provisions for potential future increases not yet authorized by the Board of Trustees as they were deemed not to be substantively automatic																		

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

4. Pension Plan (continued):

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation of 2.3% and an adjustment for the effect of rebalancing diversification. The resulting expected long-term rate of return is 7.61% for 2023. Best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class included in the pension plan's target asset allocation as of June 30, 2023 are summarized in the following table:

Expected Long Term Real Rates of Return	
Asset Class	2023
Cash	0.80%
Domestic Equity	4.45%
International Equity	5.44%
Domestic Fixed Income	2.04%
International Fixed Income	5.33%
Alternative Investments	8.19%
Total Fund	5.75%

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.25%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current contribution rates and that contributions from participating employers will be made at the actuarially determined rates approved by PRSAC taking into consideration the recommendation of the pension plan's actuary. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the City Court's proportionate share of the Net Pension Liability using the discount rate of 7.25%, as well as what the City Court's proportionate share of the Net Pension Liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage-point lower or one percentage-point higher than the current rate:

	1.0% Decrease (6.25%)	Current Discount Rate (7.25%)	1.0% Increase (8.25%)
Employer's proportionate share of net pension liability	\$297,384	\$227,111	\$167,576

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

4. Pension Plan (continued):

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued LASERS 2022 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report at www.lasersonline.org.

5. Expenses Paid by Other Governmental Units:

The Clerk of City Court is paid by the City of Natchitoches and the Natchitoches Parish Government. All other employees of the City Court, with the exception of the Judge, are paid by the City Court and the City of Natchitoches.

6. Subsequent Events:

Management has evaluated events through April 25, 2024, the date which the financial statements were available for issue. There were no items to be reported as subsequent events.

OTHER REQUIRED
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
 General Fund
 Budgetary Comparison Schedule
 December 31, 2023

	<u>Budget</u>		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance- Favorable (Unfavorable)</u>
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		
REVENUES:				
Fees, Fines & Charges for Service	\$ 226,466	\$ 235,088	\$ 257,418	\$ 22,330
EXPENDITURES:				
Judicial-				
Current-				
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 113,553	\$ 119,222	\$ 107,543	\$ 11,679
Office & Supplies	75,000	69,000	68,793	207
Maintenance	5,000	5,000	4,865	135
Conference Expense	15,000	17,000	17,369	(369)
Miscellaneous	1,000	1,000	776	224
Insurance	5,000	4,500	4,224	276
Marshal's Expense	5,360	3,443	4,468	(1,025)
Total Expenditures	\$ 219,913	\$ 219,165	\$ 208,038	\$ 11,127
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures	\$ 6,553	\$ 15,923	\$ 49,380	\$ 33,457
Fund Balance-Beginning of Year	117,308	117,308	117,308	-
Fund Balance-End of Year	<u>\$ 123,861</u>	<u>\$ 133,231</u>	<u>\$ 166,688</u>	<u>\$ 33,457</u>

See accompanying notes and independent auditor's report.

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
 Schedule of Employer's Share of Net Pension Liability
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Fiscal Year*	Agency's proportion of the net pension liability (asset)	Agency's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset)	Agency's covered payroll	Agency's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered payroll	Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability
<i>Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System</i>					
2015	0.00319%	\$ 216,968	\$ 67,717	320%	62.7%
2016	0.00397%	\$ 311,825	\$ 66,926	466%	57.7%
2017	0.00386%	\$ 271,980	\$ 69,113	394%	62.5%
2018	0.00368%	\$ 250,905	\$ 69,649	360%	62.5%
2019	0.00341%	\$ 247,052	\$ 66,555	371%	62.9%
2020	0.00287%	\$ 237,451	\$ 46,391	512%	58.0%
2021	0.00243%	\$ 133,857	\$ 46,715	287%	72.8%
2022	0.00257%	\$ 194,134	\$ 65,520	296%	63.7%
2023	0.00339%	\$ 227,111	\$ 68,368	332%	68.4%

*Amounts presented were determined as of the measurement date (previous fiscal year end).

This schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
 Schedule of Employer's Contributions
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Fiscal Year*	Statutorily Required Contribution	Contributions in relation to the statutorily required contribution	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Agency's covered payroll	Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll
<i>Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System</i>					
2015	\$ 26,909	\$ 26,909	\$ -	\$ 67,717	39.7%
2016	\$ 25,499	\$ 25,499	\$ -	\$ 66,926	38.1%
2017	\$ 26,942	\$ 26,942	\$ -	\$ 69,113	39.0%
2018	\$ 27,929	\$ 27,929	\$ -	\$ 66,649	41.9%
2019	\$ 26,689	\$ 26,689	\$ -	\$ 66,555	40.1%
2020	\$ 11,726	\$ 11,726	\$ -	\$ 46,391	25.3%
2021	\$ 20,238	\$ 20,238	\$ -	\$ 46,715	43.3%
2022	\$ 28,493	\$ 28,493	\$ -	\$ 65,520	43.5%
2023	\$ 32,027	\$ 32,027	\$ -	\$ 68,368	46.8%

*Amounts presented were determined as of the end of the fiscal year.

This schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

City Court of Natchitoches, Louisiana
Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to
Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Agency Head Name: Robert Owsley, Judge

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Salaries	\$ 60,258
Benefits-Retirement	32,027
Dues	150
Conference Travel	<u>11,698</u>
Total	<u>\$104,133</u>

See independent auditor's report.

Justice System Funding Schedule - Collecting/Disbursing Entity

As Required by Act 87 of the 2020 Regular Legislative Session

Identifying Information		
Entity Name	City Court of Natchitoches	
LLA Entity ID # (This is the ID number assigned to the entity by the Legislative Auditor for identification purposes.)	2124	
Date that reporting period ended (mm/dd/yyyy)	12/31/2023	
Cash Basis Presentation	First Six Month Period Ended 6/30/2023	Second Six Month Period Ended 12/31/2023
Beginning Balance of Amounts Collected (i.e. cash on hand)	179,444	180,514
Add: Collections		
Criminal Court Costs/Fees	119,734	153,985
Subtotal Collections	119,734	153,985
Less: Disbursements To Governments & Nonprofits: <i>(Must include one agency name and one collection type on each line and may require multiple lines for the same agency if more than one collection type is applicable. Additional rows may be added as necessary.)</i>		
<i>Louisiana Supreme Court - Criminal Court Costs/Fees</i>	158	155
<i>Louisiana State Treasury - Criminal Court Costs/Fees</i>	7,060	8,142
<i>Louisiana Secretary of State - Criminal Court Costs/Fees</i>	250	250
<i>Natchitoches Parish Clerk of Court - Recording Fees</i>	15,755	12,573
<i>Natchitoches City Marshal - Criminal Court Costs/Fees</i>	13,350	13,770
<i>Alexandria City Marshal - Criminal Court Costs/Fees</i>	-	150
<i>Bossier Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees</i>	99	120
<i>Caddo Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees</i>	456	391
<i>DeSoto Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees</i>	149	155
<i>East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees</i>	1,096	1,103
<i>Grant Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees</i>	110	210
<i>Jackson Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees</i>	-	92
<i>Lafayette Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees</i>	-	96
<i>LaSalle Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees</i>	-	50
<i>Natchitoches Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees</i>	625	814
<i>Rapides Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees</i>	36	173
<i>Red River Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees</i>	246	432
<i>Sabine Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees</i>	600	160
<i>St. James Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees</i>	43	129
<i>St. Tammany Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees</i>	-	73
<i>Terrebonne Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees</i>	76	-
<i>Vernon Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees</i>	-	16
<i>Webster Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees</i>	45	80
<i>Winn Parish Sheriff - Criminal Court Costs/Fees</i>	438	449
-	-	-
Less: Amounts Retained by Collecting Agency		
Self-Disbursed - Criminal Court Fees	48,807	45,749
Less: Disbursements to Individuals/3rd Party Collection or Processing Agencies		
Civil Fee Refunds	29,265	26,554
Subtotal Disbursements/Retainage	118,664	111,886
Total: Ending Balance of Amounts Collected but not Disbursed/Retained (i.e. cash on hand)	180,514	222,613

OTHER REPORTS/SCHEDULES

T | C | B | T
THOMAS, CUNNINGHAM, BROADWAY & TODTENBIER
Certified Public Accountants

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S 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*

Honorable Robert Owsley
City Court of Natchitoches
P. O. Box 70
Natchitoches, Louisiana 71458-0070

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 and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund and the fiduciary fund as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City Court of Natchitoches' (City Court) basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated April 25, 2024.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the City Court'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 City Court's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the City Court'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 City Court's financial statements are free from 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 determination of 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. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor as a public document.

Thomas, Cunningham, Broadway & Todtenbier, CPA's

Thomas, Cunningham, Broadway & Todtenbier, CPA's
Natchitoches, Louisiana

April 25, 2024

City Court of Natchitoches
Schedule of Audit Results
Year Ended December 31, 2023

I. SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS

The following summarize the audit results:

1. An unmodified opinion was issued on the financial statements of the City Court of Natchitoches as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023
2. The audit disclosed no material weaknesses in internal control
3. The audit disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

II. FINDINGS IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

None identified.

IV. PRIOR YEAR AUDIT FINDINGS

None identified.

T | C | B | T
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**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT’S REPORT ON APPLYING
STATEWIDE AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES**

To the City Court of Natchitoches 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 January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. The City Court of Natchitoches’ (City Court) management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

The City Court 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 January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. 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 for 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:

Written Policies and Procedures

1. We obtained and inspected the entity’s written policies and procedures and observed that they address each of the following categories and subcategories if applicable to public funds and the operations:
 - ***Budgeting***, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget.
 - ***Purchasing***, including (1) how purchases are initiated; (2) how vendors are added to the vendor list; (3) the preparation and approval process of purchase requisitions and purchase orders; (4) controls to ensure compliance with the public bid law; and (5) documentation required to be maintained for all bids and price quotes.
 - ***Disbursements***, including processing, reviewing, and approving.
 - ***Receipts/Collections***, including receiving, recording, and preparing deposits. Also, policies and procedures should include management’s actions to determine the completeness of all collections for each type of revenue or custodial fund additions (e.g. periodic confirmation with outside parties, reconciliation to utility billing after cutoff procedures, reconciliation of traffic ticket number sequences, custodial fund forfeiture monies confirmation.)

- **Payroll/Personnel**, including (1) payroll processing, and (2) reviewing and approving time and attendance records, including leave and overtime worked, and (3) approval process for employee(s) rate of pay or approval and maintenance of pay rate schedules.
- **Contracting**, including (1) types of services requiring written contracts, (2) standard terms and conditions, (3) legal review, (4) approval process, and (5) monitoring process.
- **Credit Cards (and debit cards, fuel cards, purchase cards, if applicable)**, including (1) how cards are to be controlled, (2) allowable business uses, (3) documentation requirements, (4) required approvers of statements, and (5) monitoring card usage (e.g., determining the reasonableness of fuel card purchases).
- **Travel and expense reimbursement**, including (1) allowable expenses, (2) dollar thresholds by category of expense, (3) documentation requirements, and (4) required approvers.
- **Ethics**, including (1) the prohibitions as defined in Louisiana Revised Statute 42:1111-1121, (2) actions to be taken if an ethics violation takes place, (3) system to monitor possible ethics violations, and (4) a requirement that documentation is maintained to demonstrate that all employees and officials were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy.
- **Debt Service**, including (1) debt issuance approval, (2) continuing disclosure EMMA reporting requirements, (3) debt reserve requirements, and (4) debt service requirements.
- **Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity**, including (1) identification of critical data and frequency of data backups, (2) storage of backups in a separate physical location isolated from the network, (3) periodic testing/verification that backups can be restored, (4) use of antivirus software on all systems, (5) timely application of all available system and software patches/updates, and (6) identification of personnel, processes, and tools needed to recover operations after a critical event.
- **Prevention of Sexual Harassment**, including R.S. 42:342-344 requirements for (1) agency responsibilities and prohibitions, (2) annual employee training, and (3) annual reporting.

Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.

Board or Finance Committee

- 2 We obtained and inspected the board/finance committee minutes for the fiscal period, as well as the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or equivalent documents in effect during the fiscal period, and:
 - Observed that the board/finance committee met with a quorum at least monthly, or on a frequency in accordance with the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or other equivalent document.
 - Observed that the minutes referenced or included monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the General Fund, quarterly budget-to-actual comparisons on all proprietary funds, and semi-annual budget-to-actual comparisons on all special revenue funds.
 - Obtained the prior year audit report and observed the unassigned fund balance in the General Fund. If the General Fund had a negative ending unrestricted net position in the prior year audit report, observed that the minutes for at least one meeting during the fiscal period referenced or included a formal plan to eliminate the negative unassigned fund balance in the General Fund.

- Observed whether the board/finance committee received written updates of the progress of resolving audit finding(s), according to management's corrective action plan at each meeting until the findings are considered fully resolved.

Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.

Bank Reconciliations

3. We obtained a listing of entity bank accounts for the fiscal period from management and management's representation that the listing is complete. Management identified the entity's main operating account. We selected the entity's main operating account and randomly selected 4 additional accounts (or all if less than 5). We randomly selected one month from the fiscal period, obtained and inspected the corresponding bank statement and reconciliation for the selected accounts, and observed that:
 - Bank reconciliations include evidence that they were prepared within two months of the related statement closing date (e.g. initialed and dated, electronically logged);
 - Bank reconciliations included written evidence that a member of management or a board member who does not handle cash, post ledgers, or issue checks has reviewed each bank reconciliation within one month of the date the reconciliation was prepared (e.g. initialed and dated, electronically logged); and
 - Management has documentation reflecting that it has researched reconciling items that have been outstanding for more than 12 months from the statement closing date, if applicable.

Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.

Collections (excluding electronic funds transfers)

4. We obtained a listing of deposit sites for the fiscal period where deposits for cash check money orders (cash) are prepared and management's representation that the listing is complete. We randomly selected 5 deposit sites (or all deposit sites if less than 5).
5. We obtained a listing of collection locations and management's representation that the listing is complete. We randomly selected one collection location for each deposit site selected. We obtained and inspected written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if no written policies or procedures, then inquired of employees about their job duties) at each collection location, and observed that job duties were properly segregated at each collection location such that:
 - Employees that are responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers registers.
 - Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for preparing/making bank deposits, unless another employee official is responsible for reconciling collection documentation (e.g. pre-numbered receipts) to the deposit.
 - 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.
 - The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or custodial fund additions, are not responsible for collecting cash, unless another employee official verifies the reconciliation.

6. We obtained from management a copy of the bond or insurance policy for theft covering all employees who have access to cash. We observed that the bond or insurance policy for theft was in force during the fiscal period.
7. We randomly selected two deposit dates for each of the bank accounts selected for procedure #3 under "Bank Reconciliations" above (selected the next deposit date chronologically if no deposits were made on the dates randomly selected and randomly selected a deposit if multiple deposits were made on the same day). We obtained supporting documentation for each of the deposits selected and.
 - We observed that receipts are sequentially pre-numbered.
 - We traced sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.
 - We traced the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.
 - We observed 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).
 - We traced the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.

Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.

Non-Payroll Disbursements (excluding card purchases, travel reimbursements, and petty cash purchases)

8. We obtained a listing of locations that process payments for the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. We randomly selected the required amount of disbursement locations (or all locations if less than 5).
9. For each location selected under #8 above, obtained a listing of those employees involved with non-payroll purchasing and payment functions. We obtained written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if the agency has no written policies and procedures, then inquired of employees about their job duties), and we observed that job duties are properly segregated such that:
 - At least two employees are involved in initiating a purchase request, approving a purchase, and placing an order or making the purchase.
 - At least two employees are involved in processing and approving payments to vendors.
 - The employee responsible for processing payments is prohibited from adding/modifying vendor files, unless another employee is responsible for periodically reviewing changes to vendor files.
 - Either the employee/official responsible for signing checks mails the payment or gives the signed checks to an employee to mail who is not responsible for processing payments.
 - Only employees/officials authorized to sign checks approved the electronic disbursement (release) of funds, whether through automated clearinghouse (ACH), electronic funds transfer (EFT), wire transfer, or some electronic means.

10. For each location selected under #8 above, we obtained the entity's non-payroll disbursement transaction population (excluding cards and travel reimbursements) and obtained management's representation that the population is complete. We randomly selected 5 disbursements for each location, and obtained supporting documentation for each transaction and:
- We observed that the disbursement, whether paper or electronic means, matched the related original itemized invoice and supporting documentation indicates that deliverables included on the invoice were received by the entity.
 - We observed whether the disbursement documentation included evidence (e.g., initial/date, electronic logging) of segregation of duties tested under #9, as applicable.
11. Using the entity's main operating account and the month selected in procedure #3 under Bank Reconciliations, we randomly selected 5 non-payroll-related electronic disbursements (or all electronic disbursements if less than 5) and observed that each electronic disbursement was (a) approved by only those persons authorized to disburse funds (e.g., sign checks) per the entity's policy, and (b) approved by the required number of authorized signers per the entity's policy. If no electronic payments were made from the main operating account during the month selected, we selected an alternative month and/or account for testing that does include electronic disbursements.

Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.

Credit Cards/Debit Cards/Fuel Cards/Purchase Cards (Cards)

12. We obtained from management a listing of all active credit cards, bank debit cards, fuel cards, and purchase cards (cards) for the fiscal period, including the card numbers and the names of the persons who maintained possession of the cards. We obtained management's representation that the listing is complete.
13. Using the listing prepared by management, we randomly selected the required amount of cards (up to five) that were used during the fiscal period. We randomly selected one monthly statement or combined statement for each card (for a debit card, randomly selected one monthly bank statement), and obtained supporting documentation, and:
- We observed that there is evidence that the monthly statement or combined statement and supporting documentation (e.g., original receipts for credit/debit card purchases, exception reports for excessive fuel card usage) was reviewed and approved, in writing (or electronically approved), by someone other than the authorized card holder.
 - We observed that finance charges and late fees were not assessed on the selected statements.
14. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under #12 above, excluding fuel cards, we randomly selected the required amount transactions (up to ten) from each statement, and obtained supporting documentation for the transactions. For each transaction, we observed that it is supported by (a) an original itemized receipt that identified precisely what was purchased, (b) written documentation of the business/public purpose, and (c) documentation of the individuals participating in meals (for meal charges only). For missing receipts, we described the nature of the transaction and noted whether management had a compensating control to address missing receipts, such as a "missing receipt statement" that is subject to increased scrutiny.

Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.

Travel and Travel-Related Expense Reimbursements (excluding card transactions)

15. We obtained from management a listing of all travel and travel-related expense reimbursements during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing or general ledger is complete. We randomly selected 5 reimbursements, and obtained the related expense reimbursement forms/prepaid expense documentation of each selected reimbursement, as well as the supporting documentation. For each of the 5 reimbursements selected:

- If reimbursed using a per diem, we observed that the approved reimbursement rate is no more than those rates established by the State of Louisiana or the U.S. General Services Administration (www.gsa.gov).
- If reimbursed using actual costs, we observed that the reimbursement is supported by an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased.
- We observed that each reimbursement was supported by documentation of the business/public purpose (for meal charges, we observed that the documentation includes the names of those individuals participating) and other documentation required by written policy (procedure #1, 8th bullet).
- We observed that each reimbursement was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving reimbursement.

Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.

Contracts

16. We obtained from management a listing of all agreements/contracts (or active vendor list) for professional services, materials, and supplies, leases, and construction activities that were initiated or renewed during the fiscal period. We obtained management's representation that the listing is complete. We randomly selected the required amount of contracts (up to 5) from the listing, excluding our contract, and:

- We observed that the contract was bid in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law (e.g., solicited quotes or bids, advertised), if required by law.
- We observed whether the contract was approved by the governing body/board, if required by policy or law (e.g. Lawrason Act, Home Rule Charter).
- If the contract was amended (e.g. change order), we observed that the original contract terms provided for such an amendment and that amendments were made in compliance with the contract terms (e.g. if approval is required for any amendment, the document approval).
- We randomly selected one payment from the fiscal period for each of the selected contracts, obtained the supporting invoice, agreed the invoice to the contract terms, and observed that the invoice and related payment agreed to the terms and conditions of the contract.

Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.

Payroll and Personnel

17. We obtained a listing of employees/elected officials employed during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. We randomly selected 5 employees or officials, obtained related paid salaries and personnel files, and agreed paid salaries to authorized salaries/pay rates in the personnel files.
18. We randomly selected one pay period during the fiscal period. For the 5 employees or officials selected under #17 above, we obtained attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and:
- We observed that all selected employees or officials documented their daily attendance and leave (e.g., vacation, sick, compensatory).
 - We observed that supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees or officials.
 - We observed that any leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's cumulative leave records.
 - We observed that the rate paid to the employees or officials agree to the authorized salary/pay rate found with the personnel file.
19. We obtained a listing of those employees or officials that received termination payments during the fiscal period and management's representation that the list is complete. If applicable, we selected two employees or officials, and obtained related documentation of the hours and pay rates used in management's termination payment calculations and the entity's policy on termination payments. If applicable, we agreed the hours to the employee's or official's cumulative leave records, and the pay rates to the employee's or official's authorized pay rates in the employee's or official's personnel files, and the termination payment to entity policy.
20. We obtained management's representation that employer and employee portions of third-party payroll related amounts (e.g. payroll taxes, retirement contributions, health insurance premiums, garnishments, workers' compensation premiums, etc.) have been paid, and any associated forms have been filed, by required deadlines.

Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.

Ethics

21. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from procedure #17 under "Payroll and Personnel" above, we obtained ethics documentation from management, and:
- We observed whether the documentation demonstrates that each employee/official completed one hour of ethics training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:1170.
 - We observed that the entity maintains documentation which demonstrates each employee and official were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy during the fiscal period, as applicable.
22. We inquired and or observed whether the agency has appointed an ethics designee as required by R.S. 42:1170.

Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.

Debt Service

23. We obtained a listing of bonds/notes and other debt instruments issued during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. We selected all debt instruments on the listing, obtained supporting documentation, and observed that State Bond City Court approval was obtained for each debt instrument issued as required by Article VII, Section 8 of the Louisiana Constitution.
24. We obtained a listing of bonds/notes outstanding at the end of the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. We randomly selected one bond/note, inspected debt covenants, obtained supporting documentation for the reserve balance and payments, and agreed actual reserve balances and payments to those required by debt covenants (including contingency funds, short-lived asset funds, or other funds required by the debt covenants).

Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.

Fraud Notice

25. We obtained a listing of misappropriations of public funds and assets during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. We selected all misappropriations on the listing, obtained supporting documentation, and observed that the entity reported the misappropriation(s) to the legislative auditor and the district attorney of the parish in which the entity is domiciled as required by R.S. 24:523.
26. We observed whether the entity has posted, on its premises and website, the notice required by R.S. 24:523.1 concerning the reporting of misappropriation, fraud, waste, or abuse of public funds.

Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.

Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity

27. We performed the following procedures:
 - We obtained and inspected the entity's most recent documentation that it has backed up its critical data (if no written documentation, inquired of personnel responsible for backing up critical data) and observed that such backup (a) occurred within the past week, (b) was not stored on the government's local server or network, and (c) was encrypted.
 - We obtained and inspected the entity's most recent documentation that it has tested/verified that its backups can be restored (if there is no written documentation, then inquired of personnel responsible for testing/verifying backup restoration) and observed evidence that the test verification was successfully performed within the past 3 months.
 - We obtained a listing of the entity's computers currently in use, and their related locations, and management's representation that the listing is complete. We randomly selected the required number of computers (at least 5) and observed while management demonstrates that the selected computers have current and active antivirus software and that the operating system and accounting system software in use are currently supported by the vendor.
28. We randomly selected 5 terminated employees (or all terminated employees if less than 5) using the list of terminated employees obtained in procedure #19, and observed evidence that the selected terminated employees have been removed or disabled from the network.

29. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from procedure #17 under “Payroll and Personnel” above, we obtained cybersecurity training documentation from management, and observed that the documentation demonstrates that the selected employees/officials with access to the agency’s information technology assets have completed cybersecurity training as required by R.S. 42:1267. The requirements are as follows:

- Hired before June 9, 2020, completed the training.
- Hired on or after June 9, 2020, completed the training within 30 days of initial service or employment.

Procedure Results: We performed the procedures and discussed the results with management.

Prevention of Sexual Harassment

30. We randomly selected the employees/officials from procedure #17 under “Payroll and Personnel” above, obtained sexual harassment training documentation from management, and observed that the documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed at least one hour of sexual harassment training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:343.

31. We observed that the entity has posted its sexual harassment policy and complaint procedures on its website (or in a conspicuous location on the entity’s premises if the entity does not have a website).

32. We obtained the entity’s annual sexual harassment report for the current fiscal period, observed that the report was dated on or before February 1, and observed that it includes the applicable requirements of R.S. 42:344:

- Number and percentage of public servants in the agency who have completed the training requirements;
- Number of sexual harassment complaints received by the agency;
- Number of complaints which resulted in a finding that sexual harassment occurred;
- Number of complaints in which the finding of sexual harassment resulted in discipline or corrective action; and
- Amount of time it took to resolve each complaint.

a) *Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.*

We were engaged by the City Court 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 the City Court 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.

Thomas, Cunningham, Broadway & Todtenbier, CPA's

Thomas, Cunningham, Broadway & Todtenbier, CPA's
Natchitoches, Louisiana
April 25, 2024