



# Report Highlights

## St. Bernard Parish Government

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### Why We Conducted This Audit

We initiated this audit to determine the validity of complaints we received regarding St. Bernard Parish Government's (Parish) use of public funds.

### What We Found

#### **Former Parish President and Former CAO Received Vehicle Allowances While Driving Parish-owned Vehicles and Purchasing Fuel with Public Funds**

Parish records show former President Guy McInnis and former Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Ronald Alonzo received vehicle allowances while driving Parish-owned vehicles and used Parish funds to pay for their fuel. The Parish paid Mr. McInnis a monthly vehicle allowance of \$1,600 for the period January 2023 to December 2023 (a total of \$19,200); during this time, Mr. McInnis drove a Parish vehicle and purchased fuel totaling \$3,614, which the Parish paid. The Parish also paid Mr. Alonzo a monthly vehicle allowance of \$843 from July 2022 to June 2023 (a total of \$10,116), while he drove a Parish vehicle and incurred fuel charges totaling \$1,364. By receiving vehicle allowances while driving Parish vehicles and using public funds to purchase fuel, Mr. McInnis and Mr. Alonzo may have violated state law. In addition, the Parish's payment of duplicate benefits may have violated the Louisiana Constitution, which prohibits the donation of public funds.

#### **Parish Waived Fees and Provided Discounts on Facility Rentals**

Records show that the Parish waived fees and/or provided discounts totaling \$47,400 for the rental of Parish-owned facilities from July 15, 2022 to October 26, 2023. According to these records, Mr. McInnis appears to have signed the contracts and/or authorized a majority of waived fees/discounts totaling \$38,825. In addition, the Parish failed to timely collect rental fees from a Parish employee. By waiving fees, providing discounts, and failing to timely collect fees, Mr. McInnis and other Parish employees may have violated Parish ordinance, state law, and the Louisiana Constitution, which prohibits the donation of public funds.

#### **Public Funds Used for Personal Advertisement**

#### **Ethics - Improper Gift**

View the full report, including management's response, at [www.la.gov](http://www.la.gov).