Thibodaux, Louisiana

Annual Financial Report For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

# Annual Financial Report For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS	Page 1
Financial Section:	
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT	7
Government Wide Financial Statements:	
Statement of Net Position	10
Statement of Activities	11
Fund Financial Statements:	40
Balance Sheet – Governmental Fund	12
Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet - Governmental Fund to the Statement of Net Position	13
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in	13
Fund Balance - Governmental Fund – General Fund	14
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures,	17
and Changes In Fund Balance – Governmental Fund to the	
Statement of Activities	15
Combining Statement of Fiduciary Net Assets	16
Notes to the Financial Statements	17
Required Supplemental Information:	
Budgetary Comparison Schedule- General Fund	37
Schedule of the Proportionate Share of the Net Pension	
Liability – LCCRRF	38
Schedule of Contributions – LCCRRF	38
Notes to Required Supplementary Information	38
Schedule of Changes in the total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios	39
Notes to Required Supplementary Information	39
Other Supplementary Information:	
Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to Agency Head	40
Justice System Funding Schedules:	
Collecting/Disbursing Entity	41
Receiving Entity	45
Reports Required by Government Auditing Standards:	
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	46

# LAFOURCHE PARISH CLERK OF COURT MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

The following discussion and analysis of the Lafourche Parish Clerk of Court's (the Clerk's) financial performance provides an overview of the financial activities as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021. Please read it in conjunction with the basic financial statements and the accompanying notes to the financial statements, which follows this report.

#### **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

- The assets and deferred outflows of resources exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows of resources by \$4,834,504 (net position) at the end of the current fiscal year. Net position consisted of net investment in capital assets in the amount of \$96,796, (2%) and unrestricted net position in the amount of \$4,737,708 (98%).
- The total net position increased by \$96,211 from the prior fiscal year.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, the governmental funds showed combined ending fund balances totaling \$10,213,656 an increase of \$991,364 from the prior fiscal year. Of the total ending fund balance, all was considered available for funding future operational needs (unassigned fund balance).
- At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance for the General Fund was 334% of total General Fund expenditures.

#### **OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The Government-Wide Financial Statements (Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) provide information about the governmental activities as a whole and present a longer-term view of the finances. Fund Financial Statements (Balance Sheet, Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance, and Combining Statement of Fiduciary Net Assets) tell how these services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. Fund Financial Statements also report the operations in more detail than the Government-Wide Statements by providing information about the most significant funds.

Our auditor has provided assurance in his independent auditor's report that the basic financial statements are fairly stated. The auditor, regarding the Required Supplemental Information is providing varying degrees of assurance. A user of this report should read the Independent Auditor's Report carefully to ascertain the level of assurance being provided for each of the other parts in the Annual Financial Report.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

#### Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Clerk's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The Statement of Net Position presents information on all assets and deferred outflows and liabilities and deferred inflows, with the difference between the two reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position is improving or deteriorating.

The Statement of Activities presents information showing how the government'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. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods.

Both of the government-wide financial statements distinguish functions that are principally supported by fines and fees charged to the public (governmental activities) from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges (business-type activities).

#### 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 Clerk, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds are governmental funds.

Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term effects of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the programs. The accounting used for fiduciary funds is much like that used for proprietary funds. The Clerk of Court is the trustee, or fiduciary, for funds reserved by the Court and Advanced Costs collected for court costs. All of these fiduciary activities are reported in a separate Combined Statement of Fiduciary Net Assets. The Clerk of Court is responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used for their intended purposes.

#### **GOVERNMENT WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS**

**Net Position**. As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. The net position totaled \$4,834,504 at the end of the current fiscal year, which was a 2% increase over the prior fiscal year. Following is a summary of the government-wide Statement of Net Position:

	FY 2021	FY 2020	Increase (Decrease)
			(55.55)
Current and Other Assets	\$10,314,750	\$ 9,325,040	\$ 989,710
Capital Assets	96,796	148,375	(51,579)
Total Assets	10,411,546	9,473,415	938,131
Deferred outflows of resources	2,084,810	1,333,059	751,751
Current Liabilities	101,094	102,748	(1,654)
Non-Current Liabilities	6,960,779	5,323,679_	1,637,100
Total Liabilities	7,061,873	5,426,427	1,635,446
Deferred inflows of resources	599,979	641,754	(41,775)
Net Investment in Capital Assets	96,796	148,375	(51,579)
Unrestricted	4,737,708	4,589,918	147,790
Total Net Position	\$ 4,834,504	\$ 4,738,293	\$ 96,211

- The portion of the net position net investment in capital assets (e.g., building improvements and equipment) are not available for future spending. The Clerk cannot sell the assets to obtain funding.
- The remaining balance of net position is considered unrestricted and may be used to meet the ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors. At the end of the current and prior fiscal years, the reported positive balances in all categories of net assets.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

**Changes in Net Position**. For the year ended June 30, 2021, the net position increased by \$96,211, an indication that its financial position increased during the year. Following is a summary of the government-wide Statement of Activities:

	FY 2021	FY 2020	Increase (Decrease)
Total program expenses Total program revenues	\$ (3,950,277) 3,963,468	\$ (3,102,274) 3,743,912	\$ 848,003 219,556
Net program income	13,191	641,638	(628,447)
General revenues Change in Net Position	83,020 96,211	<u>125,929</u> 767,567	(42,909) (671,356)
Net Position: Beginning of the year	4,738,293	3,970,726	767,567
End of the year	\$ 4,834,504	\$ 4,738,293	\$ 96,211

- Program revenues in the amount of \$3,963,468 accounted for 98% of total revenues. Charges for services (program revenues) increased by \$219,556 (6%) over the prior fiscal year.
- General revenues (interest) in the amount of \$83,020 accounted for 2% of total revenues.
- Total expenses including salaries and benefits and office supplies, increased by \$848,003 or 27% over the prior fiscal year.

#### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

The Clerk uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance related legal requirements.

**Governmental Funds**. The focus of the governmental funds is to provide information on near term inflows, outflows and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the financing requirements. In particular, unreserved fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for funding future operational needs.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

#### **Major Governmental Fund**

The General Fund is the chief operating fund. At the end of the current fiscal year, fund balance totaled \$10,213,656, of which all was unassigned.

The fund balance of the General Fund increased by \$991,364 during the current fiscal year, as compared to the prior fiscal year. This increase as compared to the prior fiscal year is due to increases in revenues – mainly fees for recording.

#### **BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS**

The original budget for the General Fund was not revised during the fiscal year. Total variances were all favorable. Total revenues recorded were 9% more than budgeted. Total expenditures were 14% less than budgeted. The budget variances were favorable and in compliance with the Local Budget Law.

#### CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital assets include furniture and fixtures, office equipment, leasehold improvements and intangibles recorded at historical cost of \$914,009. Accumulated depreciation of \$817,213 deducted from the cost of assets resulted in an ending book balance of assets of \$96.796.

This year there were \$13,068 in additions and \$533,503 in deletions recorded to capital assets. Depreciation expense of \$64,647 was recorded for the year. More detailed information about the capital assets is presented in Note 4 to the financial statements.

#### LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

The Clerk has long-term obligations recorded for compensated absences in the amount of \$128,459; net pension liability of \$3,313,369, and other post-employment benefits of \$3,518,951. More detailed information about these long term obligations is presented in Note 5 and Note 6 to the basic financial statements.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30. 2021

#### ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND RATES

A summary of next year's budget follows:

#### Condensed Summary of Budgeted Finances

FY 2022	
\$ 3,741,651	
3,640,800	
100,000	
3,740,800	
851	
9,222,292	
\$ 9,223,143	

Revenues have remained stable and as a result there is no planned increase in fees or service costs for the next fiscal year.

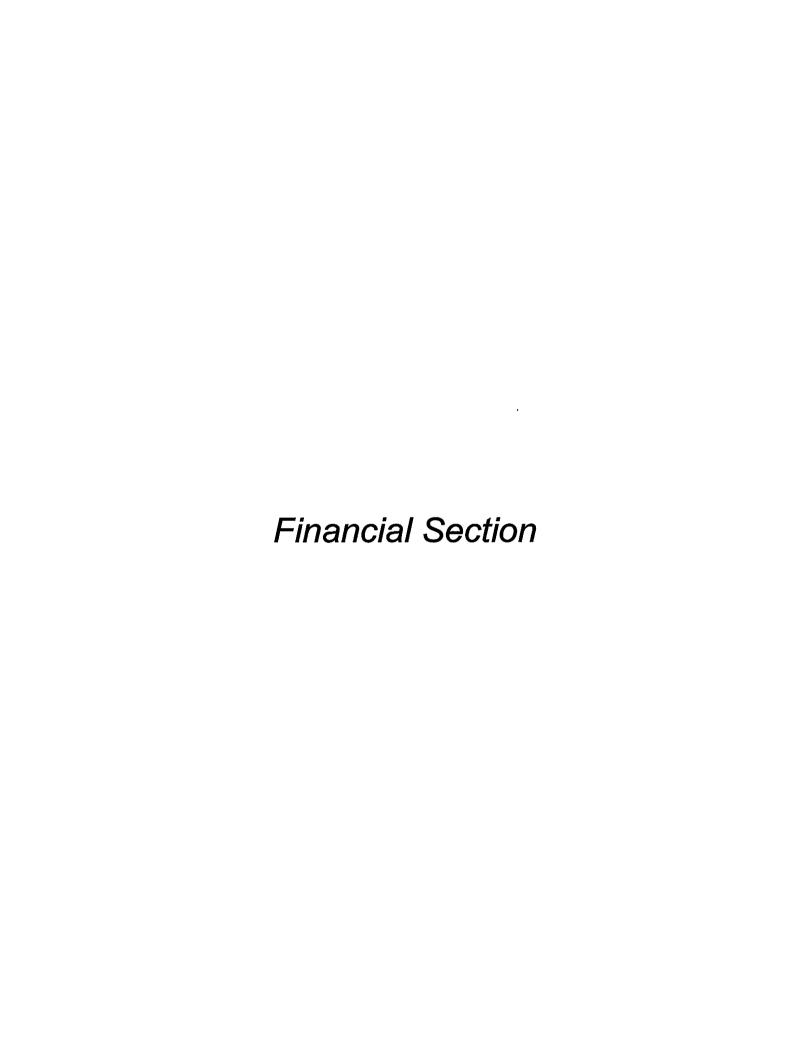
Through prudent planning and decision making, cross-training employees and the combination of job duties, we have only a minimal increase in employee wages and costs.

We are pleased that our operating expenses have not increased over the last year and that we are bringing in revenue to meet our expenses. We have added some additional amounts to our budget to continue our technology upgrades which includes completion of our electronic filing projects for civil, criminal and land records.

#### CONTACTING FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the finances and to show the accountability for the money received. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact:

Honorable Annette M. Fontana Lafourche Parish Clerk of Court P.O. Box 818 Thibodaux, LA 70302 985-447-4841





# STAGNI & COMPANY, LLC

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS & CONSULTANTS

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Honorable Annette M. Fontana Lafourche Parish Clerk of Court Thibodaux, Louisiana

#### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Lafourche Parish Clerk of Court as of and for the year ended June 30, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

#### Management's Responsibility 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; this includes 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.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. 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. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error.

Honorable Annette M. Fontana Lafourche Parish Clerk of Court Thibodaux, Louisiana Page 2

In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting polices used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

#### **Opinions**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund as of June 30, 2021, 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.

#### Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis, Budgetary Comparison Schedule, and Pension Schedules as listed in the table of contents as required supplementary information 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.

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.



Honorable Annette M. Fontana Lafourche Parish Clerk of Court Thibodaux, Louisiana Page 3

#### Other Information

The Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payment to the Agency Head and the Justice System Funding Schedules as listed in the table of contents as other supplementary information is presented for the purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. These schedules are the responsibility of management and is derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such 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 statement themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedule is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

# Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated December 15, 2021, on our consideration of the Lafourche Parish Clerk of 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 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 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 Lafourche Parish Clerk of Court's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Stagni & Company

Thibodaux, LA December 15, 2021



# Statement of Net Position June 30, 2021

ASSETS	Governmental Fund
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 6,789,022
Investments	2,608,362
Receivables	64,676
Due from Agency Funds	852,690
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	96,796
Total assets	10,411,546
Deferred outflows of resources - OPEB	767,278
Deferred outflows of resources - contributions	272,127
Deferred outflows of resources - other	1,045,405
Total Deferred outflows of resources	2,084,810
LIABILITIES	
Current liabilities	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	101,094
Total current liabillities	101,094
Non-current liabilities	
Compensated absences	128,459
Net pension liability	3,313,369
Net OPEB	3,518,951
Total noncurrent liabilities	6,960,779
Total liabilities	7,061,873
Deferred inflows of resources	599,979
NET POSITION	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	96,796
Unrestricted	4,737,708
Total net position	\$ 4,834,504

# Statement of Activities For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

EXPENSES	
Salaries and benefits	\$ 2,950,632
Group Insurance	412,730
Other Insurance	29,347
Office supplies and expense	473,718
Telephone	13,199
Convention and Travel	6,004
Depreciation	64,647_
Total program expenses	3,950,277
	,
PROGRAM REVENUES	
Charges for services	3,963,468
Total program revenues	3,963,468
Net Program (Income) Expense	13,191
GENERAL REVENUES	
Interest earned	83,020
Gain on disposal	<u> </u>
Total general revenues	83,020
Change in Net Position	96,211
NET POSITION	
Beginning of year	4,738,293_
End of year	\$ 4,834,504

Balance Sheet - Governmental Fund - General Fund June 30, 2021

ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents Investments Receivables	\$ 6,789,022 2,608,362
Accounts	64,676
Due from Other Funds	852,690
Total assets	\$10,314,750
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses Total liabilities	\$ 101,094 101,094
Fund Balance : Unassigned Fund Balance Total fund balance	10,213,656 10,213,656
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$10,314,750

Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet- Governmental Fund to the Statement of Net Position June 30, 2021

Total fund	balance - governmental fund (Fund Financial Statement)		\$ 10,213,656
Amounts re	eported for <i>governmental activities</i> in the statement of net p are different because:	osition	
	Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in governmental funds.		
	Capital Assets at Cost	\$ 914,009	
	Accumulated Depreciation	(817,213)	
	Accumulated Depresiation	(017,210)	96,796
	Certain non-current liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds:		30,700
	Net Pension liability	(3,313,369)	
	Compensated absences	(128,459)	
	Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability	(3,518,951)	
	outer rest Employment Belleting	(0,01.0,001.)	(6,960,779)
	Deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions & OPEB are applicable to future periods and, therefore, are not reported in the funds		
	Deferred outflows of resources - OPEB	767,278	
	Deferred outflows of resources - contributions	272,127	
	Deferred outflows of resources - other	1,045,405	
			2,084,810
	Deferred inflows of resources - OPEB	(388,516)	_,,
	Deferred inflows of resources - pensions	(211,463)	
	Faller	(=::,::=)	(599,979)
Total net p	osition of governmental activities (Government-Wide Finance	cial Statements)	\$ 4,834,504

See notes to the financial statements.

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance Governmental Fund - General Fund For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

Revenues	
Suits and successions transferred	
from the Advance Deposit Fund	\$ 1,243,370
Recording fees	1,838,855
Fees in criminal cases	113,540
Certified copies	364,991
Interest earned	83,020
Mortgage certificates	14,770
Court attendance	18,840
Cancellations	4,720
Marriage licenses	18,690
Notarial fees	11,705
Other	 333,987
Total revenues	 4,046,488
Expenditures	
Current - Judiciary:	0.407.050
Salaries and benefits	2,107,058
Group Insurance	412,730
Other Insurance	29,347
Office supplies and expense	473,718
Telephone	13,199
Convention and Travel	 6,004
Total current expenditures	3,042,056
Capital outlay	 13,068
Total expenditures	3,055,124
Net change in fund balance	991,364
Fund Balances	
Beginning of year	 9,222,292
End of year	\$ 10,213,656

Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance-Governmental Fund to the Statement of Activities For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

Net change in fund balance - governmental fund (Fund Financial Statements) \$ 991,364

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 are allocated over the estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense.

Capital outlay \$ 13,068
Depreciation expense (64,647)
(51,579)

Repayment of Non-current liabilities are reported as an expenditure in governmental funds, but the payment reduces long-term obligations in the statement of net position. In the current year, these amounts consists of:

(Increase) Decrease in Compensated Absences (12,198)

(Increase) Decrease Other Post-Employment Benefit Cost and deferrals

Cost and deferrals (707,717) (Increase) Decrease Pension expense and deferrals (123,659)

\$

96,211

Change in net assets of governmental activities

(Government -Wide Financial Statements)

Combining Statement of Fiduciary Net Assets
June 30, 2021

ASSETS	Advance Deposit Fund	Registry of the Court Fund	Total
Cash and cash equivalents Investments Miscellaneous receivable	\$ 1,625,331 1,952,354 2,925	\$ 28,144 2,991,451 	\$ 1,653,475 4,943,805 2,925
Total assets	\$ 3,580,610	\$ 3,019,595	\$ 6,600,205
LIABILITIES			
Due to general fund Due to others	\$ 852,690 2,727,920	\$ - 3,019,595	\$ 852,690 5,747,515
Total liabilities	\$ 3,580,610	\$ 3,019,595	\$ 6,600,205

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

#### INTRODUCTION

As provided by Article V, Section 28 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, the Clerk of Court serves as ex-officio notary public, the recorder of conveyances, mortgages, and other acts; and has other duties and powers provided by law. The Clerk of Court is elected for a four-year term. The current term ends June 30, 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to government units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant accounting policies established in GAAP used are discussed below.

#### Note 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### A. Reporting Entity

These financial statements present the Lafourche Parish Clerk of Court (Clerk of Court) as the primary government as defined by GASBS No. 14; component units are legally separate entities that are included in the reporting entity because of the significance of their operating or financial relationships. GASB has established several criteria for determining the governmental reporting entity and component units that should be included within the reporting entity. Since, the Clerk of Court is an independently elected official, and is legally separate and fiscally independent; they are considered a separate governmental reporting entity.

There are unrecorded financial transactions between the Lafourche Parish Council (the Council) and the Clerk of Court where the Council provides office space and utilities for the Clerk of Court. These transactions between the Clerk of Court and the Parish Council are mandated by state statue and do not reflect fiscal dependency; thereby, they do not reflect financial accountability.

#### B. Basic Financial Statements

Basic financial statements are presented at both the government-wide and fund financial statement level. Both levels of statements categorize primary activities as governmental. Government-wide financial statements (GWFS) report information about the reporting unit as a whole. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. These statements focus on the sustainability of the entity and the change in aggregate financial position resulting from the activities of the year.

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

#### Note 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, Continued

#### B. Basic Financial Statements (continued)

These aggregated statements consist of the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities. The Statement of Activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function. Program revenues include fees and charges to the public customers who use, or directly benefit from services, or privileges provided by a given function. Other items not reported as program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

#### C. Measurement Focus / Basis of Accounting

The GWFS are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows.

Governmental fund financial statements (FFS) are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. A one-year availability period is used for revenue recognition. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred.

#### Fund Financial Statements (FFS)

The financial transactions of the Clerk of Court are reported in individual funds in the fund financial statements. Each fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprises its assets, liabilities, reserves, fund equity, revenues and expenditures/expenses. The various funds are reported by generic classification within the financial statements.

#### **Governmental Funds**

Governmental funds account for all or most of the general activities. These funds focus on the sources, uses, and balances of current financial resources. Expendable assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may be used. Current liabilities are assigned to the fund from which they will be paid.

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

#### Note 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, Continued

#### C. Measurement Focus / Basis of Accounting (continued)

The difference between a governmental fund's assets and liabilities is reported as fund balance. In general, fund balance represents the accumulated expendable resources that may be used to finance future period programs or operations. The following are the clerk's governmental funds:

#### General Fund

The General Fund (Salary Fund), as provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 13:781, is the principal fund and accounts for the operations of the office. The various fees and charges due to the office are accounted for in this fund. General operating expenditures are paid from this fund.

#### Fiduciary Funds

Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The funds accounted for in this category are agency funds. The agency funds account for assets held as an agent for litigants pending court action. These funds are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations. Consequently, the agency funds have no measurement focus, but use the modified accrual basis of accounting. The Advance Deposit and Registry of Court - Agency Funds account for assets held as an agent for others.

Information contained in these statements reflects the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets and liabilities resulting from exchange or exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange occurs (regardless of when cash is received or disbursed). Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets and liabilities resulting from non-exchange transactions are recognized in accordance with the requirements of GASB Statement No. 33, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Non-exchange Transactions.

Basis of accounting refers to the point at which 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:** The governmental-type activities in the GWFS and fiduciary fund financial statements are presented on the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred.

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

#### Note 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, Continued

#### C. Measurement Focus / Basis of Accounting (continued)

Modified Accrual: The governmental FFS are presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when susceptible to accrual; i.e., both measurable and available. "Available" means collectible within the current period or within 60 days after yearend. Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related liability is incurred. The exception to this general rule is that principal and interest on general obligation long-term debt, if any, is recognized when due.

#### D. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash includes amounts in demand deposits, interest bearing demand deposits, money market accounts and cash on hand. Cash equivalents include time deposits maturing within 90 days. Under state law, governmental entities may deposit funds in demand deposits, interest bearing demand deposits, money market accounts, or certificates of deposit with state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having their principal offices in Louisiana.

#### E. Investments

Investments are limited by Louisiana Revised Statute 25 33:2955 and the investment policy. If the original maturities of investments exceed 90 days, they are classified as investments; however, if the original maturities of investments are 90 days or less, they are classified as cash and cash equivalents. The investments consist of time deposits with maturities between 91 and 270 days.

#### F. Capital Assets

Capital assets purchased or acquired with a cost of \$1,000 or more are reported at historical cost or estimated historical cost. Contributed assets are reported at fair market value as of the date received. Additions, improvements and other capital outlays that significantly extend the useful life of an asset are capitalized. Other costs for repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred. Depreciation on all assets is provided on the straight-line basis over the following estimated useful lives:

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

#### Note 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, Continued

#### F. Capital Assets (continued)

Description	Estimated Lives
Office Equipment	5 years
Furniture & Fixtures	10 years
Automobiles	5 years
Leased Equipment	5 years

#### G. Interfund Activities

The Clerk of Court transfers interest earned on the investments of the Advance Deposit Fund to the Salary Fund to be utilized by the Salary Fund in its operations. In those cases where the physical transfer of assets has not taken place as of year-end, or where repayment is expected, these amounts are accounted for through the various due to and due from accounts.

#### H. Fees Transferred from Advance Deposit Agency Fund

These fees represent revenue earned from everyday operations such as copying and faxing for litigants. These fees are collected by a transfer of litigant's money deposited in the Advance Deposit Fund to the Salary Fund.

#### I. Budgetary Practices

The Clerk of Court annually adopts a budget for the General Fund. The budgetary practices include public notice of the proposed budget, public inspection of the proposed budget and public hearings on the budget. Any amendments to the budget are published in the official journal. Budgetary integration is employed as a management tool.

Encumbrances represent commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods and services. Encumbrance accounting is not utilized in the funds.

#### J. Compensated Absences

The Clerk of Court's policy calls for accrual of accumulated unpaid vacation and sick leave and associated employee-related costs when earned (or estimated to be earned) by the employee.

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

#### Note 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, Continued

#### J. Compensated Absences (continued)

Employees earn a maximum of two weeks' vacation per year based on hire date. Vacation is accumulated at approximately one day per month and is credited to an employee each pay period. Employees are encouraged to take vacation time once ten days have been accumulated. Employees receive 12 days of personal leave for each year of service. The Clerk allows a maximum of 30 unused personal leave days to accumulate. Any personal leave time accumulated over 30 days will be paid to the employee annually through the pay period endings December 15<sup>th</sup> of each year. Accumulated personal leave is paid upon separation of employment. Based on this policy, all unpaid sick and vacation leave is considered to be a long term liability.

#### K. Net Position and Fund Equity

#### Government-wide Financial Statements

Equity is classified as net assets and displayed in three components:

- Net Investment in capital assets,—Consists of capital assets net of accumulated depreciation and net of capital related debt.
- Restricted net assets—consists of net assets with constraints placed on the use by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- Unrestricted net assets—all other net assets that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "invested in capital assets."

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the policy to use restricted resources first.

#### Fund Financial Statements

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance. Fund balance is further classified as follows:

- Non-spendable fund balance cannot be spent because of its form.
- Restricted fund balance has limitations imposed by creditors, grantors, or contributors or by enabling legislation or constitutional provisions.
- Committed fund balance is a limitation imposed by the Clerk through approval.
- Assigned fund balances is a limitation imposed by a designee of the Clerk.
- Unassigned fund balance in the General Fund is the net resources in excess of
  what can be properly classified in one of the above four categories. Negative
  unassigned fund balance in other governmental funds represents excess
  expenditures incurred over the amounts restricted, committed, or assigned to
  those purposes.

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

#### Note 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES. Continued

#### K. Net Position and Fund Equity (continued)

Louisiana R.S. 13:785 requires that every four years (at the close of the term of office) the clerk of court must pay the parish treasurer the portion of the General Fund fund balance that exceeds one-half of the revenues of the clerk's last year of the term of office, which amount shall be limited to no more than that which was received by the clerk in accordance with R.S. 1784 (A) during said term in office. The Parish Council has not provided any funding to the Clerk under statute R.S. 13:784 (A) for items such as office furniture, equipment, and record books. At June 30, 2021, there was no amount due the parish treasurer.

#### L. Use of Estimates

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

#### M. Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statement of financial position includes a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred outflows of resources*, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. The Clerk has recognized deferred outflows of resources for pension contributions and other postemployment benefits (OPEB) contributions.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position also reports a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred inflows of resources*, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The Clerk has recognized deferred inflows of resources for pension liability and other postemployment benefits (OPEB) liability based on actuarial valuation that was performed.

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

#### Note 2 DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

Deposits (demand deposits, interest bearing demand deposits and certificates of deposit) are recorded at cost, which approximates fair value.

The carrying amounts of deposits are as follows:

	Balances	
	Book	Bank
Governmental Fund – Cash	\$ 6,789,022	\$ 6,689,834
Governmental Fund – Investments	2,608,362	2,608,362
Fiduciary Fund – Cash	1,653,475	1,857,690
Fiduciary Fund – Investments	4,943,805	4,944,006
Total deposits	\$ 15,994,664	\$ 16,099,892

The difference between the bank balance and the carrying amount represents outstanding checks and deposits in transit.

Under state law, the book 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 (FDIC) must at all times equal the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent bank. 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.

Custodial Credit Risk—Deposits. Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the government's deposits may not be returned to it. As of June 30, 2021, \$14,371,023 of the bank balance was considered exposed to custodial credit risk. Pledged securities secure these deposits from risk. The pledged securities are held at the pledging bank's trust department or other bank, acting as the pledging bank's agent, in the Clerk of Court's name.

Even though the pledged securities are considered uncollateralized under the provisions of GASB Statement 3, R.S. 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 Clerk of Court that the fiscal agent has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand.

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

#### Note 3 RECEIVABLES

The accounts receivables of \$64,676 consists of amounts due from attorneys for recording court fees and expenses related to cases in progress, from abstractors for certified copies, and interest.

Note 4 CAPITAL ASSETS

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Disposals	Ending Balance
Furniture & fixtures	\$474,411	\$13,068	\$(268,198)	\$219,281
Office equipment	21,161	-	(21,161)	-
Leasehold Improvements	545,976	-	-	545,976
Intangibles	392,896	_	(244,144)	148,752
TOTAL COST	1,434,444	13,068	(533,503)	914,009
Less accumulated depreciation	\$1,286,069	64,647	(533,503)	817,213
NET CAPITAL ASSETS	\$148,375			\$96,796

Depreciation charged for governmental functions for the year was \$64,647.

#### Note 5 OTHER POST-RETIREMENT BENEFITS

Plan Description. The defined benefit postemployment health care plan (the plan) provides OPEB to eligible retired employees and their beneficiaries. The plan provides OPEB for permanent full-time employees of the Clerk. The plan is a single employer defined benefit OPEB plan administered by the Clerk. Benefits are provided through the Louisiana Clerks of Court Insurance Trust ("LCCIT"), a multiple-employer healthcare plan administered by the Louisiana Clerks of Court Association. Louisiana Revised Statute 13:783 grants the authority to establish and amend the benefit terms and financing requirements. No assets are accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria in paragraph 4 of Statement 75. The premium rates are established and may be amended by the CLLIT board of trustees, with the Clerk determining the contribution requirements of the retirees.

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

#### Note 5 POST-RETIREMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUTED)

Benefits Provided. The Clerk provides medical, dental, vision, and life insurance benefits for retirees and their dependents. The benefit terms provide for payment of 75% of retiree and 0% of dependent pre-Medicare health, Medicare Supplement, vision, and dental insurance premiums. The plan also provides for payment of 75% of retiree life insurance premiums.

**Employees covered by benefit terms.** On January 1, 2020, the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

Inactive employees or beneficiaries currently receiving	13
benefit payments	
Inactive employees entitled to but not yet receiving	-
benefit payments	
Active employees	31_
·	44_

**Total OPEB Liability.** The total OPEB liability of \$3,518,951 was measured as of June 30, 2021, and was determined by an actuarial valuation as of January 1, 2020.

Actuarial Assumptions and other inputs. The total OPEB liability in the June 30, 2020 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs, applied to all periods included in the measurement, unless otherwise specified:

Inflation	2.40%
Salary increases	3.25%
Discount rate	1.92%
Healthcare cost trend rates	

Healthcare cost trend rates

Medical: 4.95% for 2021, 6.25% for 2022, decreasing 0.25%

per year to an ultimate rate of 5.0% for 2027 and later

vears

Medicare Advantage: 0% for 2021, 4.75% for 2022, decreasing 0.25% per

vear to an ultimate rate of 3.0% for 2029 and later

years. Includes 2% per year for aging.

Dental: 3.0% annual trend Vision: 3.0% annual trend

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

#### Note 5 POST-RETIREMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUTED)

Retirees' Share of Benefit-Related Costs:

Medical: 25% for retirees and 100% for dependents Medicare Supplement: 25% for retirees and 100% for dependents Dental: 25% for retirees and 100% for dependents Vision: 25% for retirees and 100% for dependents

Basic Life Insurance: 25%

The discount rate was based on the 6/30/2021 Fidelity General Obligation AA 20-Year Yield.

Mortality rates for active employees were based on the PubG.H-2010 Employee Mortality Table, Generational with Projection Scale MP-2020 for males or females, as appropriate.

Mortality rates for retirees were based on the PubG.H-2010 Employee Mortality Table, Generational with Projection Scale MP-2019 for males or females, as appropriate.

The actuarial assumptions used in the valuation were based on those used in the Louisiana Clerks of Court Retirement and Relief Fund valuation and actuarial experience.

#### **Changes in the Total OPEB Liability (Asset)**

Balance at 6/30/2019	\$2,639,059
Changes for the year:	
Service Cost	47,892
Interest	64,287
Differences between expected and actual	
experience	41,415
Change in benefit terms	686,954
Changes in Assumptions/Inputs	165,304
Benefit payments	
	(125,960)
Change in Net OPEB Obligation	879,892
Ending Net OPEB Obligation	\$3,518,951

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

#### Note 5 POST-RETIREMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUTED)

Sensitivity of the total OPEB liability to changes in the discount rate. The following presents the total OPEB liability, as well as what the total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current discount rate:

	1.0% Decrease (.92%)	Current Discount Rate (1.92%)	1.0% Increase (2.92%)
Total OPEB liability	\$ 4,155,888	\$ 3,518,951	\$ 2,939,772

Sensitivity of the total OPEB liability to changes in the healthcare cost trend rates. The following presents the total OPEB liability, as well as what the total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current healthcare trend rates:

	1.0% Decrease	Current Trend	1.0% Increase
Total OPEB liability	\$ 3,057,756	\$3,518,951	\$ 4,093,147

OPEB Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB. For the year ended June 30, 2021, the Clerk recognized OPEB expense of \$833,677 and reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of		Deferred Inflows of	
	Re	esources	Resources	
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$	452,322	\$(154,420)	
Changes of assumptions or other inputs		314,956	(234,096)	
Total	\$	767,278	\$(388,516)	

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

#### Note 5 POST-RETIREMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUTED)

Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Years ending June 30:	
2022	\$34,544
2023	\$34,544
2024	\$34,544
2025	\$34,544
2026	\$34,544
Thereafter	\$206,044

#### Note 6 PENSION PLAN

The Clerk has adopted GASB Statement No. 68 Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions. That Statement requires governments providing defined benefit pensions to recognize their long-term obligation for pension benefits as a liability, and to more comprehensively and comparably measure the annual costs of pension benefits.

#### Plan Description and Provisions

Substantially all employees of the Clerk of Court are members of the Louisiana Clerks of Court Retirement and Relief fund (System), a cost-sharing multiple-employer, defined benefit public employee retirement system (PERS), controlled and administered by a separate board of trustees. Contributions of participating clerks are pooled within the System to fund accrued benefits, with contribution rates approved by the Louisiana Legislature.

All regular employees earning a minimum of \$500 per month and who are under the age of 60 at the time of original employment are eligible to participate in the system. The System also provides death and disability benefits. Benefits are established by state statute.

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

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

#### Note 6 PENSION PLAN (continued)

#### **Retirement Benefits**

A member or former member is eligible for regular retirement benefits upon attaining 12 or more years of credited service, attaining the age of 55 or more and terminating employment. Regular retirement benefits, payable monthly for life, equal 3-1/3% of the member's average final compensation multiplied by the number of years of credited service, not to exceed one hundred percent of the monthly average final compensation. Monthly average final compensation is based on the highest compensated 36 consecutive months, with a limit of increase of 10% in each of the last 3 years of measurement. For those members hired on or after July 1, 2006, compensation is based on the highest compensated 60 consecutive months with a limit of 10% increase in each of the last 6 years of measurement. Act 273 of the 2010 regular session applied 60 consecutive months to all members. This Act has a transition period for those members who retire on or after January 1, 2011 and before December 31, 2012. Additionally, Act 273 of the 2010 regular session increased a member's retirement to age 60 with an accrual rate of 3% for all members hired on or after January 1, 2011, not to exceed 60 months.

#### **Disability Benefits**

Disability benefits are awarded to active members who are totally and permanently disabled as a result of injuries sustained in the line of duty or to active members with 10 or more years of credible service who are totally disabled due to any cause. A member who is officially certified as totally or permanently disabled by the State Medical Disability Board will be paid monthly disability retirement benefits equal to the greater of 40% of their monthly average final compensation or 75% of their monthly regular retirement benefit computed as per R.S. 11:1521 (C).

#### **Survivor Benefits**

If a member who has less than five years of credited service dies, his accumulated contributions are paid to his designated beneficiary. If the member has five or more years of credited service, automatic Option 2 benefits are payable to the surviving spouse.

#### **Deferred Retirement Option Plan**

In lieu of terminating employment and accepting a service retirement allowance, any member of the Fund who is eligible for a service retirement allowance may elect to participate in DROP for up to 36 months and defer the receipt of benefits.

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

#### Note 6 PENSION PLAN (continued)

#### **Cost of Living Adjustments**

The Board of Trustees is authorized to provide a cost of living increase to members who have been retired for at least one full calendar year. The increase cannot exceed the lesser of 2.5% of the retiree's benefit or an increase of \$40 per month. The LA statutes allow the board to grant an additional cost of living increase to all retirees and beneficiaries over age 65 equal to 2% of the benefit paid on October 1, 1977 or the member's retirement date if later.

#### **Employer Contributions**

Plan members are required by state statue to contribute 8.25% of their annual covered salary and the Clerk of Court is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate of 19.00% of annual covered payroll for the year ending June 30, 2018 and remained the same for June 30, 2019. The contribution requirements of plan members and the Clerk of Court are established as amended by state statute. As provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 11:103, the employer contributions are determined by actuarial valuation and are subject to change each year based on the results to fund accrued benefits, with contribution rates approved by the Louisiana Legislature.

Effective July 1, 1999, the Louisiana Senate passed Bill #556 allowing the individual Clerks of Court to elect to pay both the employee and employer contributions into this retirement system. The Clerk has elected to do so for the year ending June 30, 2020 and 2021.

The Clerk also contributes for its plan members in addition to its actuarially determined contributions bringing the total contribution to 27.25% of annual covered payroll. Contributions to the system also include one-fourth of one percent of the taxes shown to be collectible by the tax rolls of each parish. These additional sources of income are used as employer contributions and are considered support from non-employer contributing entities, but are not considered special funding situations.

# Pension liabilities, pension expense and deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources:

As of June 30, 2020, the Clerk reported a liability of \$3,313,369 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2020, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The proportion of the net pension liability was based on a projection of the long-term contributions to the plans relative to the projected contributions of all participating employers, actuarially determined.

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

#### Note 6 PENSION PLAN (continued)

At June 30, 2020, the proportion of the plan was 1.377205%, a decrease of 0.03710% from the prior valuation.

For the year ended June 30, 2021 (measured at June 30, 2020), the Clerk recognized pension expense of \$447,353 and the following deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Defe	rred Outflows	Defe	erred Inflows
Difference between expected and actual experience Net difference between projected and actual earnings	\$	41,399	\$	(40,985)
on investments		710,139		-
Changes in assumptions		293,867		-
Change in proportion		-		(170,478)
Employer contributions subsequent to the				
measurement date		272,127		
	\$	1,317,532	\$	(211,463)

The deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the following year. 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:	
2022	\$151,205
2023	272,119
2024	232,964
2025	177,654

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

#### Note 6 PENSION PLAN (continued)

#### **Actuarial Assumptions**

The total pension liabilities in the actuarial valuations were determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurements:

Valuation date	June 30, 2020
Actuarial cost method	Entry Age Normal
Investment rate of return	6.75%
Projected salary increases	6.20%

Inflation rate 2.5%

Expected remaining service

lives 5 years

Mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans multiplied by 120%. Mortality Table with full generational projection using the appropriate MP-2019 improvement scale. The long-term expected real rates of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building block method in which best-estimates 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. The long-term expected rate of return was 6.18% as of June 30, 2020.

Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major class included in the System's target asset allocation as of June 30, 2020 are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Asset Allocation	Long-Term Expected Portfolio Real Rate of Return
Fixed Income-Domestic Bonds	20.0%	2.50%
Fixed Income-International Bonds	20.0%	3.50%
Domestic Equity	33.0%	7.50%
International Equity	22.0%	8.50%
Real Estate	15.0%	4.50%
Hedge Funds	10.0%	6.59%
Totals	100.00%	

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

#### Note 6 PENSION PLAN (continued)

#### **Discount Rate**

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 6.75%. 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 Plan's actuary.

Based on these assumptions, the 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 period of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

#### Sensitivity to changes in the discount rate

The following presents the net pension liability of the participating employers calculated using the discount rates as shown above, as well as what the net pension liability would be if they were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current rate:

	1%	Current	1%
	Decrease	Discount Rate	Increase
	5.75%	6.75%	7.75
Net Pension Liability	\$4,623,759	\$ 3,313,369	\$ 2,208,874

#### Pension plan fiduciary net position:

Detailed information about the Plans' fiduciary net position is available in the separate issued financial statements of the Plans and can be found at: laclerkof court.org/retirement.htm.

#### **Support of Non-employer contributing entities:**

Contributions received by a pension plan from non-employer contributing entities that are not in a special funding situation are recorded as revenue by the respective pension plan. The Clerk recognizes revenue in an amount equal to their proportionate share of the total contributions to the pension plan from these non-employer contributing entities. During the year ended June 30, 2020, the Clerk recognized revenue as a result of support received from non-employer contributing entities of \$159,392 for its participation in LCCRF.

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

#### Note 6 PENSION PLAN (continued)

#### Payables to the pension plans:

At June 30, 2021, amount due to the pension plan for employer and employee required contributions is \$21,886.

#### Note 7 DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN

The Clerk of Court employees participate in the State of Louisiana Deferred Compensation Plan. This Plan was established pursuant to IRC Section 457 and Louisiana R.S. 42:1301-1308. The Plan provides state, parish, and municipal employees with the opportunity to invest money on a before-tax basis, using payroll deduction. Participants defer federal or state income tax on their contributions. In addition, interest or earnings on the participant's account accumulate tax-deferred.

The participants may choose the amount to contribute with the maximums defined by the Internal Revenue Code and the investment option(s). The Clerk of Court agreed to match each participant's contribution up to a maximum of 10% for the current fiscal year. Total contributions made by the Clerk of Court on behalf of the employees were \$85,687.

# Note 8 EXPENDITURES OF THE CLERK OF COURT PAID BY THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Clerk of Court's office is located in the parish courthouse. The expenditures for maintenance and operation of the parish courthouse are paid by the Lafourche Parish Council and are not included in the accompanying financial statements. The amount of these expenditures paid by the Parish Council is indeterminate.

#### Note 9 RISK MANAGEMENT

#### GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE

The Clerk of Court is exposed to various risks of loss related to tort, theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The Clerk of Court purchases commercial insurance policies for any and all claims relating to the above types of risks.

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

#### Note 9 RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)

The payment of the deductible is the only liability associated with these insurance policies. There has been no significant reduction in insurance coverage in the prior year. The amount of settlements has not exceeded insurance coverage for each of the past three fiscal years.

#### HEALTH INSURANCE

The Clerk of Court provides health and life insurance to employees through the Louisiana Clerk of Court Association. Under this insurance program, the Clerk pays initial premiums based on the level of the employee's participation and has no further liabilities on any claims.

#### Note 10 SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Pandemic – In March 2020, the World Health Organization made the assessment that the outbreak of a novel coronavirus (COVID-19) can be characterized as a pandemic. As a result, uncertainties have arisen that had and may have a significant impact on the operating activities of the Clerk's office. The occurrence and extent of such an impact will depend on future developments, including (i) the duration and spread of the virus, (ii) government quarantine measures, (iii) voluntary and precautionary restrictions on travel or meetings, (iv) the effects on the economy overall, all of which are uncertain.



Budgetary Comparison Schedule - General Fund For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

				Variance	
	Budgeted	l Amounts		Favorable	
Revenues	Original	Final *	Actual	(Unfavorable)	
Suits and successions transferred					
from the Advance Deposit Fund	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 1,243,370	\$ (156,630)	
Recording fees	1,480,000	1,480,000	1,838,855	358,855	
Fees in criminal cases	155,000	155,000	113,540	(41,460)	
Certified copies	335,000	335,000	364,991	29,991	
Interest earned	92,501	92,501	83,020	(9,481)	
Mortgage certificates	17,000	17,000	14,770	(2,230)	
Court attendance	20,000	20,000	18,840	(1,160)	
Cancellations	12,000	12,000	4,720	(7,280)	
Marriage licenses	17,000	17,000	18,690	1,690	
Notarial fees	18,000	18,000	11,705	(6,295)	
Other	141,600	141,600	333,987	192,387	
Total revenues	3,688,101	3,688,101	4,046,488	358,387	
Expenditures					
Current-Judiciary:					
Salaries and benefits	1,707,000	1,707,000	2,107,058	(400,058)	
Group Insurance	430,000	430,000	412,730	17,270	
Other Insurance	40,000	40,000	29,347	10,653	
Office operations	1,190,800	1,190,800	473,718	717,082	
Telephone	16,000	16,000	13,199	2,801	
Convention and Travel	11,000	11,000	6,004	4,996	
Total current expenditures	3,394,800	3,394,800	3,042,056	352,744	
Capital outlay	100,000	100,000	13,068	86,932	
Total expenditures	3,494,800	3,494,800	3,055,124	439,676	
Excess (deficiency) of revenues					
over expenditures	193,301	193,301	991,364	798,063	
Fund Balances					
Beginning of year	8,360,635	8,360,635	9,222,292	861,657	
End of year	\$ 8,553,936	\$ 8,553,936	\$ 10,213,656	\$ 1,659,720	

<sup>\*</sup> NOTE: The budget was not amended during the year.

#### LAFOURCHE PARISH CLERK OF COURT Louisiana Clerks' of Court Retirement & Relief Fund Last Ten Fiscal Years\*

Fiscal Year End Date Measurement Date		ne 30, 2016 ne 30, 2015		ne 30, 2017 ne 30, 2016		ne 30, 2018 ne 30, 2017		ne 30, 2019 ne 30, 2018		ne 30, 2020 ne 30, 2019		ne 30, 2021 ne 30, 2020
SCHEDULE OF THE CLERK'S PROPORTIO Proportion of the net pension liability	NATE	SHARE OF TH 1.705096%	E NET	PENSION LIA 1.689061%	BILIT	Y 1.527986%		1.462737%		1.414301%		1.377205%
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$	2,557,698	\$	3,124,719	\$	2,311,742	\$	2,432,971	\$	2,568,359	\$	3,313,369
Covered employee payroll	\$	1,542,600	\$	1,541,679	\$	1,358,787	\$	1,375,171	\$	1,364,969	\$	1,300,189
Proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered employee payroll		165.80%		202.68%		170.13%		176.92%		188.16%		254.84%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	9	78.13%		74.17%		79.69%		79.07%		77.93%		72.09%
SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS Contractually required contribution Contributions paid Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$ \$ \$	293,094 (293,094) -	\$ \$	292,919 (292,919) -	\$ \$ \$	261,906 (261,906)	\$ \$ \$	258,041 (258,170) (129)	\$ \$ \$	261,452 (261,283) 169	\$ \$ \$	259,458 (272,127) (12,669)
Covered employee payroll	\$	1,541,679	\$	1,378,448	\$	1,358,787	\$	1,375,171	\$	1,364,969	\$	1,300,189
Contribution as a percentage of covered employee payroll		19.01%		21.25%		19.27%		18.77%		19.14%		20.93%

<sup>\*</sup>Note: Initial Year of GASB 68 Implementation, Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

#### Notes to Required Supplementary Information

Changes of Benefit Terms include:	no changes					
Changes of Assumptions						
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal					
Investment Rate of Return	7.25%	7.00%	7.00%	6.75%	6.75%	6.75%
Projected Salary Increases	5.75%	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%	6.20%
Inflation rate	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%
Expected service lives	5 years					

LAFOURCHE
Schedule of Changes in the Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios

Total OPEB Liability	6/30/2018 6/30/2019		•	6/30/2020		5/30/2021		
Service cost Interest Changes of benefit terms Differences between expected and actual experience Changes in assumptions or other inputs	\$	48,180 86,331 - 25,156 -	\$	46,235 75,824 - (220,600) 231,953	\$	35,105 75,941 - 471,545 (276,659)	\$	47,892 64,287 686,954 41,415 165,304
Benefit payments Net change in Total OPEB Liability Total OPEB Liability - beginning Total OPEB Liability - ending		(118,981) 40,686 2,396,154 2,436,840	<u>\$</u>	(121,159) 12,253 2,436,840 2,449,093	\$	(115,966) 189,966 2,449,093 2,639,059	<u>\$</u>	(125,960) 879,892 2,639,059 3,518,951
Covered employee payroll OPEB Liability as a percentage of covered employee payroll *Note: Initial Year of GASB 75 Implementation is 2018. This schedule is intendefor 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.		1,424,751 171.04% Information	\$	1,442,805 169.75%	\$	1,444,523 182.69%	\$	1,490,924 236.02%
Notes to Required Supplementary Information								
Changes of Benefit Terms include:	50% f and	outions are for retirees 100% for endents	50° ar	tributions are % for retirees nd 100% for ependents	50° ar	tributions are % for retirees nd 100% for lependents	25% ar	tributions are % for retirees ad 100% for ependents
Changes of Assumptions-Changes of assumptions and other inputs of changes in the discount rate each period.  Discount rates		3.62%	p	3.13% ubG.H-2010	Pi	<b>2.45%</b> ubG.H-2010	D <sub>1</sub>	1. <b>92%</b> ubG.H-2010
Mortality Rates	Emp Healt Genera	oloyee and y Annutiy, ational with P-2018	eı Hea	nployee and Ithy Annuitant, perational with MP-2018	ei Hea	mployee and Ithy Annuitant, nerational with MP-2019	er Heal	nployee and thy Annuitant, terational with MP-2020

Other Supplementary Information

Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

Agency Head Name: Annette M. Fontana, Clerk of Court

Purpose	Amount
Salary	\$127,389
Salary - Supplemental	\$24,600
Salary - Statutory Allowance	\$14,727
Salary - Election Expense	\$2,400
Benefits - insurance	\$10,802
Benefits - retirement	\$48,670
Benefits - Deferred Compensation	\$10,125
Benefits - Medicare tax	\$3,021
Car Allowance	\$15,000
Vehicle provided by government	\$0
Per Diem	\$0
Reimbursements - auto maintenance	\$0
Travel	\$0
Registration fees (non-CLE)	\$250
Conference travel	\$346
Continuing professional education fees	\$0
Housing	\$0
Unvouchered expenses	\$0
Special meals	\$0
Fuel	\$0
Dues	\$2,530
Cell Phone	\$0
Other	\$0

This form is used to satisfy the reporting requirement of R.S. 24:513(A)(3) on Supplemental Reporting

### **Justice System Funding Schedule - Collecting/Disbursing Entity**

As Required by Act 87 of the 2020 Regular Legislative Session

Identifying Information		
Entity Name  LLA Entity ID # (This is the ID number assigned to the entity by the Legislative Auditor for identification purposes.)	C	ARISH CLERK OF DURT
Date that reporting period ended (mm/dd/yyyy)	June	30, 2021
Cash Basis Presentation	First Six Month Period Ended 12/31/20	Second Six Month Period Ended 06/30/21
Beginning Balance of Amounts Collected (i.e. cash on hand)	1,417,819	1,112,380
Add: Collections  Civil Fees - Advanced Deposts Civil Fees - Child Support Fees and Service Costs Bond Fees Asset Forfeiture/Sale Pre-Trial Diversion Program Fees Criminal Court Costs/Fees (Expungments) Restitution Probation/Parole/Supervision Fees service fees) Interest Earnings on Collected Balances above)	629,714 28,182 4,800 22,939 -	613,465 25,706 - - - 4,200 - - - 16,318
Subtotal Collections	685,635	659,689
Less: Disbursements To Governments & Nonprofits: (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.)		
Louisiana Secretary of State - Service Fees	4,650	-
17th Judicial District Court - Judicial Expense	9,730	10,205
La. State Treasurer - Judges Supplemental Compensation Fund	25,136	26,409
La.Supreme Court Judicial Administrator - Fees	675	625
La.Supreme Court Judicial Administrator - Judicial College Fund	482	518

Lafourche Bar Association - Library Fund	-	6
Lafourche Parish Council - Jury	325	325
First Circuit Court of Appeal - Fees	2,286	980
Louisiana Supreme Court - Fees	-	-
Lafourche Parish Sheriff - Support Enforcement Service Fees	1,880	2,740
Lafourche Parish Sheriff - Fees	74,237	76,557
Acadia Parish Sheriff - Fees	9	-
Allen Parish Sheriff - Fees	•	182
Ascension Parish Sheriff - Fees	548	270
Assumption Parish Sheriff - Fees	1,292	641
Bossier Parish Sheriff - Fees	47	47
Caddo Parish Sheriff - Fees	808	1,008
Calcasieu Parish Sheriff - Fees	207	178
Catahoula Parish Sheriff - Fees	22	-
East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff - Fees	12,435	11,087
East Feliciana Parish Sheriff - Fees	49	-
Grant Parish Sheriff - Fees	91	-
Houma City Marshall - Fees	17	19
Iberia Parish Sheriff - Fees	150	270
Iberville Parish Sheriff - Fees	99	35
Jefferson Parish Sheriff - Fees	3,420	3,360
Lafayette Parish Sheriff - Fees	1,436	1,026
Lasalle Parish Sheriff - Fees	33	-
Lincoln Parish Sheriff - Fees	40	189
Livingston Parish Sheriff - Fees	129	112
Natchitoches Parish Sheriff - Fees	-	31
Orleans Parish Sheriff - Fees	3,550	2,360
Ouachita Parish Sheriff - Fees	83	53
Plaquemines Parish Sheriff - Fees	-	30
Pointe Coupee Parish Sheriff - Fees	36	-
Rapides Parish Sheriff - Fees	89	75

Secretary of State - Fees	2,200	2,289
St. Bernard Parish Sheriff - Fees	-	33
St. Charles Parish Sheriff - Fees	367	663
St. James Parish Sheriff - Fees	442	468
St. John Parish Sheriff - Fees	379	117
St. Landry Parish Sheriff - Fees	85	162
St. Martin Parish Sheriff - Fees	83	250
St. Mary Parish Sheriff - Fees	810	386
St. Tammany Parish Sheriff - Fees	1,514	1,222
Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff - Fees	478	652
Terrebonne Parish Sheriff - Fees	9,995	12,316
Union Parish Sheriff - Fees	44	-
Vermilion Parish Sheriff - Fees	36	42
Vernon Parish Sheriff - Fees	-	5
Washington Parish Sheriff - Fees	-	82
West Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff - Fees	36	-
Less: Amounts Retained by Collecting Agency		
Collection Fee for Collecting/Disbursing to Others Based on Percentage of Collection	-	-
Collection Fee for Collecting/Disbursing to Others Based on Fixed		
Amount	-	-
Amounts "Self-Disbursed" to Collecting Agency (must include a separate line for each collection type, as applicable) - Example: Criminal Fines - Other (Additional rows may be added as necessary)		
Lafourche Parish Clerk - Civil Fees	629,714	613,656
Lafourche Parish Clerk - Support Enforcement	15,223	25,756
Lafourche Parish Clerk Criminal Fee Expungements	4,800	4,200
Less: Disbursements to Individuals/3rd Party Collection or Processing Agence	ies	
Civil Fee Refunds	153,965	334,693
Bond Fee Refunds	-	-

Restitution Payments to Individuals (additional detail is not required)	:=	Œ.
Other Disbursements to Individuals (additional detail is not required)	-	-
Other Disbursements - Attorney and Ad Hoc Fees	24,854	21,467
Other Disbursements - Court Reporters	925	3,172
Other Disburements - Other Fees (Publictions & Shipping)	768	577
Other Disbursements - Witness Fees	368	378
Payments to 3rd Party Collection/Processing Agencies	-	-
Subtotal Disbursements/Retainage	991,075	1,161,921
Total: Ending Balance of Amounts Collected but not Disbursed/Retained (i.e. cash on hand)	1,112,380	610,147
Disbursed (only applies if collecting agency does not disburse partial payments until fully collected) - This balance is included in the Ending Balance of Amounts Collected but not Disbursed/Retained		
Other Information:		
Pauper Owing [Ending Balance of Total Amounts Assessed but not yet Collected (i.e. receivable balance)]	11,450	10,520
Total Waivers During the Fiscal Period (i.e. non-cash reduction of receivable balances, such as time served or community service)	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	

#### Justice System Funding Schedule - Receiving Entity

LLA Entity ID # (This is the ID number assigned to the entity by the Legislative

**Entity Name** 

Auditor for identification purposes.)

As Required by Act 87 of the 2020 Regular Legislative Session

Date that reporting period ended (mm/dd/yyyy)	June 3	0, 2021
If legally separate court funds are required to be reported, a separate receiving schedulend. Examples include Judicial Expense Fund, Drug Court Fund, Veterans Treatment		ed for each
Cash Basis Presentation	First Six Month Period Ended 12/31/20	Second Six Month Period Ended 06/30/21
Receipts From: (Must include one agency name and one collection type - see below - on each line and may require multiple lines for the same agency. Additional rows may be added as necessary.)		
Lafourche Parish Sheriff Office - Criminal Bond Fee	582	1,352
Lafourche Parish Sheriff Office - Criminal Fines and Forfietures	49,850	51,166
Lafourche Parish District Attorney - Asset Forfieture		30
Lafourche Parish Government - Court Attendance	19,160	18,520
Agency name/collection type Subtotal Receipts	69,592	71,068

Identifying Information

Lafourche Parish Clerk of Court

Collection Types to be used in the "Receipts From:" section above				
Civil Fees				
Bond Fees				
Asset Forfeiture/Sale				
Pre-Trial Diversion Program Fees				
Criminal Court Costs/Fees				
Criminal Fines - Contempt				
Criminal Fines - Other				
Restitution				
Probation/Parole/Supervision Fees				
Service/Collection Fees (e.g. credit card fees, report fees, 3rd party service fees)				
Interest Earnings on Collected Balances				
Other (do not include collections that fit into more specific categories above)				

Ending Balance of Amounts Assessed but Not Received (only applies to those

agencies that assess on behalf of themselves, such as courts)

# REPORTS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS



## STAGNI & COMPANY, LLC

**CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS & CONSULTANTS** 

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'T 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 Annette M. Fontana Lafourche Parish Clerk of Court Thibodaux, Louisiana

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, and each major fund as of and for the year ended June 30, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 15, 2021.

#### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the 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 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.

Honorable Annette M. Fontana Lafourche Parish Clerk of Court Page 2

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting 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 may exist that have not been identified.

#### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. 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 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. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

Stagni & Company

Thibodaux, Louisiana December 15, 2021

