OFFICER CONTRACTOR

Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court Amite, Louisiana

Annual Financial Statements

As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

Under provisions of state law, this report is a public document. A copy of the report has been submitted to the entity and other appropriate public officials. The report is available for public inspection at the Baton Rouge office of the Legislative Auditor and, where appropriate, at the office of the parish clerk of court.

Release Date 2-16-05 _____

Annual Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004 With Supplemental Information Schedules

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Annual Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004 With Supplemental Information Schedules

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Durnin & James

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION HAMMOND, LA

John N. Durnin, CPA Dennis E. James, CPA Member American Institute of CPA's Society of Louisiana CPA's

October 29, 2004

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Honorable Julian E. Dufreche Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court Amite, Louisiana

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court, a component unit of the Tangipahoa Parish Council, Amite, Louisiana, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2004, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements of the Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court's management. 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 of America. 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 includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court, as of June 30, 2004, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 29, 2004, on our consideration of the Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

The Honorable Julian E. Dufreche Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court Amite, Louisiana

The management's discussion and analysis, and budgetary comparison information on pages 5 through 14, and 41 through 44, are not a required part of the financial statements but are supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court's basic financial statements. The supplemental information schedules listed in the table of contents as Schedules 1 through 2 are presented for the purpose of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Respectfully submitted,

Eurin + James, CPAs

Durnin & James, CPAs (A Professional Corporation)

Required Supplemental Information (Part I) Management's Discussion and Analysis

Management's Discussion and Analysis As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

Introduction

The Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court (the Clerk) is pleased to present its Annual Financial Report developed in compliance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements - Management's Discussion and Analysis - For State and Local Governments* (GASB 34), and related standards. Although the Clerk was not required to implement GASB 34 until the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, management elected early implementation in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002 to provide financial statement users a more detailed and comprehensive analysis of the Clerk's financial performance. This is the third year of presentation under the new GASB 34 format.

The Clerk's discussion and analysis is designed to (a) assist the reader in focusing on significant financial issues, (b) provide an overview of the Clerk's financial activity, (c) identify changes in the Clerk's financial position, (d) identify any significant variations from the Clerk's financial plan, and (e) identify individual fund issues or concerns.

Since Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) is designed to focus on the current year's activities, resulting changes, and currently known facts, please read it in conjunction with the Clerk's financial statements on pages 16 through 39 of this report.

Financial Highlights

- At June 30, 2004, the Clerk's assets exceeded its liabilities by \$3,205,046 (net assets). Of this amount, \$2,380,159 (unrestricted net assets) may be used to meet the Clerk's ongoing obligations to its citizens.
- For the year ended June 30, 2004, the Clerk's total net assets decreased by \$717,523, or 18%.
- At June 30, 2004, the Clerk's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$2,531,758, a decrease of \$963,330 for the year. Of this amount, 67%, or \$1,708,710 is available for spending at the Clerk's discretion (unreserved fund balances).
- For the year ended June 30, 2004, the Clerk's total debt decreased by \$22,234, or approximately 13%, due primarily to a decrease in the liability for compensated employee absences.

Overview of the Annual Financial Report

The financial statement focus is on both the Clerk as a whole and on the major individual funds. Both perspectives, government-wide and major funds, allow the user to address relevant questions, broaden a basis for comparison, and enhance the Clerk's accountability. The statements then proceed to provide an increasingly detailed look at specific financial activities.

Management's Discussion and Analysis As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

The MD&A is intended to serve as an introduction to the Clerk's basic financial statements, which consist of three components: (1) government-wide financial statements, (2) fund financial statements, and (3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements.

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 Assets presents information on the Clerk's assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, in a manner similar to the accounting used by private business enterprises. The difference between the assets and liabilities is reported as net assets. Over time, the increases or decreases in net assets and changes in the components of net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Clerk is improving or deteriorating.

The Statement of Activities presents information showing how the Clerk's net assets changed during the most recent fiscal year, focusing on both the gross and net costs of various activities that are supported by the Clerk's various revenues. This is intended to summarize and simplify the reader's analysis of the cost and/or subsidy of various governmental services.

In both of the government-wide financial statements, the Clerk's activities are of a single type:

• Governmental activities - Most of the Clerk's basic services are reported here, and are financed primarily through charges for services.

The government-wide financial statements include the Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court (component unit of the Tangipahoa Parish Council) only and can be found on pages 16 and 17 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 Clerk, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related and legal requirements. The Clerk uses two categories of funds to account for financial transactions: governmental funds and fiduciary funds. Traditional users of governmental financial statements will find the fund financial statements presentation more familiar.

Management's Discussion and Analysis As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

Governmental funds are used to account for most of the Clerk's basic services. However, unlike the governmentwide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances that are left at year-end that are available for spending. These funds are reported using the modified accrual basis of accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the Clerk's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps to determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the Clerk's programs. The basic governmental fund financial statements can be found on pages 18 through 23 of this report.

Fiduciary Funds are used to account for assets held on behalf of outside parties. The only funds accounted for in this category by the Clerk are agency funds. The agency funds account for assets held by the Clerk as an agent for litigants held pending court action. These funds are custodial in nature and do not involve measurement of results of operations. The basic fiduciary fund financial statements can be found on page 24 of this report.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, there are differences in the information presented for government funds and for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. Review of these differences provides the reader of the financial statements insight on the long-term impact of the Clerk's more immediate decisions on the current use of financial resources. 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. The reconciliations can be found on pages 19 and 23 of this report.

Notes to the Financial Statements

The notes to the financial statements provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found on pages 25 through 39 of this report.

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

As noted earlier, net assets may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. The following table provides a summary of the Clerk's net assets for the current year as compared to the prior year. For more detailed information, see the Statement of Net Assets on page 16 of this report.

Management's Discussion and Analysis As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

Net Assets June 30, 2004 and 2003

		Governmental Activities							
		2004	2003	\$ Change	% Change				
Assets:									
Current and Other Assets	\$	3,308,309 \$	3,533,490 \$	-225,181	-6%				
Capital Assets		824,887	601,314	223,573	<u>37%</u>				
Total Assets		4,133,196	4,134,804	-1,608	0%				
Liabilities:									
Accrued Compensated Absences		151,599	173,833	-22,234	-13%				
Due to Tangipahoa Parish Council		538,540	-	538,540					
Other Liabilities		238,011	38,402	199,609	520%				
Total Liabilities	_	928,150	212,235	715,915	337%				
Net Assets:									
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt		824,887	601,314	223,573	37%				
Unrestricted		2,380,159	3,321,255	-941,096	-28%				
Total Net Assets	\$	3,205,046 \$	3,922,569 \$	-717,523	-18%				

Approximately 37% of the Clerk's net assets reflects its investment in capital assets (land, buildings, furniture, equipment) net of any outstanding related debt used to acquire those capital assets. These capital assets are used to provide services to citizens and do not represent resources available for future spending.

None of the Clerk's net assets represents resources that are subject to external restriction on how they may be used.

Approximately 74% of the Clerk's net assets are unrestricted and may be used to meet the Clerk's ongoing obligations to its citizens.

At the end of the current fiscal year, the Clerk was able to report positive balances in its sole category of net assets, governmental activities. The same held true for the prior fiscal year.

The Clerk's activities decreased its total net assets by \$717,523, the total decrease attributable to its governmental activities.

Management's Discussion and Analysis As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

In order to further understand what makes up the changes in net assets, the following table provides a summary of the results of the Clerk's activities for the current year as compared to the prior year. An analysis of the primary sources of these changes follows the table. For more detailed information, see the Statement of Activities on page 17 of this report.

		Governmental Activities							
		2004	2003	\$ Change	% Change				
Revenues:									
Program Revenues:									
Charges for Services	\$	3,243,397 \$	3,245,233 \$	-1,836	0%				
General Revenues:									
Interest Income		68,548	81,689	-13,141	-16%				
Net Change in Fair Value of Investments		-4,425	-2,757	-1,668	61%				
Gain (Loss) on Fixed Asset Disposition		-9,072	-	-9,072	%				
Total Revenues	_	3,298,448	3,324,165	-25,717	1%				
Expenses:									
General Government		2,571,896	2,319,711	252,185	11%				
Operating Services		353,463	374,973	-21,510	-6%				
Materials and Supplies		420,913	212,209	208,704	98%				
Travel and Other Charges		26,054	23,683	2,371	10%				
Surplus to Tangipahoa Parish Council		538,540	-	538,540	%				
Depreciation		105,105	79,647	25,458	32%				
Total Expenses	_	4,015,971	3,010,223	1,005,748	33%				
Change in Net Assets		-717,523	313,942	-1,031,465	-329%				
Net Assets, Beginning		3,922,569	3,608,627	313,942	9%				
Net Assets. Ending	\$	3,205,046 \$	3,922,569 \$	-717,523	-18%				

Changes in Net Assets For the Years Ended June 30, 2004 and 2003

Governmental Activities

The Clerk's governmental net assets decreased by \$717,523, or 18% of the prior year ending net assets, to \$3,205,046. The decrease in net assets is \$1,031,465 more than the prior year, this difference being caused by a \$25,717 decrease in revenues and a \$1,005,748 increase in expenses, respectively, over prior year amounts.

The decrease in revenues noted above is primarily comprised of increased charges for services and decreased investment income. The decrease in investment income of \$14,809 is due mainly to the historically low rates of interest earned on investments.

Management's Discussion and Analysis As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

The increase in expenses noted above is primarily comprised of settlements due to the Tangipahoa Parish Council for fiscal years 2000 and 2004 for fiscal year General Fund surpluses paid in accordance with R. S. 13:784, increased general government expense and increased materials and supplies expense. The increase in general government expense of \$538,540 is due to the settlements, and \$252,185 is due mostly to employee salary and fringe benefit increases. The increase in materials and supplies expense of \$208,704 is due mainly to increased computer expenses.

Fund Financial Analysis

As noted earlier, the Clerk uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental Funds

The focus of the Clerk's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Clerk's financing requirements. In particular, unreserved fund balance may serve as a useful measure of the Clerk's net resources available for spending at the end of the year. The basic governmental fund financial statements can be found on pages 18 through 23 of this report.

At the end of the current year, the Clerk's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$2,531,758, \$400,000 of which was dedicated to a building expansion project, \$178,052 of which was dedicated to compensated absences, \$244,996 of which was dedicated to the Mapping Project, and \$1,708,710 of which was unreserved and available for spending at the Clerk's discretion. This represents a decrease of \$963,330, or 28% of the prior year's ending balances.

Fiduciary Funds

Fiduciary funds reporting focuses on net assets and changes in net assets. The only funds accounted for in this category by the Clerk are agency funds. The agency funds account for assets held by the Clerk as an agent for litigants held pending court action. These funds are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations. The basic fiduciary fund financial statements can be found on page 24 of this report.

Management's Discussion and Analysis As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court demonstrated legal compliance by adopting and amending its budget in accordance with provisions of the Local Government Budget Act. As required by state law, actual revenues and other sources were within 5% of budgeted revenues and other sources, but actual expenditures and other uses did exceed budgeted expenditures and other uses by 20% because the \$538,540 due to the Tangipahoa Parish Council in accordance with R. S. 13:784 was not budgeted.

For the general fund, final budgeted amounts exceeded actual revenues and other sources by \$98,647. Actual expenditures and other uses exceeded final budgeted amounts by \$700,554.

For the general fund, original budgeted revenues and other sources were \$3,126,500 and final budgeted revenues and other sources were \$3,249,570. Original budgeted expenditures and other uses were \$3,829,460 and final budgeted expenditures and other uses were \$3,570,296.

There were no significant variations from the general fund's original and final amended budgeted revenues. Significant variations from the general fund's original and final budgeted expenditures include the deferral until the next fiscal year of a courthouse expansion project originally budgeted at \$400,000 for the current fiscal year.

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

The Clerk's investment in capital assets for its governmental activities as of June 30, 2004 amounts to \$824,887 (net of depreciation). The total increase in the Clerk's investment in capital assets for the current fiscal year was \$223,573 (net of depreciation).

Major capital asset events during the current year include a large-scale data processing equipment upgrade. The following table provides a summary of the Clerk's capital assets (net of depreciation) at the end of the current year as compared to the prior year. For more detailed information, see Note 6 to the financial statements on page 34 of this report.

Management's Discussion and Analysis As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

Capital Assets (Net of Depreciation) June 30, 2004 and 2003

	 Governmental Activities					
	 2004		2003			
Land	\$ 27,800	\$	27,800			
Buildings	137,572		136,725			
Furniture	46,455		67,508			
Office Equipment	84,799		79,647			
Data Processing Equipment	320,277		63,942			
Internet Conversion	115,176		124,578			
Microfilm Conversion	 92,808		101,114			
	\$ 824,887	\$	601,314			

Long-Term Debt

At June 30, 2004, the Clerk had total debt outstanding of \$151,599. The following table provides a summary of the Clerk's outstanding debt at the end of the current year as compared to the prior year. For more detailed information, see Note 13 to the financial statements on page 37 of this report.

Outstanding Debt June 30, 2004 and 2003

	Governmenta	l Activities
	2004	2003
Compensated Absences	\$ 151,599	\$ 173,833
	\$51,599	\$ 173,833

Other Factors Affecting the Clerk

The Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court's management approach is conservative; the Clerk attempts to provide services for the office based on existing revenues. The continued growth of the filing of legal documents with the Clerk has caused increasing problems with storage and office space, and a building expansion project is planned for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2005 to help alleviate this problem. Keeping up with ever-changing modern technology is also a factor, but the Clerk's recently completed computer upgrade and employee training projects demonstrate management's determination and ability to provide services to its citizens in the most modern, efficient

Management's Discussion and Analysis As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

way possible. The continuing inflow of statutory internet fees charged on recordings is intended to help fund future technology modernization costs that may develop.

Contacting the Clerk's Financial Management

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This financial report is designed to provide the Clerk's users with a general overview of the Clerk's finances and show the Clerk's accountability for the money it receives. Questions regarding this report or requests for additional information should be addressed to the Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court, Tangipahoa Parish Courthouse, Post Office Box 667, Amite, Louisiana 70422, telephone (985) 748-4146.

Basic Financial Statements

Statement A

Statement of Net Assets June 30, 2004

	C	overnmental Activities
Assets		<u>retrities</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	1,331,419
Investments		1,613,916
Receivables		105,359
Due From Other Funds		257,615
Capital Assets, Net	_	824,887
Total Assets	_	4,133,196
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		184,527
Payroll Liabilities		50,215
Unclaimed Property		3,269
Accrued Compensated Absences		151,599
Due To Tangipahoa Parish Council	_	538,540
Total Liabilities	_	928,150
Net Assets		
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt		824,887
Unrestricted		2,380,159
Total Net Assets	\$_	3,205,046

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Statement B

Statement of Activities For the Year Ended June 30, 2004

	_	Expenses		Program Revenues Charges for Services	Net Revenue (Expense) and Changes in Net Assets Governmental Activities
Governmental Activities			•		
General Government	\$	2,571,896	\$	3,243,397	\$,
Operating Services		353,463		-	(353,463)
Materials and Supplies		420,913		-	(420,913)
Surplus to Tangipahoa Parish Council		538,540		-	(538,540)
Travel and Other Charges		26,054		-	(26,054)
Depreciation	-	105,105		-	(105,105)
Total Governmental Activities	\$ =	4,015,971	\$_	3,243,397	(772,574)
General Revenues					
Interest Income					68,548
Net Change in Fair Value of Investments					(4,425)
Gain (Loss) on Fixed Asset Disposition					(9,072)
Total General Revenues					55,051
Change in Net Assets					(717,523)
Net Assets, Beginning of Year					3,916,031
Prior Period Adjustment (Note 18)					6,538
Net Assets, Beginning of Year, Restated					3,922,569
Net Assets, End of Year					\$ 3,205,046

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Statement C

Balance Sheet Governmental Funds June 30, 2004

	_	General Fund	. <u>.</u>	Internet Fund	_	Total
Assets						
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	859,057	\$	472,362	\$	1,331,419
Investments		1,613,916		-		1,613,916
Receivables		105,359		-		105,359
Due From Other Funds		254,015		3,600		257,615
Total Assets	\$_	2,832,347	\$	475,962	\$_	3,308,309
Liabilities and Fund Balance						
Liabilities:						
Accounts Payable	\$	184,527	\$	-	\$	184,527
Payroll Liabilities		50,215		-		50,215
Unclaimed Property		3,269		-		3,269
Due to Tangipahoa Parish Council		538,540		-		538,540
Total Liabilities	_	776,551	_		_	776,551
Fund Balance:					_	
Unreserved (Designated) (Note 17)		823,048		-		823,048
Unreserved (Undesignated)	_	1,232,748		475,962		1,708,710
Total Fund Balance		2,055,796	_	475,962		2,531,758
Total Liabilities and	-				_	
Fund Balance	\$_	2,832,347	\$	475,962	\$_	3,308,309

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to the Government-Wide Statement of Net Assets June 30, 2004	e.	Statement D
Total Fund Balances, Governmental Funds	\$	2,531,758
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets are different because:		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds. These assets consist of:		
Governmental capital assets, net of depreciation		824,887
Some liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds. These liabilities consist of:		
Compensated absences payable		(151,599)
Net Assets, Governmental Activities	\$	3,205,046

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Statement E

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances Governmental Funds For the Year Ended June 30, 2004

		General Fund		Internet Fund	Total
Revenues	_				
Internet Fees	\$	-	\$	152,442	\$ 152,442
Licenses and Permits:					
Marriage Licenses		12,538		-	12,538
Fees, Charges, and Commissions for Services:					
Court Cost, Fees, and Charges:					
Criminal Fees		120,264		-	120,264
Suits & Successions		1,490,043		-	1,490,043
Court Attendance		8,180		-	8,180
Fees for Recording Legal Documents:					
Recordings, Cancellations, and Mortgages		1,322,030		-	1,322,030
Use of Money and Property:					
Interest & Dividends		64,393		4,155	68,548
Net Change in FMV of Investments		(4,425)		-	(4,425)
Miscellaneous Revenues:					
Internet Copies		2,695		-	2,695
Copy Room Copies		41,566		-	41,566
Minute Clerk Reimbursement		14,400		-	14,400
Election Reimbursement		24,171		-	24,171
Parish Council Reimbursement		2,232		-	2,232
Clerk's Supplemental Compensation		16,250			16,250
Election Qualifying Fees		26,715		-	26,715
Miscellaneous		10		-	10
Expungement		4,825		-	4,825
Map Copies		5,036	_	_	 5,036
Total Revenues	_	3,150,923		156,597	 3,307,520

(Continued)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Statement E

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance Governmental Funds For the Year Ended June 30, 2004

	General	Internet		T . 1
Expenditures	Fund	 Fund		Total
General Government:				
Clerk's Supplemental Compensation	\$ 13,800	\$ _	\$	13,800
Custodian of Voting Machines	2,400	_	Ψ	2,400
Election Expense	5,688	-		5,688
Group Health Insurance	372,461	_		372,461
Deferred Compensation	215,417	_		215,417
Payroll Taxes	20,906	_		20,906
Retirement Contributions	285,478	-		285,478
Salary of Election Employees	18,953	_		18,953
Salary of Deputies	1,411,152	_		1,411,152
Salary of Deputies - Overtime	7,553	_		7,553
Salary of Official	82,925	_		82,925
Salary of Other Employees	44,616	_		44,616
Supplemental Comp. Fund	34,000	_		34,000
Uniforms	44,889	_		44,889
Miscellaneous	33,892	-		33,892
Total General Government	2,594,130	 		2,594,130
Operating Services:		 		2,001,100
Building Maintenance & Security	12,875	_		12,875
Clerk's Expense Allowance	9,823	_		9,823
Dues & Association Fees	2,530	-		2,530
Insurance Expense	21,465	_		2,350
Janitorial Service	18,869	-		18,869
Jury Commission	2,548	_		2,548
Legal Fees	46,539	_		46,539
Marriage License Spouse Abuse	13,060	-		13,060
Miscellaneous	689	-		689
Office Equipment Rental & Maintenance	86,430	-		86,430
Professional Fees	54,105	-		54,105
Qualifying Expense	27,322	_		27,322
Training Manual	-	-		
Telephone	28,986	-		28,986
UCC Billings	28,222	-		28,222
Total Operating Services	353,463	 		353,463

(Continued)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Statement E

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance Governmental Funds For the Year Ended June 30, 2004

Materials and Supplies:		General Fund		Internet Fund	Total
Office Supplies	\$	137,542	\$		\$ 137,542
Postage		37,355		-	37,355
Computer Expense		245,644		-	245,644
Bank Charges		372		-	372
Total Materials and Supplies		420,913	-		 420,913
Travel and Other Charges:	_				
Auto Expense		6,897		-	6,897
Travel & Conventions		9,381		-	9,381
Training & Education		9,776		-	 9,776
Total Travel and Other Charges		26,054		-	26,054
Surplus to Tangipahoa Parish Council		538,540		-	538,540
Capital Expenditures:	-				
Courthouse Addition		-		-	-
Archives		1,500		-	1,500
Computers		303,799		-	303,799
Furniture		-		-	-
Equipment		26,929		-	26,929
Renovations		5,522			 5,522
Total Capital Expenditures		337,750		-	 337,750
Total Expenditures	-	4,270,850	_		 4,270,850
Excess Revenues (Expenditures)		(1,119,927)		156,597	(963,330)
Fund Balance, Beginning of Year	_	3,175,723		319,365	 3,495,088
Fund Balance, End of Year	\$_	2,055,796	\$	475,962	\$ 2,531,758

(Concluded)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

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Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances to the Government-Wide Statement of Activities For the Year Ended June 30, 2004	,	Statement F
Total Net Change in Fund Balances, Governmental Funds	\$	(963,330)
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:		
Capital outlays are reported in governmental funds as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of these assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. These differences consist of:		
Capital outlay Depreciation expense		337,750 (105,105)
When recognizing the sale of capital assets, the governmental funds report the total proceeds of the sale. Only the gain or loss on the sale is reported on the statement of activities. These differences consist of:		
Gain (loss) on asset disposition		(9,072)
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds. These differences consist of:		
Change in compensated absences payable		22,234
Change in Net Assets, Governmental Activities	\$_	(717,523)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Statement G

Statement of Fiduciary Net Assets Agency Funds For the Year Ended June 30, 2004

	_	Advance Deposit Fund	_	Registry Of Court Fund	 Civil Jury Fund	 Total
Assets						
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	817,848	\$	963,192	\$ 10,373	\$ 1,791,413
Investments		1,396,217		-	-	1,396,217
Receivables	_	7,092	_		 	 7,092
Total Assets	_	2,221,157		963,192	 10,373	 3,194,722
Liabilities						
Due to General Fund		252,876		1,139	-	254,015
Due to Internet Special Revenue Fund		3,600				3,600
Unclaimed Property		3,036		-	-	3,036
Due to Others	_	1,961,645		962,053	 10,373	2,934,071
Total Liabilities		2,221,157	_	963,192	10,373	 3,194,722
Net Assets	\$_		\$_		\$ 	\$

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

Introduction

As provided by Article V, Section 28 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, the Clerk of Court serves as the 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.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying basic financial statements of the Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The accompanying basic financial statements have been prepared in conformity with GASB Statement 34, *Basic Financial Statements - and Management's Discussion and Analysis - for State and Local Governments*, issued in June 1999.

B. Reporting Entity

The Clerk of Court is an independently elected official: however, the Clerk of Court is fiscally dependent on the Tangipahoa Parish Council. The council maintains and operates the parish courthouse in which the Clerk of Court's office is located and provides funds for equipment and furniture of the Clerk of Court's office. Because the Clerk of Court is fiscally dependent on the council, the Clerk of Court was determined to be a component unit of the Tangipahoa Parish Council, the financial reporting entity.

The accompanying financial statements present information only on the funds maintained by the Clerk of Court and do not present information on the Council, the general government services provided by that governmental unit, or the other governmental units that comprise the financial reporting entity.

C. Fund Accounting

The Clerk of Court uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid management by segregating transactions relating to certain Clerk functions and activities. A fund is defined as a separate fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

Governmental Funds

Governmental funds account for all or most of the Clerk's 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. The difference between a governmental fund's assets and liabilities is reported as fund balance. In general, fund balance represents the accumulated expendable resources which may be used to finance future period programs or operations of the Clerk of Court. The following are the Clerk's governmental funds:

General Fund - the primary operating fund of the Clerk and it accounts for all financial resources, except those required to be accounted for in other funds. The General Fund is available for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred in accordance with state and federal laws and according to Clerk policy.

Special Revenue Fund - account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes.

Fiduciary Funds

Fiduciary funds reporting focuses on net assets and changes in net assets. The only funds accounted for in this category by the Clerk are agency funds. The agency funds account for assets held by the Clerk as an agent for litigants held 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.

D. Measurement Focus/Basis of Accounting

Fund Financial Statements

The amounts reflected in the General Fund and Other Funds are accounted for using a current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on the balance sheet. The statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances reports on the sources (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and uses (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) of the current financial resources. This approach is then reconciled, through adjustment, to a government-wide view of Clerk operations.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

The amounts reflected in the General Fund and Other Funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when susceptible to accrual (i.e., when they become both measurable and available). Measurable means the amount of the transaction can be determined and available means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. The Clerk considers all revenues available if they are collected within 60 days after the fiscal year end. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for interest and principal payments on general long-term debt which is recognized when due, and certain compensated absences and claims and judgments which are recognized when the obligations are expected to be liquidated with expendable available financial resources. The governmental funds use the following practices in recording revenues and expenditures:

Revenues

Revenues from recordings, copies, and other services are recognized when they become measurable and available as net current assets (i.e. when the service is performed). Substantially all other revenues are recorded when received.

Expenditures

Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related fund liability is incurred.

Other Financing Sources (Uses)

Transfers between funds that are not expected to be repaid (and any other financing source/use) are accounted for as other financing sources (uses). Transfers are recorded when the transaction actually occurs.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The statement of net assets and the statement of activities display information about the Clerk as a whole. These statements include all the financial activities of the Clerk. 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 nonexchange transactions are recognized in accordance with the requirements of GASB Statement No. 33, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Nonexchange Transactions.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

Program Revenues

Program revenues included in the statement of activities are derived directly from users as a fee for services; program revenues reduce the cost of the function to be financed from the Clerk's general revenues.

Reconciliation

Explanation of differences between the governmental fund balance sheet and the government-wide statement of net assets is presented in Statement D of the basic financial statements. Explanation of differences between the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances and the government-wide statement of activities is presented in Statement F of the basic financial statements.

E. Budget Practices

The Clerk uses the following budget practices:

- The budget is adopted or amended only by the Clerk of Court.
- The budget is prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting.
- All appropriations lapse at year end.
- The budget was published in the official journal on June 13, 2003.
- The budget was made available for public inspection at the Clerk's office June 27, 2003.
- The budget hearing was held at the Clerk's office on June 27, 2003.
- The budget was adopted by the Clerk on June 27, 2003.
- The budget was amended by the Clerk on June 18, 2004.

F. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash includes amounts in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, and time deposits. Cash equivalents include amounts in time deposits and those investments with original maturities of 90 days or less. Under state law, the Clerk may deposit funds in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, or time deposits with state banks organized under Louisiana law or any other state of the United States, or under the laws of the United States.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

G. Investments

Investments are limited by Louisiana Revised Statute (RS) 33:2955 and the Clerk's investment policy. If the original maturities of investments exceed 90 days, they are classified as investments; however, if the original maturities are 90 days or less, they are classified as cash equivalents.

Investments for the Clerk are reported at fair market value. The state investment pool, LAMP, operates in accordance with state laws and regulations. The reported value of the pool is the same as the fair value of the pool shares.

H. Short-Term Interfund Receivables and Payables

During the course of operations, numerous transactions occur between individual funds for goods provided or services rendered. These receivables and payables are classified as due from other funds or due to other funds on the balance sheet. Short-term interfund loans are classified as interfund receivables/payables.

I. Capital Assets

Capital assets are capitalized at historical cost or estimated cost if historical cost is not available. Donated assets are recorded as capital assets at their estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The Clerk maintains a threshold level of \$500 or more for capitalizing assets.

Capital assets are recorded in the statement of net assets and statement of activities. Since surplus assets are sold for an immaterial amount when declared as no longer needed for public purposes, no salvage value is taken into consideration for depreciation purposes. All capital assets, other than land, are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

Buildings	40 Years
Buildings Improvements	20 Years
Furniture	7 Years
Office Equipment	7 Years
Data Processing	5 Years
Internet Conversion	10 Years
Microfilm Conversion	20 Years

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

J. Compensated Absences

The Clerk has the following policy relating to sick and vacation leave:

Sick Leave

Each employee is granted thirteen days for sick leave at the beginning of each year. It may be carried over at the end of each year. In the event of major surgery, child birth, or extended hospital confinement, a period not to exceed thirty days will be allowed at the Clerk's discretion as a one-time benefit. Any holidays falling within this thirty-day period will be included in the thirty days, and cannot be added to this period. After thirty days, the employee will be considered on leave without pay, provided all other leave has been exhausted. This leave will not be compensated for upon termination. Unused sick leave is payable upon termination of employment at the rate of \$80 per day as long as the budget allows.

Vacation Leave

Ten vacation days are granted to each employee at the beginning of each year; employees with ten years of fulltime service are given fifteen vacation days. Unused vacation days convert to sick leave days at the end of each year.

K. Restricted Net Assets

For the government-wide statement of net assets, net assets are reported as restricted when constraints placed on net asset use are either:

- externally imposed by creditors (such as debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; and
- imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the Clerk's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

L. Fund Equity

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report reservations of fund balances for amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for use for a specific purpose. Any designations of fund balance represent tentative management plans that are subject to change.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

Louisiana Revised Statute 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's fund balance that exceeds one-half of the revenues of the Clerk's last year of his term of office, which amount shall be limited to no more than that which was received by the clerk in accordance with R.S. 13:784(A) during his term of office.

M. Interfund Transactions

Transactions that constitute reimbursements to a fund for expenditures initially made from it that are properly applicable to another fund are recorded as expenditures in the reimbursing fund and as reductions of expenditures in the fund that is reimbursed. Nonrecurring or non-routine permanent transfers of equity are reported as residual equity transfers. All other interfund transactions are reported as transfers.

N. Estimates

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

2. Cash And Cash Equivalents

At June 30, 2004, the Clerk has cash and cash equivalents (book balances) totaling \$3,112,459, as follows:

Interest-Bearing Demand Deposits	\$ 2,525,168
Time Deposits	500,000
Other	97,664
	\$ 3,122,832

These deposits are stated at cost, which approximates market. Under state law, these deposits (or the resulting bank balances) must be secured by federal deposit insurance or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal agent bank. The market value of the pledged securities plus the federal deposit insurance must at all times equal the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent. These securities are held in the name of the pledging fiscal agent bank in a holding or custodial bank that is mutually acceptable to both parties.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

At June 30, 2004, the Clerk has \$3,412,945 in deposits (collected bank balances). These deposits are secured from risk by \$300,000 of federal deposit insurance and \$4,446,284 of pledged securities held by the custodial bank in the name of the fiscal agent bank (GASB Category 3).

Even though the pledged securities are considered uncollateralized (Category 3) under the provisions of GASB Statement 3, Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1229 imposes a statutory requirement on the custodial bank to advertise and sell the pledged securities within 10 days of being notified by the Clerk of Court that the fiscal agent has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand.

3. Investments

Investments are categorized into these three categories of credit risk:

1) Insured or registered, or securities held by the Clerk or its agent in the Clerk's name, 2) uninsured and unregistered, with securities held by the counterparty's trust department or agent in the Clerk's name, or 3) uninsured and unregistered, with securities held by the counterparty, or by its trust department or agent but not in the Clerk's name.

All investments held by the Clerk fall into category I credit risk, defined as "insured or registered, or securities held by the Clerk or its agent in the Clerk's name." In accordance with GASB 31, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Certain Investments and for External Investment Pools*, all investments are carried at fair market value, with the estimated fair market value based on quoted market prices.

At fiscal year-end, the Clerk of Court's investment balances were as follows:

	Fair			otal Carrying
		Value		Amount
Bank Certificate of Deposit, Edward Jones	\$	49,540	\$	49,540
Bank Certificate of Deposit, Merrill Lynch		192,563		192,563
Louisiana Asset Management Pool (LAMP)		2,767,634		2,767,634
CMA Money Market Fund, Merrill, Lynch		396		396
	\$	3,010,133	\$	3,010,133

All investments are stated on the balance sheet (carrying value) at fair market value. All investments, except LAMP, are in the name of the Clerk and are held at the Clerk's office. Because these investments are in the name of the Clerk or the Clerk's agent, the investments are considered insured and registered, Category (1), in applying the credit risk of GASB Codification Section I50.164.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

In accordance with GASB Codification Section 150.165, the investment in LAMP is not categorized in the three risk categories provided by GASB Codification Section 150.164 because the investment is in the pool of funds and therefore not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book entry form. LAMP is administered by LAMP, Inc., a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana, which was formed by an initiative of the State Treasurer in 1993. The corporation is governed by a board of directors comprising the State Treasurer, representatives from various organizations of local government, the Government Finance Office Association of Louisiana, and the Society of Louisiana CPAs. Only local governments having contracted to participate in LAMP have an investment interest in its pool of assets. The primary objective of LAMP is to provide a safe environment for the placement of public funds in short-term, high-quality investments. The LAMP portfolio includes only securities and other obligations in which local governments in Louisiana are authorized to invest. Accordingly, LAMP investments are restricted to securities issued, guaranteed, or backed by the U. S. Treasury, the U. S. Government, or one of its agencies, enterprises, or instrumentalities, as well as repurchase agreements collateralized by those securities. The dollar weighted average portfolio maturity of LAMP assets is restricted to not more than 90 days, and consists of no securities with a maturity in excess of 397 days. LAMP is designed to be highly liquid to give its participants immediate access to their account balances.

4. Receivables

The receivables of \$123,331 at June 30, 2004, are as follows:

	General		Other		
	Fund		Funds		<u> </u>
Accounts	\$ 95,569	\$	-	\$	95,569
Criminal Fees	8,622	2	-		8,622
NSF Checks	1,168	3	7,092		8,260
	\$105,359	<u> </u>	7,092	\$	112,451

5. Interfund Receivables/Payables

The following is a detailed list of interfund balances reported in the fund financial statements on June 30, 2004:

	Due F	rom	Due To
	Other I	Other Funds	
General Fund	\$ 2	54,015	\$ -
Internet Fund		3,600	-
Fiduciary Funds		-	257,615
	\$ 2	57,615	\$ 257,615

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

The purposes for the interfund receivables/payables are as follows:

	(Governmental	Fiduciary
		Funds	 Funds
1% Clerk's Fee, Due to General Fund from Registry of Court Fund	\$	1,139	\$ -1,139
Earned Interest, Due to General Fund from Advance Deposit Fund		252,876	-252,876
Internet Fees, Due to Internet Fund from Advance Deposit Fund		3,600	-3,600
	\$	257,615	\$ -257,615

None of the interfund balances referred to above are expected to be repaid within one year from the date of the financial statements.

6. Capital Assets

Capital assets and depreciation activity as of and for the year ended June 30, 2004 for governmental activities is as follows:

	Beginning			Ending
	Balance	Increases	Decreases	Balance
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated:				
Land	\$27,800	\$	\$	\$ <u>27,800</u>
Total Capital Assets Not Being				
Depreciated	27,800			<u> 27,800 </u>
Capital Assets Being Depreciated:				
Buildings	205,571	7,022	-	212,593
Furniture	405,701	-	9,328	396,373
Office Equipment	209,756	26,929	61,730	174,955
Data Processing Equipment	254,205	303,799	37,110	520,894
Internet Conversion	149,595	-	-	149,595
Microfilm Conversion	166,141	_	<u> </u>	166,141
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated	1,390,969	337,750	108,168	1,620,551

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

Less Accumulated Depreciation for:				
Buildings	68,846	6,175	-	75,021
Furniture	338,193	18,537	6,812	349,918
Office Equipment	130,109	18,250	58,204	90,155
Data Processing Equipment	190,263	44,434	34,080	200,617
Internet Conversion	25,017	9,402	-	34,419
Microfilm Conversion	<u> </u>	8,307		73,334
Total Accumulated Depreciation	817,455	105,105	99,096	823,464
Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	573,514	232,645	9,072	<u>797,087</u>
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	\$ <u>601,314</u> \$	232,645 \$	9,072 \$	824,887

7. Pension Plan

Plan Description. Substantially all employees of the Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court are members of the Louisiana Clerks of Court Retirement and ReliefFund (System), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined pension plan administered by a separate board of trustees.

All regular employees who are under the age of 60 at the time of original employment are required to participate in the System. Employees who retire at or after age 55 with at least 12 years of credited service are entitled to a retirement benefit, payable monthly for life, equal to 3 per cent of their final-average salary for each year of credited service, not to exceed 100 per cent of their final-average salary. Final-average salary is the employee's average salary over the 36 consecutive or joined months that produce the highest average.

Employees who terminate with at least 12 years of service and do not withdraw their employee contributions may retire at or after age 55 and receive the benefit accrued to their date of termination. The System also provides death and disability benefits. Benefits are established and amended by state statute.

The System issues an annual publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplemental information of the System. That report may be obtained by writing to the Louisiana Clerk of Court Retirement and Relief Fund, 11745 Bricksome Avenue, Suite B1, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70816, or by calling (225) 293-1162.

Funding Policy. Plan members are required by state statute to contribute 8.25 percent of their annual covered salary and the Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The current rate is 11.50 percent of annual covered payroll. Contributions to the System also include one-fourth of one

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

percent (one-half of one percent for Orleans Parish) of the taxes shown to be collected by the tax rolls of each parish. The contribution requirements of plan members and the Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court are established and may be 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 of the valuation for the prior fiscal year. The Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court's contributions to the System for the years ending June 30, 2004, 2003, and 2002, were \$285,478, \$254,653, and \$232,876, respectively, equal to the required contributions for each year. required contributions for each year. In addition, the Louisiana Legislature passed R.S. 11:1562(C) which allows the Clerk of Court to pay out of the Clerk's operating funds all or any portion of the employee's required contributions which would otherwise be deducted from the employee's salary. The Clerk has elected to pay 100% of all retirement system contributions to the Louisiana Clerk of Court Retirement and Relief Fund.

8. Deferred Compensation Plan

The Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court also offers its employees a deferred compensation plan created in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 457. The plan, available to all Clerk of Court employees, permits them to defer a portion of their salary until future years. The deferred compensation is not available to employees until termination, retirement, death, or unforeseeable emergency.

All amounts of compensation deferred under the plan, all property and rights purchased with those amounts, and all income attributable to those amounts, property, or rights are the sole ownership of the participants. The Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court has no financial or fiscal responsibility to the deferred compensation plan.

9. Other Postemployment Benefits

The Clerk of Court offers all retired employees health insurance benefits. The Clerk has elected to pay the entire retired employee premiums on a pay-as-you-go basis. For the year ended June 30, 2004, retired employee coverage for 11 retirees under the Clerk's health insurance plan cost the Clerk a total of \$59,365.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

10. Accounts, Salaries, and Other Payables

The payables of \$238,011 at June 30, 2004, are as follows:

		Total		
Accounts Payroll Liabilities	\$	184,527 50,215	\$	184,527 50,215
Unclaimed Property	\$	<u>3,269</u> 238,011	\$	3,269

11. Short-Term Debt

The Clerk had no short-term debt outstanding at June 30, 2004, and had no short-term debt activity during the year then ended.

12. Leases

The Clerk of Court records items under capital leases as an asset and an obligation in the accompanying financial statements. The Clerk had no capital leases outstanding at June 30, 2004, and had no capital lease activity during the year then ended.

The Clerk had no non-cancelable operating leases outstanding at June 30, 2004, and had no operating lease activity during the year then ended.

13. Long-Term Obligations

The following is a summary of the long-term obligation transactions for the year ended June 30, 2004:

	Compensated Absences	
Long-Term Debt Obligations, Beginning Additions	\$ 173,833	
Deductions	-22,234	
Long-Term Debt Obligations, Ending	\$151,599	

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

14. Interfund Transfers

The Clerk made no interfund transfers during the year ended June 30, 2004.

15. Risk Management

The Clerk is exposed to various risks of loss related to theft, damage, or destruction of assets, torts, errors and omissions, injuries, natural disasters, and many other unforeseeable events. The Clerk purchases commercial insurance policies and bonds for any and all claims related to the aforementioned risks. The Clerk's payment of the insurance policy deductible is the only liability associated with these policies and bonds. There has been no significant decrease in insurance coverage from prior years, and the amount of settlements has not exceeded the insurance coverage for the past three fiscal years.

16. Litigation and Claims

As of June 30, 2004, the Clerk of Court was involved in a lawsuit with the Tangipahoa Parish Council that originated in 2000. The Tangipahoa Parish Council made a formal request that the Clerk of Court restate its salary fund as of June 30, 2000, to include the \$400,000 transferred to the special revenue fund and then in accordance with Louisiana R.S. 13:785 pay to the Tangipahoa Parish Council all amounts which exceeded by one-half the revenues of the last year of the Clerk's four-year term. After the Tangipahoa Parish Council declined a resolution by the Clerk to settle this issue, the Clerk filed a Petition for Declaratory Judgement in the district court declaring that the transfer of the funds to a special revenue account was done in accordance with the Louisiana Governmental Budget Act and generally accepted accounting principles for governments, and that the salary fund balance at the end of his four year-term ended June 30, 2000, did not exceed by one-half the revenues of the last year of his term. This suit is in the nature of a declaratory judgement, and no claim has been filed against the Clerk of Court by the Tangipahoa Parish Council.

On November 22, 2004, the Clerk made a settlement offer and the Tangipahoa Parish Council accepted the offer to settle this litigation in return for payment of \$294,393. This amount has been accrued as a liability in the Clerk's financial statements as of June 30, 2004.

17. Designated Fund Balances

At June 30, 2004, the Clerk had designated fund balances as follows:

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

	General			
		<u>Fund</u>		Total
Designated for Building Expansion, Courthouse	\$	400,000	\$	400,000
Designated for Mapping Project		244,996		244,996
Designated for Compensated Absences		178,052		178,052
	\$	823,048	\$	823,048

Since these designations represent internally-imposed restrictions, the amounts designated above are included within the category of unrestricted net assets in the government-wide financial statements.

18. Prior Period Adjustment

Prior period adjustments were made to correct the governmental activities beginning net asset balance. The adjustments were made to correct prior-year amounts for two photocopiers not properly capitalized in fiscal year ended June 30, 2001. The correction to the beginning governmental activities net assets balance is as follows:

Beginning Net Assets, as Originally Stated	\$ 3,916,031
Two Photocopiers Not Capitalized, Cost, Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2001	9,895
Two Photocopiers Not Capitalized, Depreciation, Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2001	-529
Two Photocopiers Not Capitalized, Depreciation, Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2002	-1,414
Two Photocopiers Not Capitalized, Depreciation, Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2003	-1,414
Beginning Net Assets, as Restated	\$ 3,922,569

19. Due to Tangipahoa Parish Council

The Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court has entered into an agreement with the Tangipahoa Parish Council in accordance with R. S. 13:784 whereby the Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court will pay to the Tangipahoa Parish Council the following amounts which have been accrued as of June 30, 2004:

Fiscal year 2000 General Fund Surplus Fiscal year 2004 General Fund Surplus	\$	294,393 244,147
Total amount due to Tangipahoa Parish Council	\$ <u></u>	<u>538,540</u>

Required Supplemental Information (Part II) Major Governmental Funds

Schedule 1

Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance Budget (GAAP Basis) and Actual Governmental Fund - General Fund For the Year Ended June 30, 2004

	Budgete	ed Ar			Actual Amounts: GAAP	Fi	ariance with nal Budget: Favorable
	Original		Final		Basis	<u>(U</u>	nfavorable)
Revenues							
Licenses and Permits:							
Marriage Licenses \$	15,000	\$	12,500	\$	12,538	\$	38
Fees, Charges, and Commissions for Services:							
Court Cost, Fees, and Charges:							
Criminal Fees	120,000		120,045		120,264		219
Suits & Successions	1,415,000		1,525,000		1,490,043		(34,957)
Court Attendance	10,500		9,500		8,180		(1,320)
Fees for Recording Legal Documents:							
Recordings, Cancellations, and Mortgages	1,410,000		1,410,000		1,322,030		(87,970)
Use of Money and Property:							
Interest & Dividends	50,600		33,300		64,393		31,093
Net Change in FMV of Investments	-		-		(4,425)		(4,425)
Miscellaneous Revenues:							
Internet Copies	-		3,500		2,695		(805)
Copy Room Copies	-		42,000		41,566		(434)
Minute Clerk Reimbursement	14,400		14,400		14,400		-
Election Reimbursement	45,000		25,000		24,171		(829)
Parish Council Reimbursement	4,700		2,000		2,232		232
Clerk's Supplemental Compensation	15,300		16,250		16,250		-
Election Qualifying Fees	15,000		26,725		26,715		(10)
Miscellaneous	500		25		10		(15)
Expungement	7,000		4,325		4,825		500
Map Copies	3,500		5,000		5,036		36
Total Revenues	3,126,500		3,249,570	_	3,150,923		(98,647)

(Continued) See auditor's report.

Schedule 1

Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance Budget (GAAP Basis) and Actual Governmental Fund - General Fund For the Year Ended June 30, 2004

					Actual Amounts:		ariance with inal Budget:
	Budgete	ed Amo			GAAP		Favorable
Expenditures	Original		Final	_	Basis	<u>(</u>	Jnfavorable)
General Government:	• • • • • • • •	-					
11 1	\$ 15,300	\$	16,250	\$	13,800	\$	2,450
Custodian of Voting Machines	2,400		2,400		2,400		-
Election Expense	10,000		5,800		5,688		112
Group Health Insurance	350,000		403,000		372,461		30,539
Deferred Compensation	100,000		195,000		215,417		(20,417)
Payroll Taxes	17,300		20,500		20,906		(406)
Retirement Contributions	267,500		285,000		285,478		(478)
Salary of Election Employees	40,000		19,000		18,953		47
Salary of Deputies	1,325,000		1,380,000		1,411,152		(31,152)
Salary of Deputies - Overtime	5,000		7,600		7,553		47
Salary of Official	75,000		84,000		82,925		1,075
Salary of Other Employees	60,000		60,000		44,616		15,384
Supplemental Comp. Fund	30,000		34,000		34,000		-
Uniforms	30,000		47,000		44,889		2,111
Sheriff's Cooperative Agreement	-		36,000		33,892		2,108
Total General Government	2,327,500	•	2,595,550	-	2,594,130		1,420
Operating Services:	••• <u>••••••••••</u> •• <u>•••</u> ••			_			
Building Maintenance & Security	3,500		2,700		12,875		(10,175)
Clerk's Expense Allowance	8,500		9,700		9,823		(123)
Dues & Association Fees	3,500		3,500		2,530		970
Insurance Expense	40,000		24,000		21,465		2,535
Janitorial Service	20,000		18,200		18,869		(669)
Jury Commission	5,000		2,500		2,548		(48)
Legal Fees	30,000		30,000		46,539		(16,539)
Marriage License Spouse Abuse	12,500		15,000		13,060		1,940
Miscellaneous	750		500		68 9		(189)
Office Equipment Rental & Maintenance	43,000		90,000		86,430		3,570
Professional Fees	70,000		50,200		54,105		(3,905)
Qualifying Expense	15,000		27,500		27,322		178
Training Manual	5,000		-		-		-
Telephone	36,200		31,000		28,986		2,014
UCC Billings	30,000		33,800		28,222		5,578
Total Operating Services	322,950	·	338,600	-	353,463		(14,863)

(Continued)

See auditor's report.

Schedule 1

Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance Budget (GAAP Basis) and Actual Governmental Fund - General Fund For the Year Ended June 30, 2004

	_	Budgete Original	d Ai	nounts Final		Actual Amounts: GAAP Basis]	Variance with Final Budget: Favorable Unfavorable)
Materials and Supplies:	-	<u>v</u>	_		-	······	<u> </u>	
Office Supplies	\$	125,500	\$	145,150	\$	137,542	\$	7,608
Postage		38,000		42,000		37,355		4,645
Computer Expense		51,000		58,565		245,644		(187,079)
Bank Charges		510		331		372		(41)
Total Materials and Supplies	_	215,010	-	246,046		420,913		(174,867)
Travel and Other Charges:	_		-		-		-	
Auto Expense		8,000		8,000		6,897		1,103
Travel & Conventions		16,000		9,500		9,381		119
Training & Education	_	25,000		9,000	_	9,776	_	(776)
Total Travel and Other Charges		49,000	_	26,500	_	26,054	_	446
Surplus To Tangipahoa Parish Council						538,540	-	(538,540)
Capital Expenditures:								
Courthouse Addition		400,000		-		-		-
Archives		40,000		12,000		1,500		10,500
Computers		450,000		320,000		303,799		16,201
Furniture		10,000		1,100		-		1,100
Equipment		15,000		25,000		26,929		(1,929)
Renovations				5,500		5,522		(22)
Total Capital Expenditures		915,000		363,600		337,750		25,850
Total Expenditures		3,829,460	_	3,570,296	_	4,270,850	_	(700,554)
-			_					
Excess Revenues (Expenditures)		(702,960)		(320,726)		(1,119,927)		(799,201)
Fund Balance, Beginning of Year	_	3,105,115	_	3,000,074	_	3,175,723	_	175,649
Fund Balance, End of Year	\$_	2,402,155	\$_	2,679,348	\$_	2,055,796	\$_	(623,552)

(Concluded) See auditor's report.

Schedule 2

Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance Budget (GAAP Basis) and Actual Special Revenue Fund - Internet Fund For the Year Ended June 30, 2004

	_	Budgeted	An	nounts		Actual Amounts: GAAP	Variance with Final Budget: Favorable
	-	Original		Final	_	Basis	(Unfavorable)
Revenues							
Internet Fees	\$	135,000	\$	150,000	\$	152,442	\$ 2,442
Interest Income	_	500		4,100	_	4,155	55
Total Revenues	_	135,500	_	154,100	_	156,597	 2,497
Expenditures							
Salaries		45,000		-		-	-
Computer Expense		1,500		-		-	-
Education & Training		2,500		-		-	-
Office Supplies		1,500		-		-	-
Professional Services		25,000		-		-	-
Telephone		14,500		-		-	-
Travel Reimbursement		2,000		-		-	-
Capital Expenditures		10,000		-		-	-
Total Expenditures	-	102,000	_		· -		 ••
Excess Revenues (Expenditures)		33,500		154,100		156,597	2,497
Fund Balance, Beginning of Year		237,930		319,365		319,365	-
Fund Balance, End of Year	\$		\$	473,465	\$_	475,962	\$ 2,497

Other Independent Auditor's Reports And Findings and Recommendations

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Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance and on Internal Control over Financial Reporting Based on An Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*



CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION HAMMOND, LA

John N. Durnin, CPA Dennis E. James, CPA Member American Institute of CPA's Society of Louisiana CPA's

October 29, 2004

Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance and on Internal Control over Financial Reporting Based on an Audit of Basic Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*

To the Honorable Julian E. Dufreche Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court Amite, Louisiana

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court, component unit of the Tangipahoa Parish Council, Amite, Louisiana, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2004, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements of the Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court, and have issued our report thereon dated October 29, 2004. 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

Compliance.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and recommendations as item 2004-1 and 2004-2.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial

Page 2 The Honorable Julian E. Dufreche Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court Amite, Louisiana

reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

Respectfully submitted,

Eunin+James, CPAs

Durnin & James, CPAs (A Professional Corporation)

Findings and Recommendations

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Current Year Audit Findings For the Year Ended June 30, 2004

Findings and Recommendations

Compliance

2004-1 - Violations of State Budget Laws

The Clerk's Office did not comply with certain provisions of the Local Government Budget Act. Budget procedures applicable to the Clerk's Office are specified in state law, Louisiana Revised Statutes (LSA-R.S.) 39:1301-1315. The pertinent parts of the law are as follows:

LSA-R.S. 39:1310 - "Total actual expenditures and other uses plus projected expenditures and other uses for the remainder of the year, within a fund, are exceeding the total budget expenditures and other uses by five percent or more"

<u>Finding</u>: The Clerk's Office violated LSA-R.S. 39:1310 by not amending the budget for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2004, when actual expenditures exceeded budgeted expenditures in the General Fund by more than 5%.

<u>Recommendation</u>: We recommend the Clerk's Office closely monitor its budget and adopt budget amendments when required.

<u>Management's Response</u>: In management's corrective action plan dated November 16, 2004, management indicated that they will closely monitor the budget and adopt budget amendments when required.

2004-2 - Failure to Provide Required Annual Report of Expenditures

The Clerk's Office did not comply with certain annual reporting requirements of state. Annual reporting requirements applicable to the Clerk's Office are specified in state law, Louisiana Revised Statutes (LSA-R.S.) 42:283-286. The pertinent parts of the law are as follows:

LSA-R.S. 42:283 - Requires that "all parish clerks of court shall furnish annually to the governing authority and clerk of court of their respective parishes, a written itemized report showing the expenditures made by their respective offices, whether made out of the salary or expense funds of said offices". The annual report requiree by LSA-RS 42-283 is due within thirty days after the close of the fiscal year and must be classified under the following headings:

- 1. Salaries of officials
- 2. Salaries of deputies

- 3. Salaries of other employees
- 4. Office supplies and furnishings
- 5. Other expenditures

The first report of each year, made under the provisions of R.S. 42:283 and 42:284 shall include the names of all deputies, employees and officers of the respective offices, boards, and commissions, for the preceeding year, whether they were employed full-time or only temporarily, and shall also show the total salary compensation paid to each of them during that year.

Finding: The Clerk's Office violated LSA-R.S. 42:283-286 by not filing its annual report for the year ended June 30, 2003, with the Tangipahoa Parish Council by July 31, 2003, as required.

<u>Recommendation</u>: We recommend the Clerk's Office file the required annual report with the Tangipahoa Parish Council by July 31st of each year as required by state law.

<u>Management's Response</u>: In management's corrective action plan dated November 16, 2004, management indicated that they will file the required annual report with the Tangipahoa Parish Council by July 31st of each year as required by state law.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

None

Corrective Action Plan for Current Year Audit Findings

Corrective Action Plan for Current Year Audit Findings

For the Year Ended June 30, 2004

<u>Ref #</u>	Description of Finding	Corrective Action Plan	Name of <u>Contact Person</u>	Anticipated Completion Date
<u>Compl</u>	liance			
2004-1	Violation of State Budget Laws	Follow all applicable laws related to budgets And budget adoption		December 31, 2004
2004-2	Violation of Required Annual Report	Follow all applicable laws related to required annual report.	Alison Theard, Chief Deputy Clerk of Court	December 31, 2004

Internal Control

None

Note: This schedule has been prepared by the management of the Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court.

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Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings

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Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings

For the Year Ended June 30, 2004

<u>Ref.#</u>	Fiscal Year Findings Initially Occurred	Description of Findings	Corrective Action <u>Taken</u>	Planned Corrective Action-Partial Corrective ActionTaken
<u>Compl</u>	<u>iance</u>			
2003-C	1 July 1, 2002	No fiscal agent contract with its financial institution	Yes	N/A

Internal Control

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None

Note: This schedule has been prepared by the management of the Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court.