

**COMMITTEE FOR A SECURE LOUISIANA
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA**

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2025



**Hebert Johnson
& Associates, Inc.**
Certified Public Accountants

A Professional Accounting Corporation

Committee for a SECURE Louisiana
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
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A PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTING CORPORATION

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Directors of
Committee for a Secure Louisiana
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Committee for a Secure Louisiana (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statement of financial position as of December 31, 2025, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Committee for a Secure Louisiana as of December 31, 2025, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

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. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Committee for a Secure Louisiana and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Committee for a Secure Louisiana's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional

omissions, misrepresentations, or the likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgement made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatements of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion of the effectiveness of the Committee for a Secure Louisiana's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgement, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Committee for a Secure Louisiana's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The schedule of compensation, benefits, and other payments to agency head on page 13 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated May 8, 2026, on our consideration of the Committee for a Secure Louisiana'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 the effectiveness of the Committee for a Secure Louisiana's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is a consideration of the Committee for a Secure Louisiana, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Chris Johnson

Hebert Johnson & Associates, Inc.
A Professional Accounting Corporation
Albany, Louisiana
May 8, 2026

Financial Statements

Committee for a SECURE Louisiana
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Statement of Financial Position
December 31, 2025

	<u>2025</u>
Assets	
Assets:	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 42,345
Total Assets	<u>\$ 42,345</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Liabilities:	
Accounts Payable	\$ 2,770
Total Liabilities	<u>2,770</u>
Net Assets:	
Without Donor Restrictions	39,575
With Donor Restrictions	<u>-</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>39,575</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 42,345</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Committee for a SECURE Louisiana
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

	2025		
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Revenues and Other Support:			
Grant Revenue	\$ 1,715,143	-	\$ 1,715,143
Total Revenues and Other Support	1,715,143	-	1,715,143
Expenses:			
Economic Development	1,727,443	-	1,727,443
Supporting Activities:			
Management and General	7,987	-	7,987
Total Expenses	1,735,430	-	1,735,430
Change in Net Assets	(20,287)	-	(20,287)
Net Assets - Beginning of the Year	59,862	-	59,862
Net Assets - End of the Year	\$ 39,575	\$ -	\$ 39,575

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Committee for a SECURE Louisiana
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Statement of Functional Expenses
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

	2025		
		<u>Supporting Activities</u>	
	<u>Economic Development</u>	<u>Management and General</u>	<u>Total</u>
Project Consultants	\$ 1,712,443	\$ -	\$ 1,712,443
Accounting Fees	-	7,092	7,092
Professional Services	15,000	-	15,000
Other Expense	-	895	895
	<u>\$ 1,727,443</u>	<u>\$ 7,987</u>	<u>\$ 1,735,430</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Committee for a SECURE Louisiana
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

	<u>2025</u>
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:	
Change in net assets	\$ (20,287)
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:	
(Increase) / decrease in accounts receivable	58,295
Increase / (decrease) in accounts payable	<u>(47,230)</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	<u>(9,222)</u>
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(9,222)
Cash and Cash Equivalents - Beginning of the Year	<u>51,567</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents - End of the Year	<u><u>\$ 42,345</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Committee for a SECURE Louisiana
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2025

Introduction

The Committee for a SECURE Louisiana ("SECURE") was formed in 1995. SECURE seeks reforms in state fiscal, education, and public policy that improves the business environment in Louisiana.

Program services for SECURE include the following:

Economic Development – SECURE conducts research projects and studies that support the strengthening of Louisiana's economic climate.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Basis of Accounting

In accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, the accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting, whereby revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred.

B. Basis of Presentation

Net assets, revenues, and expenses are classified based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. Accordingly, net assets of SECURE and changes therein are classified and reported as follows:

Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions – Net assets without donor restrictions are available for use in general operations and not subject to donor- (or certain grantor-) imposed restrictions. Revenues are reported as increases in net assets without restrictions unless use of the related assets is limited by donor-imposed restrictions. Expenses are reported as decreases in net assets without restrictions.

Net Assets With Donor Restrictions – Net assets with donor restrictions are subject to donor- (or certain grantor-) imposed restrictions. Some donor-imposed restrictions are temporary in nature, such as those that will be met by the passage of time or other events specified by the donor. Other donor-imposed restrictions are perpetual in nature, where the donor stipulated that resources be maintained in perpetuity. Donor-imposed restrictions are released when a restriction expires, that is, when the stipulated time has elapsed, when the stipulated purpose for which the resource was restricted has been fulfilled, or both.

C. Cash and Cash Equivalents

For reporting purposes, SECURE considers all highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

D. Promises to Give

Unconditional promises to give are recognized as revenues or gains in the period the promise is made and as assets, decreases of liabilities, or expenses depending on the form of the benefits received. As promises to give are determined to be uncollectible, they are charged against the allowance for doubtful accounts.

Committee for a SECURE Louisiana
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2025

E. Revenues and Support with Donor Restrictions and without Donor Restrictions

Contributions received are recorded as increases in net assets without donor restrictions or increases in net assets with donor restrictions, depending on the existence and / or nature of any donor restrictions.

All donor-restricted support is reported as an increase in net assets with donor restrictions, depending on the nature of the restriction. When a restriction expires (that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished), net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions, and reported in the statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions. Donor-restricted contributions whose restrictions are met in the same accounting period are reported as support and revenues without donor restrictions.

Fundraising and other revenues are recognized as earned.

F. Concentrations of Credit Risk

Cash on Deposit and Uninsured Balances:

SECURE maintains its cash balances at a regional bank. As of December 31, 2025, all cash balances were covered from loss by the FDIC.

Source of Funding:

SECURE's primary operating budget is sustained through funds received from Louisiana Economic Development. During the year ended December 31, 2025, grants from the Louisiana Economic Development accounted for 100% of total revenue.

G. Functional Expense Reporting

The cost of providing program and support services has been summarized on a functional basis in the statement of activities and the statement of functional expenses. Accordingly, certain costs may be allocated among the programs and supporting services benefited. Expenses which are directly associated with economic development or support services are charged directly to that functional area.

H. Income Taxes

SECURE is a not-for-profit organization that is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. However, income from certain activities not directly related to the SECURE's tax-exempt purpose is subject to taxation as unrelated business income.

SECURE's tax returns for the years ended December 31, 2024, December 31, 2023, and December 31, 2022, remain open and subject to examination by taxing authorities.

Committee for a SECURE Louisiana
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2025

I. 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 contingent liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of support and revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

2. Cash

Cash and cash equivalents at December 31, 2025, consisted of the following:

	December 31, 2025
Operating Accounts - Checking	\$ 42,345
Total	\$ 42,345

3. Net Assets with Donor Restrictions

SECURE's net assets with donor restrictions at December 31, 2025 consisted of the following:

	December 31, 2025
Net Assets with Donor Restrictions	\$ -
Total	\$ -

4. Net Assets Released from Donor Restrictions

Net assets were released from donor restrictions by satisfaction of the restricted purposes during the years ended December 31, 2025 as follows:

	December 31, 2025
Releases from Donor Restrictions	\$ -
Total	\$ -

Committee for a SECURE Louisiana
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2025

5. Liquidity and Availability of Financial Assets

The following reflects SECURE's financial assets as of the statement of financial position date, reduced by amounts not available for general use because of contractual or donor-imposed restrictions within one year of the statement of financial position date. Amounts available include donor-restricted amounts that are available for general expenditure in the following year.

	December 31, 2025
Financial Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 42,345
Financial Assets Available to Meet Cash Needs for General Expenses Within One Year	<u>\$ 42,345</u>

6. Related Party Transactions

Certain members of the Board of Directors of SECURE also serve on the Board of Directors of Leaders for a Better Louisiana, a separate nonprofit organization. During the year ended December 31, 2025, SECURE entered into a contract with Leaders for a Better Louisiana for research services related to economic and public policy issues affecting the State of Louisiana. Payments under this agreement totaled \$15,000 during the year. There were no amounts due to or from Leaders for a Better Louisiana at year end.

7. Date of Management's Review

Subsequent events have been evaluated through May 8, 2026, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued. No subsequent events occurring after this date have been evaluated for inclusion in these financial statements.

Supplementary Information

Committee for a SECURE Louisiana
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and
Other Payments to Agency Head
December 31, 2025

Agency Head: Adam Knapp, CEO

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Salary	\$ -
Benefits - Insurance	-
Benefits - Retirement	-
Deferred Compensation	-
Benefits - Other - Supplemental Pay	-
Car Allowance	-
Vehicle Provided by Government	-
Vehicle Rental	-
Cell Phone	-
Dues	-
Per Diem	-
Reimbursements	-
Travel	-
Registration Fees	-
Conference Travel	-
Housing	-
Unvouchered Expenses	-
Special Meals	-
Other	-
	<u>\$ -</u>

See Independent Auditor's Report.

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A PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTING CORPORATION

**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**

To the Board of Directors of
Committee for a Secure Louisiana
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

We have audited, 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, the financial statements of the Committee for a Secure Louisiana (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statement of financial position as of December 31, 2025, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the year ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated May 8, 2026.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Committee for a Secure Louisiana internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Committee for a Secure Louisiana's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Committee for a Secure Louisiana's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Committee for a Secure Louisiana financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material

effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the organization's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the organization's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Board of Directors, and the Office of the Legislative Auditor, State of Louisiana, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities 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,

Chris Johnson

Hebert Johnson & Associates, Inc.
A Professional Accounting Corporation
Albany, Louisiana
May 8, 2026

**Committee for a Secure Louisiana
Baton Rouge, Louisiana**

**Schedule of Current Year Audit Findings and Responses
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025**

We have audited the basic financial statements of the Committee for a Secure Louisiana as of and for the year ended December 31, 2025 and have issued our report thereon dated May 8, 2026. 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 Governmental Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our audit of the financial statements as of December 31, 2025 resulted in an unmodified opinion.

Section I. Summary of Auditor's Report

- a. Report on Internal Control and Compliance Material to the Financial Statements

Internal Control

Material Weakness, No Significant Deficiencies, No

Compliance

Compliance Material to Financial Statements, No

- b. Federal Awards – Not subject to Uniform Guidance Audit
- c. Was a management letter issued? No

**COMMITTEE FOR A SECURE LOUISIANA
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA**

STATEWIDE AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES REPORT

Fiscal Period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025



**Hebert Johnson
& Associates, Inc.**
Certified Public Accountants

A Professional Accounting Corporation

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A P R O F E S S I O N A L A C C O U N T I N G C O R P O R A T I O N

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT
ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

To the Board of Directors of
Committee for a Secure Louisiana
and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor:

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the control and compliance (C/C) areas identified in the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's (LLA's) Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs) for the fiscal period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025. The Committee for a Secure Louisiana's management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

The Committee for a Secure Louisiana has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of the engagement, which is to perform specified procedures on the C/C areas identified in LLA's SAUPs for the fiscal period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025. Additionally, LLA has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate for its purposes. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

The procedures and associated findings are as follows:

1) Written Policies and Procedures

1. Obtain and inspect the entity's written policies and procedures and observe whether they address each of the following categories and subcategories if applicable to public funds and the entity's operations:
 - a) ***Budgeting***, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget.
 - b) ***Purchasing***, including (1) how purchases are initiated, (2) how vendors are added to the vendor list, (3) the preparation and approval process of purchase requisitions and purchase orders, (4) controls to ensure compliance with the Public Bid Law, and (5) documentation required to be maintained for all bids and price quotes.
 - c) ***Disbursements***, including processing, reviewing, and approving.
 - d) ***Receipts/Collections***, including receiving, recording, and preparing deposits. Also, policies and procedures should include management's actions to determine the

completeness of all collections for each type of revenue or agency fund additions (e.g., periodic confirmation with outside parties, reconciliation to utility billing after cutoff procedures, reconciliation of traffic ticket number sequences, agency fund forfeiture monies confirmation).

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

Exception: The Organization did not have written policies and procedures that addressed the above categories.

Management Response: We will implement the creation of written policies and procedures this year.

2) Board or Finance Committee

2. Obtain and inspect the board/finance committee minutes for the fiscal period, as well as the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or equivalent document in effect during the fiscal period, and
 - i. Observe that the board/finance committee met with a quorum at least monthly, or on a frequency in accordance with the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or other equivalent document.
 - ii. For those entities reporting on the governmental accounting model, review the minutes from all regularly scheduled board/finance committee meetings held during the fiscal year and observe whether the minutes from at least one meeting each month referenced or included monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the general fund, quarterly budget-to-actual comparisons, at a minimum, on all proprietary funds, and semi-annual budget-to-actual comparisons, at a minimum, on all special revenue funds. *Alternatively, for those entities reporting on the not-for-profit accounting model, observe that the minutes referenced or included financial activity relating to public funds if those public funds comprised more than 10% of the entity's collections during the fiscal period.*
 - iii. For governmental entities, obtain the prior year audit report and observe the unassigned fund balance in the general fund. If the general fund had a negative ending unassigned fund balance in the prior year audit report, observe that the minutes for at least one meeting during the fiscal period referenced or included a formal plan to eliminate the negative unassigned fund balance in the general fund.
 - iv. Observe whether the board/finance committee received written updates of the progress of resolving audit finding(s), according to management's corrective action plan at each meeting until the findings are considered fully resolved.

No exceptions were found as a result of these procedures.

3) Bank Reconciliations

3. Obtain a listing of entity bank accounts for the fiscal period from management and management's representation that the listing is complete. Ask management to identify the entity's main operating account. Select the entity's main operating account and randomly select 4 additional accounts (or all accounts if less than 5). Randomly select one month from the fiscal period, obtain and inspect the corresponding bank statement and reconciliation for each selected account, and observe that:
 - i. Bank reconciliations include evidence that they were prepared within 2 months of the related statement closing date (e.g., initialed and dated or electronically logged);
 - ii. Bank reconciliations include written evidence that a member of management or a board member who does not handle cash, post ledgers, or issue checks has reviewed

each bank reconciliation within 1 month of the date the reconciliation was prepared (e.g., initialed and dated or electronically logged); and

- iii. Management has documentation reflecting it has researched reconciling items that have been outstanding for more than 12 months from the statement closing date, if applicable.

Exception: We did not observe any written evidence that a member of management or a board member has reviewed bank reconciliations.

Management Response: We will implement this change going forward. Today, bank reconciliations are performed by a staff person and confirmed by our third-party accounting team. Going forward, we will include management and our Board treasurer in regular bank reconciliation reviews.

4) Collections (excluding electronic funds transfers)

- A. Obtain a listing of deposit sites for the fiscal period where deposits for cash/checks/money orders (cash) are prepared and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 deposit sites (or all deposit sites if less than 5).
- B. For each deposit site selected, obtain a listing of collection locations and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one collection location for each deposit site (e.g., 5 collection locations for 5 deposit sites), obtain and inspect written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if there are no written policies or procedures, then inquire of employees about their job duties) at each collection location, and observe that job duties are properly segregated at each collection location such that
 - i. Employees responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers/registers;
 - ii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for preparing/making bank deposits, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling collection documentation (e.g., pre-numbered receipts) to the deposit;
 - iii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for posting collection entries to the general ledger or subsidiary ledgers, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling ledger postings to each other and to the deposit; and
 - iv. The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or custodial fund additions, is (are) not also responsible for collecting cash, unless another employee/official verifies the reconciliation.
- C. Obtain from management a copy of the bond or insurance policy for theft covering all employees who have access to cash. Observe that the bond or insurance policy for theft was in force during the fiscal period.

- D. Randomly select two deposit dates for each of the 5 bank accounts selected for Bank Reconciliations procedure #3A (select the next deposit date chronologically if no deposits were made on the dates randomly selected and randomly select a deposit if multiple deposits are made on the same day). *Alternatively, the practitioner may use a source document other than bank statements when selecting the deposit dates for testing, such as a cash collection log, daily revenue report, receipt book, etc.* Obtain supporting documentation for each of the 10 deposits and
- i. Observe that receipts are sequentially pre-numbered.
 - ii. Trace sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.
 - iii. Trace the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.
 - iv. Observe that the deposit was made within one business day of receipt at the collection location (within one week if the depository is more than 10 miles from the collection location or the deposit is less than \$100 and the cash is stored securely in a locked safe or drawer).
 - v. Trace the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.

No exceptions were found as a result of these procedures.

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

8. Obtain a listing of locations that process payments for the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 locations (or all locations if less than 5).
9. For each location selected under procedure #5A above, obtain a listing of those employees involved with non-payroll purchasing and payment functions. Obtain written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if the agency has no written policies and procedures, then inquire of employees about their job duties), and observe that job duties are properly segregated such that
 - i. At least two employees are involved in initiating a purchase request, approving a purchase, and placing an order or making the purchase;
 - ii. At least two employees are involved in processing and approving payments to vendors;
 - iii. The employee responsible for processing payments is prohibited from adding/modifying vendor files, unless another employee is responsible for periodically reviewing changes to vendor files;
 - iv. Either the employee/official responsible for signing checks mails the payment or gives the signed checks to an employee to mail who is not responsible for processing payments; and

- v. Only employees/officials authorized to sign checks approve the electronic disbursement (release) of funds, whether through automated clearinghouse (ACH), electronic funds transfer (EFT), wire transfer, or some other electronic means.

[Note: Findings related to controls that constrain the legal authority of certain public officials (e.g., mayor of a Lawrason Act municipality) should not be reported.]

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

Exceptions: Written checks are processed by the same person that mails the checks.

Management Response: We will ensure that one of the two people on the management team will mail any written checks going forward. ACH payments are Secure's preferred and default method for sending payments, and these already require approval by management to release.

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

(These procedures are not applicable to the Organization)

- A. Obtain from management a listing of all active credit cards, bank debit cards, fuel cards, and purchase cards (cards) for the fiscal period, including the card numbers and the names of the persons who maintained possession of the cards. Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete.
- B. Using the listing prepared by management, randomly select 5 cards (or all cards if less than 5) that were used during the fiscal period. Randomly select one monthly statement or combined statement for each card (for a debit card, randomly select one monthly bank statement). Obtain supporting documentation, and

- a) Observe whether there is evidence that the monthly statement or combined statement and supporting documentation (e.g., itemized receipts for credit/debit card purchases, exception reports for excessive fuel card usage) were reviewed and approved, in writing (or electronically approved) by someone other than the authorized card holder (those instances requiring such approval that may constrain the legal authority of certain public officials, such as the mayor of a Lawrason Act municipality, should not be reported); and
 - b) Observe that finance charges and late fees were not assessed on the selected statements.
- C. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under procedure #6B above, excluding fuel cards, randomly select 10 transactions (or all transactions if less than 10) from each statement, and obtain supporting documentation for the transactions (e.g., each card should have 10 transactions subject to inspection). For each transaction, observe that it is supported by (1) an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased, (2) written documentation of the business/public purpose, and (3) documentation of the individuals participating in meals (for meal charges only). For missing receipts, the practitioner should describe the nature of the transaction and observe whether management had a compensating control to address missing receipts, such as a "missing receipt statement" that is subject to increased scrutiny.
- D. Using the list of terminated employees obtained in Payroll and Personnel procedure #9C identify those individuals who had access to cards and randomly select 5 terminated employees (or all terminated employees with card access if less than 5) from this population. Observe evidence that the cards have been deactivated for these terminated employees. In cases where a card is shared by multiple users, obtain evidence that the terminated employees' authorization has been removed.

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

(These procedures are not applicable to the Organization)

- A. Obtain from management a listing of all travel and travel-related expense reimbursements during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing or general ledger is complete. Randomly select 5 reimbursements and obtain the related expense reimbursement forms/prepaid expense documentation of each selected reimbursement, as well as the supporting documentation. For each of the 5 reimbursements selected
 - i. If reimbursed using a per diem, observe that the approved reimbursement rate is no more than those rates established either by the State of Louisiana (doa.la.gov/doa/ost/ppm-49-travel-guide/) or the U.S. General Services Administration (www.gsa.gov);
 - ii. If reimbursed using actual costs, observe that the reimbursement is supported by an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased;

- iii. Observe that each reimbursement is supported by documentation of the business/public purpose (for meal charges, observe that the documentation includes the names of those individuals participating) and other documentation required by Written Policies and Procedures procedure #1A(vii); and
- iv. Observe that each reimbursement was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving reimbursement.

8) Contracts

- A. Obtain from management a listing of all agreements/contracts for professional services, materials and supplies, leases, and construction activities that were initiated or renewed during the fiscal period. *Alternatively, the practitioner may use an equivalent selection source, such as an active vendor list.* Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 contracts (or all contracts if less than 5) from the listing, excluding the practitioner's contract, and
 - i. Observe whether the contract was bid in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law (e.g., solicited quotes or bids, advertised), if required by law;
 - ii. Observe whether the contract was approved by the governing body/board, if required by policy or law (e.g., Lawrason Act, Home Rule Charter);
 - iii. If the contract was amended (e.g., change order), observe that the original contract terms provided for such an amendment and that amendments were made in compliance with the contract terms (e.g., if approval is required for any amendment, the documented approval); and
 - iv. Randomly select one payment from the fiscal period for each of the 5 contracts, obtain the supporting invoice, agree the invoice to the contract terms, and observe that the invoice and related payment agreed to the terms and conditions of the contract.

No exceptions were found as a result of these procedures.

9) Payroll and Personnel

(These procedures are not applicable to the Organization)

- A. Obtain a listing of employees and officials employed during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 employees or officials, obtain related paid salaries and personnel files, and agree paid salaries to authorized salaries/pay rates in the personnel files.
- B. Randomly select one pay period during the fiscal period. For the 5 employees or officials selected under procedure #9A above, obtain attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and

- i. Observe that all selected employees or officials documented their daily attendance and leave (e.g., vacation, sick, compensatory);
 - ii. Observe whether supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees or officials;
 - iii. Observe that any leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's cumulative leave records; and
 - iv. Observe the rate paid to the employees or officials agrees to the authorized salary/pay rate found within the personnel file.
- C. Obtain a listing of those employees or officials that received termination payments during the fiscal period and management's representation that the list is complete. Randomly select two employees or officials and obtain related documentation of the hours and pay rates used in management's termination payment calculations and the entity's policy on termination payments. Agree the hours to the employee's or official's cumulative leave records, agree the pay rates to the employee's or official's authorized pay rates in the employee's or official's personnel files, and agree the termination payment to entity policy.
- D. Obtain management's representation that employer and employee portions of third-party payroll related amounts (e.g., payroll taxes, retirement contributions, health insurance premiums, garnishments, workers' compensation premiums) have been paid, and any associated forms have been filed, by required deadlines.

10) Ethics

(These procedures are not applicable to the Organization)

- A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A obtain ethics documentation from management, and
- a. Observe whether the documentation demonstrates that each employee/official completed one hour of ethics training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:1170; and
 - b. Observe whether the entity maintains documentation which demonstrates that each employee and official were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy during the fiscal period, as applicable.
23. Inquire and/or observe whether the agency has appointed an ethics designee as required by R.S. 42:1170.

11) Debt Service

(These procedures are not applicable to the Organization)

- A. Obtain a listing of bonds/notes and other debt instruments issued during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Select all debt instruments on the listing, obtain supporting documentation, and observe that State Bond Commission

approval was obtained for each debt instrument issued as required by Article VII, Section 8 of the Louisiana Constitution.

- B. Obtain a listing of bonds/notes outstanding at the end of the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one bond/note, inspect debt covenants, obtain supporting documentation for the reserve balance and payments, and agree actual reserve balances and payments to those required by debt covenants (including contingency funds, short-lived asset funds, or other funds required by the debt covenants).

12) Fraud Notice

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

No exceptions were found as a result of these procedures.

13) Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity

Perform the following procedures, **verbally discuss the results with management, and report "We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management":**

- A. Obtain and inspect the entity's most recent documentation that it has backed up its critical data (if there is no written documentation, then inquire of personnel responsible for backing up critical data) and observe evidence that such backup (a) occurred within the past week, (b) was not stored on the government's local server or network, and (c) was encrypted.
- B. Obtain and inspect the entity's most recent documentation that it has tested/verified that its backups can be restored (if there is no written documentation, then inquire of personnel responsible for testing/verifying backup restoration) and observe evidence that the test/verification was successfully performed within the past 3 months.
- C. Obtain a listing of the entity's computers currently in use and their related locations, and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 computers and observe while management demonstrates that the selected computers have current and active antivirus software and that the operating system and accounting system software in use are currently supported by the vendor.
- D. Randomly select 5 terminated employees (or all terminated employees if less than 5) using the list of terminated employees obtained in Payroll and Personnel procedure #9C. Observe

evidence that the selected terminated employees have been removed or disabled from the network.

- E. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A, obtain cybersecurity training documentation from management, and observe that the documentation demonstrates that the following employees/officials with access to the agency's information technology assets have completed cybersecurity training as required by R.S. 42:1267. The requirements are as follows:

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

We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.

14) Prevention of Sexual Harassment

(These procedures are not applicable to the Organization)

- A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A, obtain sexual harassment training documentation from management, and observe that the documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed at least one hour of sexual harassment training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:343.
- B. Observe that the entity has posted its sexual harassment policy and complaint procedure on its website (or in a conspicuous location on the entity's premises if the entity does not have a website).
- C. Obtain the entity's annual sexual harassment report for the current fiscal period, observe that the report was dated on or before February 1, and observe that the report includes the applicable requirements of R.S. 42:344:
- i. Number and percentage of public servants in the agency who have completed the training requirements;
 - ii. Number of sexual harassment complaints received by the agency;
 - iii. Number of complaints which resulted in a finding that sexual harassment occurred;
 - iv. Number of complaints in which the finding of sexual harassment resulted in discipline or corrective action; and
 - v. Amount of time it took to resolve each complaint.

We were engaged by Committee for a Secure Louisiana to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and applicable standards of *Government Auditing Standards*. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review

engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of Committee for a Secure Louisiana and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

This report is intended solely to describe the scope of testing performed on those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs, and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on control or compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the LLA as a public document.

Chris Johnson

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Albany, Louisiana
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