

**TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER  
ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
WITH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION  
AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

**THE DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFEDER  
TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA  
ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS WITH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION  
YEAR END JUNE 30, 2022**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Independent Accountant's Review Report	1-2
Required Supplemental Information (Part 1)	
Management's Discussion and Analysis	3-5
Government-Wide Financial Statements	
Statement of Net Position	6
Statement of Activities	7
Fund Financial Statements	
Governmental Funds:	
Balance Sheet	8
Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to the Government-Wide Statement of Net Position	9
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances	10
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances to the Statement of Activities	11
Notes to the Financial Statements	12-22
Required Supplemental Information (Part 2)	
Budgetary Comparison Schedule - General Fund	23

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to Agency Head	24
Justice System Funding Schedule - Receiving Entity Schedule	25

**AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES**

Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures	26-29
Schedule of Findings and Responses	30
Louisiana Attestation Questionnaire	31-33

# MC DUFFIE K. HERROD, LTD.

(A Professional Accounting Corporation)

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## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT

Rhonda Covington  
The District Public Defender  
Twentieth Judicial District of Louisiana  
P.O. Box 68  
Clinton, Louisiana 70722

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, business-type activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender of Louisiana, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of the management of the Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

The management of the Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement whether due to fraud or error.

### **Accountant's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to conduct the review engagement in accordance with *Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services* promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the standards applicable to review engagements contained in *Governmental Auditing Standards* issued by the United States Comptroller General. Those standards require us to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance as a basis for reporting whether we are aware of any material modifications that should be made to the financial statements for them to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We believe that the results of our procedures provide a reasonable basis for our conclusion.

### **Accountant's Conclusion**

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### **Required Supplementary Information**

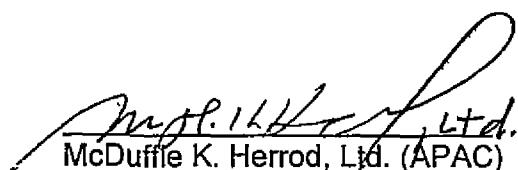
Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison schedules be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required 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. The information is the responsibility of management. We have reviewed the information and, based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the information in order for it to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have not audited the information and, accordingly, do not express an opinion on such information.

### **Other Supplementary Information**

The accompanying supplementary information listed in the table of contents is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. This includes the Schedule of Compensation Paid to the Agency Head. This information is the representation of management. We have reviewed the information and, based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the information in order for it to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have not audited the supplementary information and, accordingly, do not express an opinion on such information.

The accompanying Justice System Funding Schedules (reporting schedules) are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. We have reviewed the information and, based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the information in order for it to be in accordance with the reporting framework prescribed by Louisiana Statute 24:515.2 and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor. We have not audited the supplementary information and, accordingly, do not express an opinion on such information

In accordance with the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide* and the provisions of state law, we have issued a report dated December 23, 2022, on the results of our agreed-upon procedures.



McDuffle K. Herrod, Ltd. (APAC)  
Clinton, LA  
December 23, 2022

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION (Part 1)**

**MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

**TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
JUNE 30, 2022**

Management's discussion and analysis (MD&A) is a required element of the reporting model adopted by the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) in their Statement No. 34. Its purpose is to provide an overview of the financial activities of the District based on currently known facts, decisions or conditions.

## **OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT PRESENTATION**

These financial statements are comprised of three components - (1) government-wide financial statements, (2) fund financial statements and, (3) notes to the financial statements. There is also other supplemental information contained in this report provided for additional information.

**Government-wide Financial Statements.** The government-wide financial statements present financial information for all activities of the Public Defender from an economic resource measurement focus using the accrual basis of accounting. These provide both short-term and long-term information about the Public Defender's overall financial status. They include a statement of net assets and statement of activities.

**Statement of Net Position.** This statement presents information on all of the Public Defender's assets and deferred outflows of resources, and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources with the difference between these reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Public Defender is improving or not.

**Statement of Activities.** This statement presents information showing how the Public Defender's net position changed during the most recent fiscal 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 related cash flows. This statement is designed to show the Public Defender's financial reliance on general revenues.

The government-wide financial statements can be found on pages 6-7 of this report.

**Fund Financial Statements.** 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 Public Defender uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender has only one category of funds: governmental funds.

**Governmental Funds.** Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements except that the focus with fund statements is to provide a distinct view of the District's governmental funds only. These statements report short-term fiscal accountability emphasizing the use of spendable resources during the year and balances of spendable resources available at the end of the year.

Because the view of governmental funds is short-term and the view of the government-wide financial statements is long-term, it is useful to compare these two perspectives. Both the governmental funds balance sheet and the governmental funds statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances provide reconciliation to the government-wide

**TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
JUNE 30, 2022**

statements to assist in understanding the differences between the two viewpoints.

Governmental funds of the Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender include a general fund that is used to account for all accounts not required to be accounted for separately and a special revenue fund used to account for proceeds legally restricted for the purpose of street maintenance.

**Notes to the Financial Statements.** The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements and begin on page 12.

**Other Information.** In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information concerning the Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender's budgetary comparisons that start on page 23. These schedules indicate the Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender's compliance with its adopted and final revised budgets.

## **FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER**

Net position is an indicator of the Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender's financial position from year to year. A summary of net position follows.

<b>Governmental Activities</b>		
	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Assets &amp; Deferred Outflows</b>		
Current and other assets	\$147,696	\$220,537
Investments	40,000	40,000
Capital assets, net	124,755	129,188
Net pension asset	103,366	32,973
Pension related outflows	17,575	27,979
Total Assets	<u>433,392</u>	<u>450,677</u>
<b>Liabilities &amp; Deferred Inflows</b>		
Current liabilities	10,385	8,041
Deferred grant revenue	11,000	40,000
Pension related Inflows	107,308	80,440
Total Liabilities & Deferred Inflows	<u>128,693</u>	<u>128,481</u>
<b>Net Position</b>		
Net investment in capital assets	124,755	129,188
Unrestricted	<u>179,944</u>	<u>193,008</u>
Net Position	<u><u>\$304,699</u></u>	<u><u>\$322,196</u></u>

**TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
JUNE 30, 2022**

A summary of changes in net position is as follows:

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>	
	2022	2021
<b>Revenues / Transfers</b>		
General revenues:		
Fines and forfeitures	\$82,813	\$114,235
Pension related revenue	33,122	
Grants and other contributions	338,152	381,494
Interest earned	117	253
Total Revenues	<u>454,204</u>	<u>495,982</u>
Total Expenses	<u>471,701</u>	<u>521,919</u>
Change in net assets	<u><u>\$(17,497)</u></u>	<u><u>\$(25,937)</u></u>

#### **CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION**

Capital Assets: The Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender's investment in capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and related debt at June 30, 2022 and 2021, was \$124,755 and \$129,188 respectively. There were no capital asset additions for 2022.

The Public Defender has no long-term obligations.

#### **BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS**

The budget for 2022-23 again anticipates grant funding for improving the legal services provided within the Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender's boundaries as well as attracting competent attorneys to handle the caseload. Grant collections are not expected to increase substantially in the subsequent year, presenting a challenge for improvements as well as operations.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

A copy of this report or additional information may be obtained by writing or contacting the Public Defender, P.O. Box 68, Clinton, Louisiana 70722, telephone number 225-683-3620.

## **GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER  
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
JUNE 30, 2022**

**CURRENT ASSETS**

Cash & cash equivalents	\$ 147,696
Accounts receivable, net	-
Investments	40,000
Total Current Assets	<u>187,696</u>

**NON CURRENT ASSETS**

Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	\$ 124,755
Net Pension Asset	<u>103,366</u>
Total Non Current Assets	<u>228,121</u>

TOTAL ASSETS	<u>415,817</u>
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**DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES**

Pension related	17,575
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**LIABILITIES**

Payroll and related payables	10,385
Net pension liability	-
	<u>10,385</u>

**DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES**

Deferred grant revenue	11,000
Pension related	<u>107,308</u>
	<u>118,308</u>

**NET POSITION**

Net investment in capital assets	124,755
Unrestricted - Unassigned	<u>179,944</u>
	<u>304,699</u>

Total Net Position	<u>304,699</u>
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TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION	<u>\$ 433,392</u>
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**TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER  
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

	Program Revenues			Net Revenues(Expenses)
	Operating Expenses	Capital Charges	Capital Grants & Services Contributions	
<b>Functions / Programs</b>				
General government	\$ 16,495			\$ (16,495)
Public defense	455,206		338,152	(117,054)
Total Governmental Activities	<u>\$ 471,701</u>	-	<u>338,152</u>	<u>(133,549)</u>
<b>General Revenues</b>				
Fines and forfeitures				82,813
Pension related revenue				33,122
Interest earned				117
				<u>116,052</u>
Change in Net Position				<u>(17,497)</u>
Net Position, beginning				<u>322,196</u>
Net Position, ending				<u>\$ 304,699</u>

See Accompanying Notes and Accountants' Review Report

TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER  
BALANCE SHEET  
JUNE 30, 2022

<u>ASSETS</u>	<u>General Fund</u>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 147,696
Receivables, net	-
Investments	40,000
<u>Total Assets</u>	<u>187,696</u>
<u>LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS, AND FUND BALANCE</u>	
<u>Liabilities</u>	
Payroll and related payables	10,385
<u>Total Liabilities</u>	<u>10,385</u>
<u>Fund Balance</u>	
Unrestricted	177,311
<u>Total Liabilities and Fund Equity</u>	<u>\$ 187,696</u>

See Accompanying Notes and Accountants' Review Report

**TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER  
RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET  
TO THE GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
JUNE 30, 2022**

Total Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds \$ 177,311

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position are different because:

Deferred Outflows - Pension Related 17,575

Net Pension Asset 103,366

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet 124,755

Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported on the Balance Sheet:

Net Pension Liability

Deferred Inflows - Pension Related (107,308)

Deferred Grant Revenue (11,000)

Total Net Position - Governmental Activities \$ 304,699

See Accompanying Notes and Accountants' Review Report

**TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND  
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>General Fund</u>
Fines and forfeitures	\$ 82,813
Grants and other contributions	338,152
Interest earned	117
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b><u>421,082</u></b>

EXPENDITURES

General government	16,495
Public defense	450,773
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b><u>467,268</u></b>
Excess of Expenditures Over Revenues - Change in Fund Balance	(46,186)
Fund Balance, beginning	<u>223,497</u>
Fund Balance, ending	<b><u>\$ 177,311</u></b>

See Accompanying Notes and Accountants' Review Report

**TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER  
RECONCILIATION OF STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENT FUNDS  
TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

**Net Change in Fund Balance - Total Governmental Funds** \$ (46,186)

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which depreciation differed from capital outlay charged in the current period.

**Change in Net Pension assets & liabilities** 33,122

**Change in Net Position - Governmental Activities** \$ (17,497)

**TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2022**

## INTRODUCTION

The Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender Board was established for the Twentieth Judicial District by Louisiana Revised Statute 15:144 – 15:148. On August 15, 2007, the Board was abolished and authority transferred to the District Public Defender by Act No. 307 known as the Public Defender Act.

The main purpose of the Public Defender is to provide legal counsel for public defendants that could not otherwise afford representation.

## NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

**Basis of Presentation:** The accounting and reporting practice of the Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender conforms to governmental accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Such accounting and reporting procedures also conform to the requirements of the Governmental Accounting Standards (GASB) which is the standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles.

**Financial Reporting Entity:** Section 2100 of the GASB Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards (GASB Codification) established criteria for determining the governmental reporting entity and component units that should be included within the reporting entity. For financial reporting purposes, in conformance with GASB Codification Section 2100, the Public Defender includes all funds which are controlled by or dependent on the Public Defender which was determined on the basis of oversight responsibility, including accountability for fiscal and budget matter, designation of management or governing authority and authority to issue debt. While the Public Defender is a part of the district court system, state statute gives each district Public Defender control over its own operations. It operates autonomously from the State of Louisiana and independently from the district court system and, therefore, issues its own financial statements.

**Government-Wide Accounting:** In accordance with Government Accounting Standards Boards Statement No. 34, the Public Defender has presented a statement of net position and statement of activities for the Public Defender as a whole. These statements include the primary government and its component units, if applicable, with the exception of fiduciary funds. Those funds are reported separately. Government-wide accounting is designed to provide a more comprehensive view of the government's operations and financial position as a single economic entity.

Government-wide statements distinguish between governmental-type and business-type activities. Governmental activities are those financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues and other non-exchange revenues and are usually reported in governmental and internal service funds. Business activities are financed in whole or in part through fees charged for goods or services to the general public and are usually reported in proprietary funds.

Policies specific to the government-wide statements are as follows:

### Eliminating Internal Activity

Interfund receivables and payables are eliminated in the statement of net position except for the net residual amounts due between governmental and business-type activities. These are presented as internal balances. The allocation of overhead expenses from one function to another or within the same function is eliminated in the statement of activities. Allocated expenses are reported by the function to which they were allocated.

TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2022

**Capitalizing Assets**

Tangible and/or intangible assets used in operations with an initial useful life that extends beyond one year are capitalized. Fixed assets, such as furniture and fixtures, are also capitalized. Capital assets are recorded at their historical cost and are depreciated using the straight-line method of depreciation over their estimated useful lives. They are reported net of accumulated depreciation on the statement of net assets.

**Program Revenues**

The statement of activities presents three categories of program revenues - (1) charges for services; (2) operating grants and contributions; and (3) capital grants and contributions. Charges for services are those revenues arising from charges to customers who purchase, use or directly benefit from goods and services provided by the Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender. Grants and contributions, whether operating or capital in nature, are revenues arising from receipts that are restricted for a specific use.

**Indirect Expenses**

Expenses are reported according to function except for those that meet the definition of special or extraordinary items. Direct expenses are specifically associated with a service or program. Indirect expenses include general government or administration that cannot be specifically traced to a service or program. Governments are not required to allocate indirect expenses to other functions, and the Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender has chosen not to do so.

**Operating / Non-operating Revenues**

Proprietary funds separately report operating and non-operating revenues. Revenues from transactions of the Public Defender's operation are considered operating revenues. All other revenues, which are reported as cash flows from capital or non-capital financing and investing, are reported as non-operating revenues.

**Restricted Net Position**

Restricted net positions are those for which a constraint has been imposed either externally or by law. The Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender recognizes the use of restricted resources for expenditures that comply with the specific restrictions. Restricted resources are exhausted before unrestricted net position is used.

**Fund Accounting:** The Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender uses funds to report on its financial position and the results of its operations. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions relating to certain government functions or activities. A fund is a separate entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Funds of the Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender has only one category: governmental. Each category, in turn, is divided into separate fund types. The fund classifications and a description of each existing fund type follow:

**Governmental Funds:** Governmental funds account for all or most of the Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender's general activities, including the collection and disbursement of specific or legally restricted monies, the acquisition or construction of general fixed assets, and the servicing of general long-term obligations. Governmental funds of the Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender include:

1. General Fund - is the general operating fund of the Public Defender and accounts for all financial resources, except those required to be accounted for in other funds.

**Basis of Accounting/Measurement Focus:** In April of 1984, the Financial Accounting Foundation established the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) to promulgate generally accepted

**TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2022**

accounting principles and reporting standards with respect to activities and transactions of state and local governmental entities. The GASB has issued a Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards (GASB Codification). This codification, and subsequent GASB pronouncements, is recognized as generally accepted accounting principles for state and local governments. The accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with such principles.

The type of financial statement presentation determines the accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund.

The government-wide statements are reported using an economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. With this measurement focus, all assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources associated with the operation of governmental-type activities are included in the statement of net position. Revenues are recognized when earned, and expenses are recognized at the time the liabilities are incurred in the statement of activities. In these statements, capital assets are reported and depreciated in each fund, and long-term debt is reported.

The fund statements are reported using a current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on the balance sheet. Operating statements present increases and decreases in net current assets. Expenditures for capital assets are reported as current expenses, and such assets are not depreciated. Principle and interest paid on long-term debt is reported as current expenses.

**Budgets:** The Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender is not required under Louisiana Revised Statutes to have public meetings on the adoption of its budget. The Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender prepares an annual budget for review by the Louisiana Public Defender Board. It is reviewed periodically during the year.

**Cash and Cash Equivalents:** Cash includes amounts in demand deposits, interest bearing demand deposits and money market savings. Cash equivalents include amounts in time deposits and those investments with original maturities of ninety (90) days or less. Under state law, the Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender may deposit funds in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, money market accounts or time deposits with state banks organized under Louisiana law or any other state of the United States or under the laws of the Untied States.

**Investments:** Investments are limited by La. Revised Statute 33:2955. If the original maturities of investments exceed 90 days, they are classified as investments. Otherwise, the investments are classified as cash and cash equivalents. In accordance with GASB Statement No. 31, investments are recorded at fair market value, based on quoted market prices, with the corresponding increase or decrease reported in investment earnings.

**Capital Assets:** The Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender's assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated cost if historical cost is not available. Depreciation is recorded using the straight-line method over the useful lives of the assets of 5 years for equipment and 7-10 years for office furniture. The Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender's capitalization policy includes adding all assets with a value of \$1,000 or more. However, assets that are less in value may be capitalized if their use will benefit more than one period such as recording equipment or computers.

**Long-Term Obligations:** In the government-wide financial statements, debt principal payments of governmental-type activities are reported as decreases in the balance of the liability on the statement

**TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2022**

of net position. In the fund financial statements of governmental activities, however, debt principal payments of governmental funds are recognized as expenditures when paid.

The Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender does not have any long-term debt.

**Restricted Net Position:**

Net position that is reserved by external sources such as banks or by law are reported separately as restricted net position. When assets are required to be retained in perpetuity, the resulting non-expendable net position are recorded separately from expendable net position. These are components of restricted net position.

**Unrestricted Net Position:**

This category represents net position not appropriable for expenditures or legally segregated for a specific future use.

In the balance sheet of governmental funds, fund balances are segregated as follows:

*Non-spendable* - that portion of net resources that cannot be spent because of its form or because it must be maintained intact

*Restricted* - net resources for which an external and enforceable limitation was placed on its use either by creditors, grantors, contributors or laws/regulations of other governments

*Committed* - net resources with a self-imposed limitation set in place by the governing body through a formal action of that body as to its intended use prior to year-end

*Assigned* - net resources for which an intended specific use is placed by the governing body, a committee thereof or by an official designated to handle that particular use not requiring a formal action of the governing body

*Unassigned* - that portion of net resources not otherwise classified as non-spendable, restricted, committed or assigned, i.e. surplus.

**NOTE 2 - CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

Deposits are stated at cost, which approximates market. Under state law, they 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 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 mutually acceptable to both parties.

Even though pledged securities are considered uncollateralized under the provisions of GASB Statement No. 3, La. 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 that the fiscal agent has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand.

With the adoption of GASB Statement No. 40, only deposits that are considered exposed to custodial credit risk are required to be disclosed. The Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender has no deposits (bank balances) that are considered uninsured and uncollateralized at June 30, 2022.

Cash at June 30, 2022, amounted to \$147,696 held in interest-bearing demand deposits.

TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 3 – INVESTMENTS

Investments can be exposed to custodial credit risk if the securities underlying the investment are uninsured and unregistered, not registered in the name of the entity or are held either by the counter-party's trust department or agent but not in the entity's name. Investments of the Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender are certificates of deposit held by the counter-party in the Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender's name. They are secured from risk by \$250,000 of federal deposit insurance and pledged collateral.

Investments of the Public Defender include long-term certificates of deposit in the amount of \$40,000 held at The Highlands Bank. The cost equals the fair market value at June 30, 2022.

NOTE 4 – RECEIVABLES

The following is a summary of governmental funds receivables at June 30, 2022:

There were no receivables at year-end.

NOTE 5 -CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2022, was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Deletions	Ending Balance
Capital Assets, being depreciated				
Furniture and equipment	\$ 17,077			\$ 17,077
Building	126,408			126,408
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(14,297)	(4,433)		(18,730)
Capital Assets, total	\$ 129,188	\$ (4,433)		\$ 124,755

NOTE 6 -ACCOUNTS AND OTHER PAYABLES

The following is a summary of current payables at June 30, 2022:

Payroll withholding taxes	\$ 7,013
Retirement payable	3,372
	<u>\$10,385</u>

NOTE 7 - OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The Public Defender does not provide any post-employment benefits to its employees.

NOTE 8 – PENSION PLAN

All full time employees of the Public Defender, regularly scheduled over 28 hours, are eligible to be members of the Parochial Employees Retirement System of Louisiana, a multiple-employer, public employee retirement system, controlled and administered by a separate board of trustees. The System is composed of two distinct plans, Plan A and Plan B, with separate assets and benefit provisions. Eligible employees of the Public Defender are members of Plan A. Contributions of

**TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2022**

participating agencies are pooled within the system to fund accrued benefits, with contribution rates approved by the Louisiana Legislature.

All permanent employees working at least 28 hours per week who are paid wholly or in part from parish funds are eligible to participate in the System. Employees hired prior to 1/1/07 are eligible to retire with 7 years of creditable service at age 65, 10 years of creditable service at age 60, 25 years of creditable service at age 55, or 30 or more years of creditable service at any age. Employees hired 1/1/07 and later are eligible to retire with 7 years of service at age 67, 10 years of service at age 62 or with 30 years of service at age 55.

Generally, the monthly amount of the retirement allowance for any member of Plan A shall consist of an amount equal to 3% of the members' final average compensation multiplied by his years of creditable service. However, under certain conditions, as outlined in the statutes, the benefits are limited to specified amounts.

**Survivor Benefits:** Plan A members survivor benefits are outlined in the Statutes.

**Deferred Retirement Option Plan:** Act 338 of 1990 established the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) for the Retirement System. DROP is an option for that member who is eligible for normal retirement. In lieu of terminating employment and accepting a service retirement, any member of Plan A who is eligible to retire may elect to participate in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) in which they are enrolled for 3 years and defer the receipt of benefits. During participation in the plan, employer contributions are payable but employee contributions cease. The monthly retirement benefits that would be payable, had the person elected to cease employment and receive a service retirement allowance, are paid into the DROP fund.

Upon termination of employment prior to or at the end of the specified period of participation, a participant in the DROP may receive, at his option, a lump sum from the account equal to the payments into the account, a true annuity based upon his account balance in that fund, or roll over the fund to an Individual Retirement Account. Interest is accrued on the DROP benefits for the period between the end of DROP participation and the member's retirement date.

For individuals who become eligible to participate in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan on or after January 1, 2004, all amounts which remain credited to the individual's subaccount after termination in the Plan will be placed in liquid asset money market investments at the discretion of the board of trustees. These subaccounts may be credited with interest based on money market rates of return or, at the option of the System, the funds may be credited to self-directed subaccounts. The participant in the self-directed portion of this Plan must agree that the benefits payable to the participant are not the obligations of the state or the System, and that any returns and other rights of the Plan are the sole liability and responsibility of the participant and the designated provider to which contributions have been made.

**Disability Benefits:** For Plan A, a member shall be eligible to retire and receive a disability benefit if he/she was hired prior to January 1, 2007, and has at least 5 years of creditable service or if hired after January 1, 2007, has 7 years of creditable service, and is not eligible for normal retirement, and has been officially certified as disabled by the State Medical Disability Board. Upon retirement caused by disability, a member of Plan A shall be paid a disability benefit equal to the lesser of an amount equal to 3% of the member's final average compensation multiplied by his years of service, not to be less than 15, or 3% multiplied by years of service assuming continued service to age 60.

**Cost of Living Increases:** The Board is authorized to provide a cost of living allowance for those retirees who retired prior to July 1973. The adjustment cannot exceed 2% of the retiree's original benefit for each full calendar year since retirement and may only be granted if sufficient funds are

**TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2022**

available from investment income in excess of normal requirements. In addition, the Board may provide an additional cost of living increase to all retirees and beneficiaries who are over age 65 equal to 2% of the member's benefit paid on October 1, 1977, (or the member's retirement date, if later). Also, the Board may provide a cost of living increase up to 2.5% for retirees 62 and older. (RS 11:1937). Lastly, Act 270 of 2009 provided for further reduced actuarial payments to provide an annual 2.5% cost of living adjustment commencing at age 55.

**Employer Contributions:** According to state statute, contributions for all employers are actuarially determined each year. For the year ended December 31, 2021, the actuarially determined contribution rate was 10.38% for member's compensation for Plan A. However, the actual rate for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021 was 12.25% for Plan A. For 2021, members were required to contribute 9.5% of their annual covered salary and the Public Defender was required to contribute 12.25% of annual covered payroll. The Public Defender contributed \$16,627 during 2021 as its share of contributions. The Public Defender does not guarantee the benefits granted by the retirement system. In 2021, the Public Defender had 2 full time qualified staff members.

**Non-Employer Contributions:** According to the state statute, the System also receives ¼ of 1% of ad valorem taxes collected within the respective parishes, except for Orleans and East Baton Rouge Parishes. The System also receives revenue sharing funds each year as appropriated by the Legislature. Tax monies and revenue sharing monies are apportioned between Plan A and Plan B in proportion to the member's compensation. These additional sources of income are used as additional employer contributions and are considered support from non-employer contributing entities.

**Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows and Deferred Inflows of Resources:** At June 30, 2022, the Public Defender reported assets in its financial statements of \$103,366 for its proportionate share of the net pension liabilities of PERS. The net pension assets are measured as of December 31, 2021 and the total pension asset used to calculate the net pension obligation was determined by separate actuarial valuations performed as of that date. The Public Defender's proportion of the net pension asset was based on a projection of the Public Defender's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating employers, actuarially determined. At December 31, 2021, the Public Defender's proportional share of PERS was 0.021944%.

At June 30, 2022, the Public Defender reported deferred outflows and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

Deferred Flows of Resources:	<u>Outflows</u>	<u>Inflows</u>
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 6,245	\$ 7,492
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on Pension Plan Investments	0	89,410
Changes in Assumption	5,391	
Changes in Proportion	5,939	2,093
Employer contributions subsequent to measurement date	0	8,313
	<u>\$ 17,575</u>	<u>\$ 107,308</u>

The Public Defender reported \$8,313 as deferred inflows of resources related to pension contributions made subsequent to the plan's measurement period of December 31, 2021, which will be recognized as a reduction in net pension asset in the Public Defender's fiscal year ended June 30, 2022.

**TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2022**

**Actuarial Methods and Assumptions:** A summary of the actuarial methods and assumptions used in determining the total pension liability for Plan A as of December 31, 2021 are as follows:

Valuation Date	December 31, 2021
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal
Investment Rate of Return	6.40% (Net of investment expense)
Expected Remaining Service lives	4 years
Projected Salary Increases	4.75%
Cost of Living Adjustments	The present value of future retirement benefits is based on benefits currently paid by the system and includes previously granted cost of living increases. The present values do not include provisions for potential future increase not yet authorized by the Board of Trustees.
Mortality	Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for Health Retirees multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females using MP2018 scale for annuitant and beneficiary mortality. For employees, the Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for General Employees multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females using MP2018 scale. Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for General Disabled Retirees multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females using MP2018 scale for disabled annuitants.

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 6.40% for Plan A. 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 and non-employer contributing entities will be made at the actuarially determined contribution rates, which are calculated in accordance with relevant statutes and approved by the Board of Trustees and the Public Retirement Systems' Actuarial Committee. Based on those assumptions, the System'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.

**TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**JUNE 30, 2022**

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a triangulation method which integrated the CAPM pricing model (top-down), a treasury yield curve approach (bottom-up) and an equity building-block model (bottom-up). Risk return and correlations are projected on a forward looking basis in equilibrium, in which best-estimates 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 rates 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 2.10% and an adjustment for the effect of rebalancing/diversification. The resulting expected long-term rate of return is 7.00% for the year ended December 31, 2021.

Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the System's target asset allocation as of December 31, 2021 are summarized in the following table:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Asset Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Portfolio Real Rate of</u>
		<u>Return</u>
Fixed Income	33%	0.85%
Equity	51%	3.23%
Alternatives	14%	0.71%
Real Assets	2%	0.11%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>4.90%</b>
Inflation		2.10%
Expected Arithmetic Nominal Return		7.00%

The mortality rate assumption used was set based upon an experience study performed on plan data for the period January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2017. The data was then assigned credibility weighting and combined with a standard table to produce current levels of mortality. This mortality was then projected forward to a period equivalent to the estimated duration of the System's liabilities. Annuity values calculated based on this mortality were compared to those produced by using a set back of standard tables. The result of the procedure indicated that the tables used would produce liability values approximating the appropriate generational mortality tables.

The following presents the net pension liability of the participating employers calculated using the discount rate of 6.40%, as well as what the employers' net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower 5.40% or one percentage point higher 7.40% than the current rate.

	Plan A Changes in Discount Rate		
	Current		
	1% Decrease (5.40%)	Discount Rate (6.40%)	1% Increase (7.40%)
Net Pension Liability (Asset)	\$ 18,428	\$ (103,366)	\$ (205,390)

**TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2022**

**NOTE 9 – GOVERNMENTAL FUND REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES**

For the year ended June 30, 2022, the major sources of governmental fund revenues and expenditures were as follows:

**Revenues:**

<b>Local Government</b>	
Statutory fines, forfeitures, fee,	
Court costs and other	\$82,813
Grants and other contributions	338,152
	<hr/>
	420,965
 <b>Investment Earnings</b>	 117
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<hr/> 421,082

**Expenditures:**

<b>Personnel Services and Benefits</b>	
Salaries	213,325
Payroll taxes and retirement	24,111
<b>Total</b>	<hr/> 237,436
 <b>Professional Development</b>	
Dues, licenses, and registrations	1,575
Travel	2,766
<b>Total</b>	<hr/> 4,341
 <b>Operating Costs</b>	
Library and Research	1,309
Contract Services – attorney/legal	161,812
Insurance	5,250
Lease - Office	0
Utilities and Telephone	5,312
Other	51,808
<b>Total</b>	<hr/> 225,491
 <b>Capital Outlay</b>	 0
 <b>Total Expenditures</b>	<hr/> \$467,268

TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2022

**NOTE 10 -RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

There were no related party transactions that require disclosure.

**NOTE 11 - LITIGATION**

The Twentieth Judicial District Public Defender is not involved in any litigation and is not aware of any claims outstanding that require disclosure in the accompanying financial statements.

**NOTE 12 – DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES**

In some instances, the GASB requires a governmental agency to delay recognition of increases in net position as revenues until a future period. In these circumstances, deferred inflows of resources result from the delayed recognition of revenues. The agency had no deferred grant revenue in this fiscal period, under GASB's guidelines.

**NOTE 13 -SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

Management has evaluated subsequent events through December 23, 2022, the date on which the financial statements are available to be issued. There were no subsequent events that required disclosure.

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**  
**PART 2 OF 2**

**THE DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**  
**BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE**  
**GENERAL FUND**

	YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022		Actual	Variance with
	Budgeted Amounts		(Budgetary Basis)	Final Budget
	Original	Final		Positive (Negative)
<b>REVENUES</b>				
State Government Contributions	156,687	179,230	164,355	(14,875)
Appropriations-Local Government	45,000	41,250	45,000	3,750
State Government Grants	0		29,000	29,000
Criminal Bond Fees	29,500	32,327	32,327	0
District Criminal Court	112,000	103,547	99,797	3,750
Charges for Service	31,450	35,057	50,485	15,428
Investment Earnings	175	117	117	0
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>374,812</b>	<b>391,528</b>	<b>421,081</b>	<b>37,053</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
General Government:				
Salaries and payroll taxes	240,022	246,174	244,154	2,020
Travel	4,510	5,722	4,341	1,381
Operating Services	34,063	24,873	36,942	(12,069)
Professional Services	176,669	179,521	179,509	12
Acquisitions	2,500	11,763	0	11,763
Other Operating Expenses	600	579	2,321	(1,742)
	<b>458,364</b>	<b>468,632</b>	<b>467,267</b>	<b>1,365</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>458,364</b>	<b>468,632</b>	<b>467,267</b>	<b>1,365</b>
<b>Change in Fund Balances</b>	<b>(83,552)</b>	<b>(77,104)</b>	<b>(46,186)</b>	
<b>Fund Balances, beginning</b>	<b>105,817</b>	<b>266,698</b>	<b>349,313</b>	
<b>Fund Balances, ending</b>	<b>22,265</b>	<b>189,594</b>	<b>303,127</b>	

See Accompanying Independent Accountant's Review Report

**TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER  
SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND OTHER PAYMENTS  
TO AGENCY HEAD  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

Public Defender: Rhonda Covington	
Salary	\$ 100,380
Membership dues	820
Auto mileage	1,754
Continuing education	214
Health insurance, dental premiums	6,180
Retirement matching (12.25 % of salary)	<u>12,297</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 121,645</u></u>

See Accompanying Independent Accountant's Review Report

**TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER**  
**RECEIVING ENTITY SCHEDULE**  
As required by Act 87 of 2020 Regular Legislative Session

	First Six Month Period Ended <u>12/31/2021</u>	Second Six Month Period Ended <u>6/30/2022</u>	
		\$	\$
<b>Cash Basis Presentation</b>			
Receipts from:			
Louisiana State Appropriations	\$ 164,355	\$ -	
East Feliciana Parish Sheriff Bond Fees	\$ 9,142	\$ 7,337	
West Feliciana Parish Sheriff Bond Fees	\$ 9,914	\$ 5,934	
East Feliciana Parish Sheriff Court Costs	\$ 20,257	\$ 26,545	
West Feliciana Parish Sheriff Court Costs	\$ 24,300	\$ 32,445	
East Feliciana Parish Sheriff Legal Fees	\$ 10,609	\$ 10,253	
West Feliciana Parish Sheriff Legal Fees	\$ 4,473	\$ 4,690	
Total Receipts	<u>\$ 243,050</u>	<u>\$ 87,204</u>	

See Accompanying Independent Accountant's Review Report

# MC DUFFIE K. HERROD, LTD.

(A Professional Accounting Corporation)

**McDUFFIE K. HERROD**

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

Member:

American Institute of CPAs  
Society of Louisiana CPAs

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CLINTON, LA 70722

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Facsimile (225) 683-6733

## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Rhonda Covington  
The District Public Defender  
Twentieth Judicial District of Louisiana  
P.O. Box 68  
Clinton, Louisiana 70722

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by the Public Defender and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor, on the Public Defender's compliance with certain laws and regulations contained in the accompanying Louisiana Attestation Questionnaire during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, as required by Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513 and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*. The Public Defender's management is responsible for its financial records and compliance with applicable laws and regulations. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of the specified parties. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures enumerated below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

The procedures and associated findings are as follows:

With respect to your representations included within the Louisiana Attestation Questionnaire, as of June 30, 2022 and for the year then ended, we have applied the following agreed-upon procedures:

### *Public Bid Law*

1. Obtain documentation for all expenditures made during the year for materials and supplies exceeding \$30,000, and public works exceeding \$250,000. Compare the documentation for these expenditures to Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 39:1551-39:1775 (the state procurement code) or R.S. 38:2211-2296 (the public bid law), or the regulations of the Division of Administration and the State Purchasing Office, whichever is applicable; and report whether the expenditures were made in accordance with these laws.

*There were no expenditures for the year ended June 30, 2022 that were subject to the public bid law.*

### *Code of Ethics for Public Officials and Public Employees*

2. Obtain a list of the immediate family members of each board member as defined by R.S. 42:1101-1124 (the ethics law).  
*Management provided us with the requested information.*
3. Obtain a list of all employees paid during the fiscal year.  
*Management provided us with the requested information.*
4. Report whether any employees' names appear on both lists obtained in Procedures 2 and 3.  
*Management provided us with the requested information and none were noted.*
5. Obtain a list of all disbursements made during the year; and a list of outside business interests of board members, employees, and board members' and employees' immediate families. Report whether any vendors appear on both lists.  
*Management provided us with the requested information and none appeared on both lists.*

### *Budgeting*

6. Obtain a copy of the legally adopted budget and all amendments.  
*Management provided us with the requested information.*
7. Trace documentation for the adoption of the budget and approval of any amendments to the minute book, and report whether there are any exceptions.  
*Not applicable to this agency.*
8. Compare the revenues and expenditures of the final budget to actual revenues and expenditures. Report whether actual revenues failed to meet budgeted revenues by 5% or more, and whether actual expenditures exceeded budgeted amounts by 5% or more. (For agencies that must comply with the Licensing Agency Budget Act only, compare the expenditures of the final budget to actual expenditures, and report whether actual expenditures exceeded budgeted amounts by 10% or more per category or 5% or more in total).

*These procedures were performed and no exceptions were noted or reported.*

### *Accounting and Reporting*

9. Obtain the list of all disbursements made during the fiscal year. Randomly select six disbursements, and obtain documentation from management for these disbursements. Compare the selected disbursements to the supporting documentation, and: (a) report whether the six disbursements agree to the amount and the payee in the supporting documentation, (b) report whether the six disbursements are coded to the correct fund and general ledger account, and (c) Report whether the six disbursements were approved in accordance with management's policies and procedures.

*Each of the six selected disbursements agreed with the amount and payee in the supporting documentation.*

### *Meetings*

10. Obtain evidence from management to support that agendas for meetings recorded in the minute book were posted or advertised as required by R.S. 42:11 through 42:28 (the open meetings law); and report whether there are any exceptions.

*Not applicable to this agency.*

### *Debt*

11. Obtain bank deposit slips for the fiscal year, and scan the deposit slips in order to identify and report whether there are any deposits that appear to be proceeds of bank loans, bonds, or like indebtedness. If any such proceeds are identified, obtain from management evidence of approval by the State Bond Commission, and report any exceptions.

*We scanned the bank deposit slips for the fiscal period and noted no deposits which appeared to be proceeds of bank loans, bond proceeds or like indebtedness.*

### *Advances and Bonuses*

12. Obtain the list of payroll disbursements and meeting minutes of the governing board, if applicable. Scan these documents to identify and report whether there are any payments or approval of payments to employees that may constitute bonuses, advances, or gifts.

*We scanned payroll disbursements and found no payments or approval for payments in any documents or approval for payments to employees that would constitute bonuses, advances or gifts.*

### *State Audit Law*

13. Report whether the agency provided for a timely report in accordance with R.S. 24:513.

*The agency provided the required report timely in accordance with the revised statute.*

14. Inquire of management and report whether the agency entered into any contracts that utilized state funds as defined in R.S. 39:72.1 A. (2); and that were subject to the public bid law (R.S. 38:2211, et seq.), while the agency was not in compliance with R.S. 24:513 (the audit law).

*We made the inquiries and the agency entered into no contracts or like agreements.*

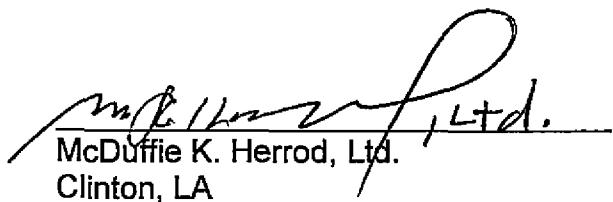
### *Prior-Year Comments*

15. Obtain and report management's representation as to whether any prior-year suggestions, recommendations, and/or comments have been resolved.

*The prior year report did not include any suggestions, recommendations, or comments.*

This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted 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*, issued by the United States Comptroller General. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on the Public Defender's compliance with the foregoing matters. 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.

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of testing performed on the Public Defender's compliance with certain laws and regulations contained in the accompanying Louisiana Attestation Questionnaire, as required by Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513 and the Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide, 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 Louisiana Legislative Auditor as a public document.



McDuffie K. Herrod, Ltd.  
Clinton, LA

December 23, 2022

THE DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER  
TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA  
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

A. PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

There were no prior year findings to report

B. CURRENT YEAR FINDINGS – FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

There are no current year findings to report.

C. MANAGEMENT LETTER ITEMS

There are no management letter items to report as of June 30, 2022.

**LOUISIANA ATTESTATION QUESTIONNAIRE**  
**(For Attestation Engagements of Governmental Agencies)**

12/23/22 (Date Transmitted)

(CPA Firm Name)

**MCDUFFIE K. HERROD, LTD.**

(CPA Firm Address)

**P. O. BOX 8436**

**CLINTON, LA 70722-8436**

(City, State Zip)

In connection with your engagement to apply agreed-upon procedures to the control and compliance matters identified below, as of 6/30/2022 (date) and for the year then ended, and as required by Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 24:513 and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*, we make the following representations to you.

**Public Bid Law**

It is true that we have complied with the state procurement code (R.S. 39:1551 – 39:1755); the public bid law (R.S. 38:2211-2296), and, where applicable, the regulations of the Division of Administration and the State Purchasing Office.

Yes [] No [ ] N/A [ ]

**Code of Ethics for Public Officials and Public Employees**

It is true that no employees or officials have accepted anything of value, whether in the form of a service, loan, or promise, from anyone that would constitute a violation of R.S. 42:1101-1124.

Yes [] No [ ] N/A [ ]

It is true that no member of the immediate family of any member of the governing authority, or the chief executive of the governmental entity, has been employed by the governmental entity after April 1, 1980, under circumstances that would constitute a violation of R.S. 42:1119.

Yes [] No [ ] N/A [ ]

**Budgeting**

We have complied with the state budgeting requirements of the Local Government Budget Act (R.S. 39:1301-15), R.S. 39:33, or the budget requirements of R.S. 39:1331-1342, as applicable.

Yes [] No [ ] N/A [ ]

**Accounting and Reporting**

All non-exempt governmental records are available as a public record and have been retained for at least three years, as required by R.S. 44:1, 44:7, 44:31, and 44:36.

Yes [] No [ ] N/A [ ]

We have filed our annual financial statements in accordance with R.S. 24:514, and 33:463 where applicable.

Yes [] No [ ] N/A [ ]

We have had our financial statements reviewed in accordance with R.S. 24:513.

Yes [] No [ ] N/A [ ]

We did not enter into any contracts that utilized state funds as defined in R.S. 39:72.1 A. (2); and that were subject to the public bid law (R.S. 38:2211, et seq.), while the agency was not in compliance with R.S. 24:513 (the audit law).

Yes [] No [ ] N/A [ ]

We have complied with R.S. 24:513 A. (3) regarding disclosure of compensation, reimbursements, benefits and other payments to the agency head, political subdivision head, or chief executive officer.

Yes [] No [ ] N/A [ ]

We have complied with R.S. 24:515.2 regarding reporting of pre- and post- adjudication court costs, fines and fees assessed or imposed; the amounts collected; the amounts outstanding; the amounts retained; the amounts disbursed, and the amounts received from disbursements.

Yes [X] No [ ] N/A [ ]

#### **Meetings**

We have complied with the provisions of the Open Meetings Law, provided in R.S. 42:11 through 42:28.

Yes [X] No [ ] N/A [ ]

#### **Debt**

It is true we have not incurred any indebtedness, other than credit for 90 days or less to make purchases in the ordinary course of administration, nor have we entered into any lease-purchase agreements, without the approval of the State Bond Commission, as provided by Article VII, Section 8 of the 1974 Louisiana Constitution, Article VI, Section 33 of the 1974 Louisiana Constitution, and R.S. 39:1410.60-1410.65.

Yes [X] No [ ] N/A [ ]

#### **Advances and Bonuses**

It is true we have not advanced wages or salaries to employees or paid bonuses in violation of Article VII, Section 14 of the 1974 Louisiana Constitution, R.S. 14:138, and AG opinion 79-729.

Yes [X] No [ ] N/A [ ]

#### **Prior-Year Comments**

We have resolved all prior-year recommendations and/or comments.

Yes [ ] No [ ] N/A [X]

#### **General**

We acknowledge that we are responsible for the Agency's compliance with the foregoing laws and regulations and the internal controls over compliance with such laws and regulations.

Yes [X] No [ ] N/A [ ]

We acknowledge that we are responsible for determining that the procedures performed are appropriate for the purposes of this engagement.

Yes [X] No [ ] N/A [ ]

We have evaluated our compliance with these laws and regulations prior to making these representations.

Yes [X] No [ ] N/A [ ]

We have provided you with all relevant information and access under the terms of our agreement.

Yes [X] No [ ] N/A [ ]

We have disclosed to you all known noncompliance of the foregoing laws and regulations, as well as any contradictions to the foregoing representations.

Yes [ ] No [ ] N/A [X]

We are not aware of any material misstatements in the information we have provided to you.

Yes [X] No [ ] N/A [ ]

We have disclosed to you any communications from regulatory agencies, internal auditors, other independent practitioners or consultants, and others concerning noncompliance with the foregoing laws and regulations, including communications received during the period under examination; and will

disclose to you any such communication received between the end of the period under examination and the date of your report.

Yes [X] No [ ] N/A [ ]

We will disclose to you, the Legislative Auditor, and the applicable state grantor agency/agencies all known noncompliance and other events subsequent to the date of this representation and the date of your report that could have a material effect on our compliance with laws and regulations and the internal controls with such laws and regulations, or would require adjustment or modification to the results of the agreed-upon procedures.

Yes [X] No [ ] N/A [ ]

The previous responses have been made to the best of our belief and knowledge.

These responses have been made to the best of our belief and knowledge.

John S. Carter District Defender 12/20/22 Date  
Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_ Date  
President \_\_\_\_\_ Date