CITY COURT OF EAST ST. TAMMANY ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024



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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Honorable Judge Bryan Haggerty City Court of East St. Tammany Slidell, Louisiana

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the City Court of East St. Tammany (the City Court) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise of the City Court's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of the City Court, as of December 31, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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 City Court, 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 opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

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 City Court's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.



To the Honorable Judge Bryan Haggerty City Court of East St. Tammany June 14, 2025

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. 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, the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*, 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 override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment 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 judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement 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 in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City Court'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 judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the City Court'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.



To the Honorable Judge Bryan Haggerty City Court of East St. Tammany June 14, 2025

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance - budget to actual - government funds, schedule of proportionate share of the net pension liability, schedule of contributions - retirement plan, and the related notes to the required supplementary information on pages 5 through 9 and 32 through 35 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the City Court of East St. Tammany's basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of compensation, benefits, and other payments to agency head is presented to comply with the Act 706 of the 2014 Louisiana Legislative Session and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. The accompanying schedules of justice system funding schedules are presented to comply with Act 87 of the 2020 Louisiana Legislative Session and is not a required part of the basic financial statement. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedules of compensation, benefits, and other payments to agency head and schedules of justice system funding schedules are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.



To the Honorable Judge Bryan Haggerty City Court of East St. Tammany June 14, 2025

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated June 14, 2025, on our considerations of City Court of East St. Tammany'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 solely 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 City Court of East St. Tammany's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering City Court of East St. Tammany's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

June 14, 2025 New Orleans, Louisiana

> Guickson Keentel, Lep Certified Public Accountants

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS DECEMBER 31, 2024

As financial management of City Court of East St. Tammany (the "City Court"), we offer readers of these financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the City Court for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024. This discussion and analysis is designed to assist the reader in focusing on the significant financial issues and activities and to identify any significant changes in financial position. We encourage readers to consider the information presented here in conjunction with the audited financial statements, which follow this section.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The assets of the City Court exceeded its liabilities by \$2,375,581 at December 31, 2024. Of this amount, \$1,375,342 is the City Court's net investment in capital assets and the remaining \$1,000,239 in net position is unrestricted. The total net position of the City Court increased by \$492,750 or 26.2%.

The City Court's total revenue was \$1,936,336 in 2024 compared to \$1,756,447 in 2023, which is a increase of \$179,889 or 10.2%.

Total expenses for the City Court during the year ended December 31, 2024 were \$1,443,586 including depreciation expense and on-behalf payments. These expenses compared to total expenses of \$1,386,827 during the year ended December 31, 2023. This represented a increase of \$56,759 or 4.1%.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Management's Discussion and Analysis introduces the City Court's basic financial statements. The basic financial statements include: (1) government-wide financial statements, (2) fund financial statements, and (3) notes to the basic financial statements. The City Court also includes in this report required additional supplemental information.

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The City Court's annual report includes two government-wide financial statements. These statements provide both long-term and short-term information about the City Court's overall financial status. Financial reporting at this level uses a perspective similar to that found in the private sector with its basis in accrual accounting and elimination or reclassification of activities between funds.

The first of these government-wide statements is the Statement of Net Position. This is the government-wide statement of position presenting information that includes all of the City Court's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, with the difference reported as net position. Over time, increases and decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the City Court as a whole is improving or deteriorating.

The second government-wide statement is the Statement of Activities, which reports how the City Court's net position changed during the current fiscal year. All current year revenues and expenses are included regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The government-wide financial statements are presented on pages 10 and 11 of this report.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (CONTINUED)

<u>DECEMBER 31, 2024</u>

FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A fund is an accountability unit used to maintain control over resources segregated for specific activities or objectives. The City Court uses funds to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related laws and regulations. Within the basic financial statements, fund financial statements focus on the City Court's most significant funds rather than the City Court as a whole.

The City Court uses governmental funds and fiduciary funds as follows:

Governmental funds are reported in the fund financial statements and encompass the same function reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, the focus is very different with fund statements providing a distinctive view of the City Court's governmental funds, including object classifications. These statements report short-term fiscal accountability focusing on the use of spendable resources and balances of spendable resources available at the end of the year. They are useful in evaluating annual financing requirements of governmental programs and the commitment of spendable resources for the near-term.

Since the government-wide focus includes the long-term view, comparisons between these two perspectives may provide insight into the long-term impact of short-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund operating statement provide a reconciliation to assist in understanding the differences between these two perspectives.

The basic governmental fund financial statements are presented on pages 12 - 15 of this report.

Fiduciary funds are reported in a separate Statement of Fiduciary Net Position. Activities from fiduciary funds are not included in the government-wide financial statements because the City Court cannot use these assets for its operations. The City Court is responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used for their intended purposes.

The basic fiduciary fund financial statements are presented on pages 16 - 17 of this report.

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The accompanying notes to the financial statements provide information essential to a full understanding of the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements begin on page 18 of this report.

OTHER INFORMATION

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information, which includes the Budgetary Comparison Schedule, the Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability, the Schedule of Contributions—Retirement Plan, and the related Notes to the Required Supplementary Information. Required supplementary information can be found on pages 32 - 35 of this report.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (CONTINUED) <u>DECEMBER 31, 2024</u>

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

Net position may serve, over time, as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. The following table provides a summary of the City Court's net position:

SUMMARY OF NET POSITION AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2024 AND 2023

	2024	2023
Current and other assets Capital assets	\$ 4,746,428 1,375,342	\$ 3,929,489 1,312,279
Total assets	6,121,770	5,241,768
Deferred outflows of resources	27,936	44,863
Current and other liabilities Non-current liabilities	3,539,427 211,673	3,136,051 267,749
Total liabilities	3,751,100	3,403,800
Deferred inflows of resources	23,025	
Net position: Investment in capital assets Restricted for special revenue fund Unrestricted	1,375,342 - 1,000,239	1,312,279 - 570,552
Total net position	\$ 2,375,581	<u>\$ 1,882,831</u>

Total assets increased by \$880,002 (16.8%) primarily due to the change in the value of deferred compensation investments. The decrease in deferred outflows are primarily due to the net difference between projected and actual earnings on the pension plan investments in accordance with GASB Statement No. 86. Total liabilities increased by \$347,300 (10.2%) primarily due to increases in deferred compensation due to employees.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS (CONTINUED)

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024 AND 2023

	2024		2	023
Revenues:	 			
Program:				
Fees, fines, and charges for services	\$ 965,900	\$	3	918,422
Grants	-			-
General:				
On-behalf payments	225,895			213,419
Intergovernmental	289,878			275,863
Interest income	103,151			86,253
Other	 351,512	_		<u>262,490</u>
Total revenues	 1,936,336	_	1,	,756,447
Expenses:				
Program:				
City Court	 1,443,586	_	1,	386,827
Change in net position	492,750			369,620
Net position, beginning of year	 1,882,831	_	1,	,513,211
Net position, end of year	\$ 2,375,581	<u>\$</u>	<u> 1,</u>	882,831

BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

The original budget adopted by the City Court was amended during the fiscal year. The City Court does not budget on-behalf payments and related revenues for the salaries and related benefits of the City Court's staff which are paid directly by other governmental agencies.

CAPITAL ASSETS

The City Court's investment in capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, amounts to \$1,375,342 as of December 31, 2024. Capital assets include equipment, furniture and fixtures, land, and leasehold improvements. During 2024, the City Court had asset additions of \$130,390 which primarily consisted of preparation for case management software conversions.

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND A LOOK AT NEXT YEAR

The City Court is benefiting from increased efficiencies from the use of an updated case management system and is currently evaluating further software changes to enhance its ability to achieve its goals of being responsive and efficient in serving the community of East St. Tammany Parish.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (CONTINUED)

<u>DECEMBER 31, 2024</u>

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the City Court's finances for all those with an interest in its finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or request for additional financial information should be addressed to Ms. Sherry Philips, Clerk of Court, City Court of East St. Tammany, 501 Bouscaren Street, Slidell, LA 70458.



STATEMENT OF NET POSITION AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2024

	Governmental Activities				
ASSETS:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	2,334,669			
Receivables, net		289,878			
Restricted assets:					
Deferred compensation investments		2,114,553			
Prepaid expenses		7,258			
Deposits		70			
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation		1,375,342			
Total assets		6,121,770			
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES:					
Pensions		27,936			
Total deferred outflows of resources		27,936			
LIABILITIES:					
Accounts payable		149,218			
Salaries and related benefits payable		21,800			
Net pension liability		186,205			
Due to custodial funds		587,600			
Registry deposits		41,835			
Compensated absences		25,468			
Appearance bonds pending		129,256			
Fines pending		495,165			
Payable from restricted assets:					
Deferred compensation due employees		2,114,553			
Total liabilities		3,751,100			
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES:					
Pensions		23,025			
Total deferred inflows of resources		23,025			
NET POSITION:					
Net investment in capital assets		1,375,342			
Unrestricted		1,000,239			
Total net position	\$	2,375,581			

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

Program Revenues								
Function/Programs		Expenses	A	Court Costs Assessed, and Charges for Services Capital Grants and Contributions		Re C	t (Expense) evenue and changes in et Position	
Governmental activities: City Court	\$	1,443,586	\$	965,900	\$		\$	(477,686)
Total governmental activities	\$	1,443,586	\$	965,900	\$			(477,686)
			Inter On-l	al revenues: rgovernmental pehalf payments rest income				289,878 225,895 103,151 351,512
			Total ş	general revenues				970,436
			Chang	ge in net position				492,750
			Net po	osition - beginning	3			1,882,831
			Net po	osition - ending			\$	2,375,581

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2024

ASSETS

		General Fund	Spe	cial Revenue Fund	Go	Total overnmental
Cash and cash equivalents Receivables, net Restricted assets:	\$	2,184,184 289,878	\$	150,485	\$	2,334,669 289,878
Deferred compensation investments Prepaid expenses		2,114,553 3,230		4,028		2,114,553 7,258
Deposits		70		- 4,028		7,238
Total assets	\$	4,591,915	\$	154,513	\$	4,746,428
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES						
LIABILITIES:						
Accounts payable	\$	4,194	\$	145,024	\$	149,218
Salary and related benefits payable		21,800		-		21,800
Due to custodial funds		542,217		-		542,217
Registry deposits		41,835		-		41,835
Due to General Fund		-		-		-
Appearance bonds pending		129,256		-		129,256
Fines pending		495,165		-		495,165
Payable from restricted assets:						
Deferred compensation due employees		2,114,553				2,114,553
Total liabilities		3,349,020		145,024		3,494,044
FUND BALANCES:						
Nonspendable		3,230		4,028		7,258
Unassigned		1,239,665		5,461		1,245,126
Total fund balances		1,242,895		9,489		1,252,384
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$	4,591,915	\$	154,513	\$	4,746,428

RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2024

Fund balances at December 31, 2024 - total governmental funds	\$ 1,252,384
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position are different because:	
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.	1,375,342
Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions are not reported in governmental funds	27,936
Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions are not reported in governmental funds	(23,025)
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore are not reported in the governmental funds. All liabilities (both current and long-term) are reported in the Statement of Net Position:	
Net pension liability	(186,205)
Due to agencies	(45,383)
Compensated absences payable	 (25,468)
Net position of governmental activities as of December 31, 2024	\$ 2,375,581

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Total Governmental
REVENUES:			
Court costs assessed	\$ 440,564	\$ -	\$ 440,564
Charges for services	525,336	-	525,336
Intergovernmental	289,878	_	289,878
Interest income	96,535	6,616	103,151
On-behalf payments	225,895	-	225,895
Gain on sale of assets	223,073	_	223,073
Other	258,707	92,805	351,512
Other	230,707	72,003	331,312
Total revenues	1,836,915	99,421	1,936,336
EXPENDITURES:			
Current:			
Personnel costs through on-behalf payments	225,895	-	225,895
Personnel services and benefits	887,050	-	887,050
Telephone	2,463	5,974	8,437
Insurance, net of refunds	250	5,846	6,096
Repairs and maintenance	405	9,560	9,965
Conferences and seminars	7,369	-	7,369
Dues, subscriptions, and licenses	1,984	-	1,984
Community relations	-,, · · · -	-	-,
Professional fees	113,671	_	113,671
Office supplies and library	25,417	_	25,417
Computer services	23,117	3,750	3,750
Leases	8,454	7,127	15,581
Witness fees	2,332	7,127	2,332
Filing/processing fees	21,466	_	21,466
Payroll taxes	15,977	_	15,977
Postage	9,235	_	9,235
Travel	4,673	-	4,673
Janitorial service	7,073	13,200	13,200
Other, net of refunds	1,401	525	1,926
	1,401	130,391	130,391
Capital outlays		130,391	130,391
Total expenditures	1,328,042	176,373	1,504,415
Excess of revenues over expenditures	508,873	(76,952)	431,921
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):			
Transfers out	-	(6,270)	
Transfers in	6,270		6,270
Total other financing sources (uses)	6,270	(6,270)	-
Net change in fund balances	515,143	(83,222)	431,921
FUND BALANCES, BEGINNING	727,752	92,711	820,463
FUND BALANCES, ENDING	\$ 1,242,895	\$ 9,489	\$ 1,252,384

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds	\$ 431,921
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:	
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which depreciation expense exceeded capital outlays in the current period.	63,063
Some expenses reported in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds:	
Decrease in compensated absences	 (2,234)
Change in net position of governmental activities	\$ 492,750

CITY COURT OF EAST ST. TAMMANY STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2024

		Civil		iminal	
		Docket	Docket		Total
ASSETS: Due from general fund	\$	487,750	\$	99,850	\$ 587,600
Total assets		487,750		99,850	 587,600
LIABILITIES: Due to others		487,750		99,850	 587,600
Total liabilities		487,750		99,850	 587,600
NET POSITION	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	 Civil Docket	 Criminal Docket	Total
ADDITIONS:			
Fines and fees collected	\$ 344,663	\$ 1,206,158	\$ 1,550,821
DEDUCTIONS:			
City of Slidell	-	352,346	352,346
Department of Public Safety/Machine	-	18,212	18,212
District Attorney	-	77,690	77,690
Indigent Defender	-	191,601	191,601
Juvenile Detention Center	-	21,054	21,054
Louisiana Law Enforcement	-	15,505	15,505
Parish of St. Tammany	-	306,129	306,129
Slidell City Marshal	-	131,670	131,670
State Treasurer	_	450	450
Traumatic Head & Spinal Cord Injury	_	11,802	11,802
Crimestoppers	_	8,407	8,407
Criminalistics Lab	_	114,881	114,881
Department of Public Safety/Services	-	42,383	42,383
Louisiana Supreme Court	-	14,729	14,729
Covington Clerk of Court	33	-	33
Curator	800	_	800
Garnishee	45	_	45
Judge Fee	154,579	_	154,579
Judge Supplemental Compensation Fund	98,001	_	98,001
Refunds of Filing Fees	-	_	-
Refunds of Unused Court	67	_	67
Secretary of State	50	_	50
Service Marshal	1,095	_	1,095
Service Sheriff	630	_	630
Judicial College Fund	 1,638	 	 1,638
Total deductions	 256,938	 1,306,859	 1,563,797
Net change	87,725	(100,701)	(12,976)
Fiduciary liabilities, beginning	 400,025	 200,551	 600,576
Fiduciary liabilities, ending	\$ 487,750	\$ 99,850	\$ 587,600

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2024

(1) <u>SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES</u>

Formation and Operations

The City Court of East St. Tammany (the "City Court") was created by a special legislative act. Its jurisdiction extends throughout all of Wards 8 and 9 of St. Tammany Parish. The City Court handles civil suits up to \$50,000, certain criminal matters and collects certain funds pursuant to state statute, which are under the control of the City Court and are reported in the accompanying financial statements. On June 12, 2020, the governor of Louisiana signed ACT 205-HB 757 that changed the City Court of Slidell's name to the City Court of East St. Tammany.

Reporting Entity

The City Court of East St. Tammany is composed of a City Judge, a Marshal, and a Clerk of Court. The Judge and the Marshal are elected at the Congressional election every six years. For reporting purposes, the Marshal is a stand-alone entity as defined by GASB Codification 2100 *Defining the Financial Reporting Entity*. The Marshal has a separate elected governing body, it is legally separate, and is fiscally independent of any other state and local government.

The financial statements include all organizations, activities, and functions that comprise the City Court. Component units are legally separate entities for which the City Court (the primary entity) is financially accountable. Financial accountability is defined as the ability to appoint a voting majority of the organization's governing body and either (1) the City Court's ability to impose its will over the organization or (2) the potential that the organization will provide a financial benefit to, or impose a financial burden on, the City Court. Using these criteria, the City Court has no component units.

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying financial statements of the City Court have been prepared in conformity with governmental 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 No. 34, Basic Financial Statements-and Management's Discussion and Analysis-for State and Local Governments, as amended by GASB Statement No. 63, Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position.

Government-Wide Financial Statements-(GWFS)

The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the City Court as a whole. These statements include all of the financial activities of the City Court. Information contained in these columns reflects the economic resources measurement and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources resulting from exchange or exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange takes place. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources resulting from non-exchange transactions are recognized in accordance with the requirements of Section N50 (GASB 34, as amended by GASB 63).

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

<u>DECEMBER 31, 2024</u>

(1) <u>SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)</u>

Government-Wide Financial Statements (GWFS) (continued)

Assets used in operation with an initial useful life that extends beyond one year are capitalized. Equipment, furniture and fixtures, leasehold improvements, and building are depreciated over their estimated useful lives. Depreciation is not calculated on land, land improvements, or construction in progress. Depreciable assets are presented net of accumulated depreciation in the statement of net position.

The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for the activities of the City Court. Program revenues are derived directly from Court users as fees for services; program revenues reduce the cost of the function to be financed from the City Court's general revenues. Program revenues also consist of operating grants and contributions which are resources restricted for operating purposes of a program.

Fund Financial Statements (FFS)

The accounting system is organized and operated on a fund basis whereby a separate self-balancing set of accounts is maintained for the purpose of carrying on specific activities of attaining certain objectives in accordance with specific regulations, restrictions, or limitations. The various kinds in the financial statements in this report are grouped into three broad categories as follows:

General Fund Type

Governmental funds account for all of the City Court's general activities, including the collection and disbursement of specific or legally restricted monies, the acquisition or construction of general fixed assets, and the servicing of general long-term debt. During 2024, the City Court maintained a General Fund to account for all these general activities.

Special Revenue Fund

The City Court's special revenue fund accounts for the Judicial Building Funds and other intergovernmental revenues that are restricted to be used for improvements to and upkeep of the court house.

Fiduciary Fund Type

Custodial funds are used to account for assets held by the City Court of East St. Tammany in Slidell, Louisiana as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governments, and/or other funds. Custodial funds are custodial in nature (assets equals liabilities) and do not involve the measurement of results of operations.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024

(1) <u>SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)</u>

Basis of Accounting

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. All governmental funds are accounted for using a current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus only current assets and current liabilities generally are included on the balance sheet. The operating statement of the fund presents increases (i.e., revenues and other sources) and decreases (i.e., expenditures and other uses) in net current assets.

The modified accrual basis of accounting is used by all governmental fund types and custodial funds. 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 be used to pay liabilities of the current period. The City Court 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. Principal and interest on general long-term debt and compensated absences are recorded as fund liabilities when due. Proceeds of general long-term debt and acquisitions under leases are reported as other financing sources. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures when incurred.

Court fines and fees and interest are recorded when earned and measurable.

Budget and Budgetary Accounting

Formal budgetary accounting is employed as a management control device during the year for the general fund. The City Court of East St. Tammany presents, adopts, and amends an operating budget as required by the Louisiana Local Government Budget Act. The budget is prepared on a modified accrual basis of accounting. All appropriations, which are not expended, lapse at year-end. Unexpended appropriations and any excess revenues over expenditures are carried forward to subsequent year as beginning fund balance.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include amounts in demand deposits, interest bearing demand deposits, certificates of deposit, and money market accounts. It is the policy of the City Court to treat these asset types and highly liquid investments with a maturity of ninety (90) days or less as cash equivalents.

Louisiana revised statutes authorize the City Court to invest in (1) United States bonds, treasury notes or certificates, or time certificates of deposit of state banks organized under the laws of Louisiana and national banks having their principal offices in the State of Louisiana, an investment as stipulated in LSA-R.S. 39:1271, or any other federally insured investments or (2) in mutual or trust fund institutions, which are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Act of 1933 and the Investment Act of 1940, and which have underlying investments consisting solely of and limited to securities of the U.S. Government or its agencies.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024

(1) <u>SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)</u>

Capital Assets

Capital assets are recorded as expenditures at the time of purchase and the related assets are capitalized. All purchased fixed assets are valued at cost where historical records are available and at estimated historical costs where no historical records exist. Donated fixed assets, if any, are valued at their estimated fair market value on the date received. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized. Assets over \$5,000 are capitalized. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over estimated lives of 5 years for furniture, fixtures, and equipment, 20 years for the criminal case management system, and 25 years for leasehold improvements.

Prepaid Expenses

Prepaid expenses represent the unused portion of insurance and equipment maintenance policies in effect at the balance sheet date.

Use of Estimates in the Preparation of Financial Statements

The preparation of the City Court's 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 assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues, expenditures, and expenses during the reporting period. Adjustments to the reported amounts of assets and liabilities may be necessary in the future to the extent that future estimates or actual results are different from the estimates used in 2024 financial statements.

Compensated Absences

The City Court's policy permits all full time City Court employees who are paid on a salary basis and work a regular full-time work week earn paid time off ("PTO"). An employee may accumulate up to a maximum of thirty days of PTO. Any earned time in excess of thirty days shall be paid to the employee on their anniversary date.

The following is a schedule of the rates for paid time off:

	Paid Time-Off
Service	Days
< 1 year	0
1 - 5 years	15
6 - 10 years	20
>10 years	25

The cost of current leave privileges is recognized as a current-year expenditure in the General Fund when the leave is actually taken. At December 31, 2024, the City Court recognized \$25,468 of accrued compensated absences on the statement of net position.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024

(1) <u>SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)</u>

Fines Pending and Civil Fees on Deposit

Fines pending represent partial payments on fines collected. Once fines have been collected in full, the City Court records its share of the fines as revenues and distributes the remaining amounts that are collected for other agencies.

Deposits on pending civil cases represent deposits received until a disposition of a case is finalized at which point the deposits are distributed.

Appearance bonds pending

Appearance bonds pending represent amounts collected for cases that have not been settled at year end. When these cases are settled, the City Court will record its share of these amounts as revenues and the remaining amounts will be distributed to other agencies.

Equity Classifications

In the government-wide financial statements, equity is classified as net position and displayed in three components:

- a. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings and deferred inflows of resources that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
- b. <u>Restricted net position</u> consists of restricted assets reduced by liabilities and deferred inflows of resources related to those assets. Constraints may be placed on the use either by (1) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (2) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- c. <u>Unrestricted net position</u> net amount of the assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources that are not included in either of the other two categories of net position.

Governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance. Fund balance is further classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned. The Judge, as the highest level of decision-making authority, can establish, modify, or rescind a fund balance commitment. For assigned fund balance the Judge authorizes management to assign amounts for a specific purpose.

When both restricted and unrestricted fund balances are available for use, it is the City Court's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted as needed. When committed, assigned, or unassigned fund balances are available for use, it is the City Court's policy to use committed resources first, then assigned resources and unassigned resources as they are needed.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024

(1) <u>SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)</u>

Date of Management Review

Management has evaluated subsequent events through June 14, 2025, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued.

New Accounting Pronouncements

The GASB has released Statement No. 101, Compensated Absences (Statement 101), which replaces GASB Statement No. 16, Accounting for Compensated Absences. The Statement 101 requires liabilities for compensated absences to be recognized for: Leave that has not been used and leave that has been used but not yet paid in cash or settled through noncash means. Under the new Statement a liability should be recognized for leave that has not been used if (a) the leave is attributable to services already rendered; (b) the leave has accumulated; and (c) the leave is more likely than not to be used for time off or otherwise paid in cash or settled through noncash means. Leave that is more likely than not to be settled through conversion to defined benefit postemployment benefits is not included in the compensated absences liability. The Statement also addresses the timing of the recognition of a liability for certain types of compensated absences, such as sabbatical leave, parental leave, military leave, jury duty leave and other specific types of compensated balances. The Statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2023. The adoption of this standard did not have a material impact on the City Court's financial statements.

(2) <u>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</u>

At December 31, 2024, the City Court had cash and cash equivalents (book balances) totaling \$2,334,669. These deposits are stated at cost. 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.

At December 31, 2024, the City Court had \$2,385,106 in deposits (collected bank balances). These deposits are secured from custodial credit risk by \$250,000 of federal deposit insurance (GASB Category 1) and the remaining deposits of \$2,135,106 are covered by, 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 provision 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 City Court that the fiscal agent has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

<u>DECEMBER 31, 2024</u>

(3) CHANGES IN CAPITAL ASSETS

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended December 31, 2024:

	Balance 1/1/2024	Additions		Reductions		Balance 2/31/2024
Capital assets not being depreciated:						
Land	\$ 138,023	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 138,023
Construction in progress	 145,325		130,390		<u>-</u>	 275,715
Total capital assets not						
being depreciated	 283,348	_	130,390		<u>-</u>	 413,738
Capital assets being depreciated						
Furniture, fixtures						
and equipment	462,359		-		(13,420)	448,939
Leasehold improvements	 1,264,161		<u> </u>		<u>-</u>	 1,264,161
Total capital assets						
being depreciated	1,726,520		-		(13,420)	1,713,100
Less accumulated						
depreciation	 (697,589)		(67,327)		13,420	 (751,496)
Total capital assets						
being depreciated, net	 1,028,931		(67,327)		<u>-</u>	 961,604
Total capital assets, net	\$ 1,312,279	\$	63,063	\$	<u>-</u>	\$ 1,375,342

For the year ended December 31, 2024, \$67,327 in depreciation expense was allocated to judicial activities.

(4) <u>RETIREMENT PLANS</u>

Deferred Compensation Plan

In 1991, the City Court adopted a deferred compensation plan created in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 457. The plan, available to all Court employees, permits them to defer a portion of their salary until future years. The deferred compensation is not available to employees until termination, death, or unforeseeable emergency.

The City Court funds all amounts of compensation deferred under the Plan at the direction of the covered employees through investments in annuity contracts underwritten by Empower Retirement, which is the plan administrator. The City Court contributes a certain percentage of the employees' gross salary to the plan.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024

(4) <u>RETIREMENT PLANS (CONTINUED)</u>

Deferred Compensation Plan (Continued)

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 (until paid or made available to the employees or other beneficiary) are solely the property and rights of the City Court subject only to the claims of the City Court's general creditors. Participants' rights under the plan are equal to those of general creditors of the City Court in an amount equal to the fair value of the deferred account for each participant. The City Court has no liability for losses under the plan but does have the duty of due care. The City Court contributed \$70,450 to the plan in 2024. The market value of the plan assets as of December 31, 2024, is \$2,114,553.

<u>Description - LASERS</u>

The City Judge is a member of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit plan administered by a separate board of trustees.

Section 401 of Title 11 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes (La. R.S. 11:401) grants to LASERS Board of Trustees and the Louisiana Legislature the authority to review administration, benefit terms, investments, and funding of the plan. LASERS issues a publicly available financial report that can be obtained at www.lasersonline.org.

Funding Policy - LASERS

For the LASERS system, the age and years of creditable service required in order for a member to retire with full benefits are established by statute and vary depending on the member's hire date, employer, and job classification. The majority of LASERS rank and file members may either retire with full benefits at any age upon completing 30 years of creditable service or at age 60 upon completing five to ten years of creditable service depending on their plan. Additionally, members may choose to retire with 20 years of service at any age, with an actuarially reduced benefit. The basic annual retirement benefit for members is equal to 2.5% to 3.5% of average compensation multiplied by the number of years of creditable service.

Contributions – LASERS

For the LASERS system, contribution requirements of active employees are governed by Section 401 of Title 11 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes (La. R.S. 11:401) and may be amended by the Louisiana Legislature. Under the terms of the plan, the Judge contributes a specified percentage of his gross earnings and the City Court also contributes a specified percentage. For the year ending December 31, 2024, the actual employer contribution rate and the actuarially determined employer contribution rate are listed below.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024

(4) <u>RETIREMENT PLANS (CONTINUED)</u>

<u>Contributions – LASERS (Continued)</u>

	Required by Statute	Actual Contribution				
Contributions: Employees Employers	13.00% \$ 10,226 43.41% 32,596	13.00% \$ 10,226 43.41% 32,596				
	<u>55.80%</u> \$ 42,822	<u>55.80%</u> <u>\$ 42,822</u>				

The City Court's contributions to the LASERS system for the year ending December 31, 2024 were approximately \$32,596 equal to the required contribution for the year.

<u>Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources, and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions – LASERS</u>

At December 31, 2024, the City Court reported a liability totaling \$186,205 representing its proportionate share of the net pension liability for the LASERS systems. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2024, and the total pension liability used to calculate the Net Pension Liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The City Court's proportion of the Net Pension Liability was based on a projection of the City Court's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating employers, actuarially determined. At June 30, 2024, the City Court's proportion was .00342% for the LASERS system, which was an decrease of .00023% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2023.

For the year ended December 31, 2024, the City Court recognized pension payments in its custodial funds for LASERS systems totaling \$18,251. Added to pension expense is the employer's amortization of change in proportionate share and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions totaling \$18,357.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

<u>DECEMBER 31, 2024</u>

(4) <u>RETIREMENT PLANS (CONTINUED)</u>

<u>Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources, and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions – LASERS (Continued)</u>

At December 31, 2024, the City Court reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources		Inf	eferred clows of esources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$	-	\$	824
Change in assumptions		-		-
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments		1,302		22,201
Changes in proportion and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions		12,050		-
Employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date		14,584		<u> </u>
Total	\$	27,936	\$	23,025

Employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date totaling \$14,584 and reported as deferred outflows of resources will be recognized as a reduction of the Net Pension Liability in the next fiscal year. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ended December 31:

2024 2025	\$ (1,302) 5,259
2026	(8,557)
2027	 (5,552)
Total	\$ (10,152)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) DECEMBER 31, 2024

(4) <u>RETIREMENT PLANS (CONTINUED)</u>

<u>Actuarial Assumptions – LASERS System</u>

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2024, actuarial valuations for the LASERS System was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Valuation Date: June 30, 2024

Actuarial Cost Method: Entry Age Normal

Actuarial Assumptions:

Investment Rate of Return 7.25% per annum

Inflation 2.4% per annum

Expected Remaining

Service Lives 2 years

Mortality Rates Non-disabled members – The PubG-2010 Healthy Retiree

on a by Mortality Improvement Scale MP-2021.

Disabled members – Mortality rates based on the RP-2000 Disabled Retiree Mortality Table, with no projection for

mortality improvement.

Termination, Disability,

and retirement

Termination, disability, and retirement assumptions were projected based on a five-year (2019-2023) experience

study of the System's members.

Salary increases Salary increases were projected based on a 2019-2023

experience study of the System's members. The salary increase ranges for specific types of members are:

Member Type	Lower Rang	e Upper Range
Regular	3.3%	14.0%
Judges	2.4%	4.8%
Corrections	4.4%	15.3%
Hazardous Duty	4.4%	15.3%
Wildlife	4.4%	15.3%

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

<u>DECEMBER 31, 2024</u>

(4) <u>RETIREMENT PLANS (CONTINUED)</u>

Actuarial Assumptions – LASERS System (Continued)

Cost of Living Adjustments – The present value of future retirement benefits is based on benefits currently being paid by the System and includes previously granted cost of living increases. The projected benefit payments do not include provisions for potential future increases not yet authorized by the Board of Trustees as they were deemed not to be substantively automatic.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation and an adjustment for the effect of rebalancing/diversification. The target allocation and best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class included in the pension plan's target asset allocation as of June 30, 2024 are summarized in the following table:

	Long-Term
	Expected Real
Asset Class	Rate of Return
Cash	0.76%
Domestic equity	4.29%
International equity	5.22%
Domestic Fixed Income	2.04%
International Fixed Income	5.24%
Alternative Investments	8.19%
Total fund	5.61%

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.25%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employee contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that employer contributions from participating employers will be made at the contractually required rates, actuarially determined. Based on these assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024

(4) <u>RETIREMENT PLANS (CONTINUED)</u>

Actuarial Assumptions – LASERS System (Continued)

Sensitivity of the City Court's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the City Court's proportionate share of the Net Pension Liability using the discount rate of 7.25%, as well as what the City Court's proportionate share of the Net Pension Liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current rate:

	LASERS System							
			Current					
1	1% Decrease 6.25%	Dis	scount Rate 7.25%	1% Increase 8.25%				
Court's proportionate share of the Net Pension Liability \$	159,663	\$	186,205	\$	78,187			

Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued stand-alone audit report on their financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2024. Access to the report can be found on the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's website, www.lla.la.gov.

(5) <u>LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS</u>

The following is a summary of the changes in long-term obligations:

	nlance at nuary 1, 2024	t Increase	Balance at December 31, 2024		
Compensated absences Net pension liability	\$ 23,234 244,515	\$ 2,234 (58,310)	\$	25,468 186,205	
Total	\$ 267,749	\$ (56,076)	\$	211,673	

(6) <u>LEASES</u>

The City Court has cancelable and non-cancelable leases for the rental of office equipment. All lease terms have expired and are month to month. The total amount charged to lease expense as a result of all leases was \$15,581 for the year ended December 31, 2024.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2024

(7) EXPENSES OF THE CITY COURT PAID BY OTHERS

The accompanying financial statements do not include certain portions of the City Court's expenses paid directly by other governmental entities. In compliance with Louisiana Revised Statute 13:2487.16, the City of Slidell furnishes a suitable court room and offices for the Clerk of Court, and the expenses of operation and maintenance of the City Court room and offices are legislatively mandated to be borne by the City of Slidell and St. Tammany Parish equally. The City Court further relies on Louisiana Revised Statute 13:2487.30 for *Operational expenses; judicial determination*.

Compensation paid to the Judge and the Clerk of Court, has been prepared in compliance with Louisiana Revised Statute 13:1875 and 13:1874. Under statute 13:1875 the City of Slidell and St. Tammany Parish paid salaries and fringe benefits totaling \$140,139 on behalf of the City Court. Under statute 13:1874 the State of Louisiana paid annual salary and fringe benefits totaling \$85,756 on behalf of the City Court. The fringe benefits paid by the state include contributions of \$25,155 to LASERS. On-behalf payments totaling \$225,895 are included in the General Fund as revenues and personnel cost in the accompanying financial statements.

(8) <u>INTERFUND TRANSFER</u>

Operating transfers between funds occur to provide reimbursement of certain operating costs and are not expected to be repaid. Transfers between funds during 2024 occurred as follows:

<u>Fund</u>	Transfer From		Trans	fers To
General	\$	-	\$	6,270
Special Revenue Fund		6,270		
Total	\$	6,270	<u>\$</u>	6,270

(9) <u>LITIGATION</u>

The St. Tammany Parish Government (the Parish) filed a Petition against thirty-eight named defendants, including the City Court of East St. Tammany. The essence of the Petition is a request for judicial relief from statutorily mandated obligations so as to allow the Parish to void or modify legislative mandates. The Parish's claims against the City Court are unsupported with respect to the mandatory funding obligations of the Parish in state statutes. On advice of their legal counsel for the year ended December 31, 2023, to offset the mandated obligations not being paid by the Parish, the City Court did not remit funds to the Parish on a monthly basis and held these funds in a designated account. The total amount of funds not remitted to the Parish totaled \$95,274 as of December 31, 2023. Those funds are included in Cash and Cash Equivalents on the accompanying Statement of Net Position. All funds due to the Parish as of December 31, 2024 have been remitted.

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	General Fund					Special Revenue Funds				
			Actual		Actual	Variance				Variance
	Original	Final	Amounts	Adjustments	Amounts	Favorable	Original	Final	Actual	Favorable
	Budget	Budget	(GAAP)	Budget Basis	Budget Basis	(Unfavorable)	Budget	Budget	Amounts	(Unfavorable)
REVENUES:										
Court costs assessed	\$ 425,000	\$ 433,600		\$ -	\$ 440,564		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Charges for services	475,000	518,000	525,336	-	525,336	7,336	-	-	-	-
Grants	300,000	280.000	200.070	-	200.070	- 070	20,000	-	-	-
Intergovernmental Interest	370,000 82,000	289,000 96,400	289,878 96,535	-	289,878 96,535	878 135	30,000 4,500	6,600	6,616	16
On-behalf payments	82,000	90,400	225,895	(215,000)	10,895	10,895	4,300	0,000	0,010	10
Other Other	145,500	254,760	258,707	(213,000)	258,707	3,947	85,000	92,000	92,805	805
Other	115,500	231,700	230,707		230,707	3,717	05,000	72,000	72,003	
Total revenues	1,797,500	1,591,760	1,836,915	(215,000)	1,621,915	30,155	119,500	98,600	99,421	821
EXPENDITURES:										
Current:										
Personnel costs through on-behalf payments	-	-	225,895	(215,000)	10,895	(10,895)	-	-	-	-
Personnel services and benefits	958,900	882,450	887,050	-	887,050	(4,600)	-	-	-	-
Telephone	4,500	2,500	2,463	-	2,463	37	4,000	6,000	5,974	26
Insurance	3,000	250	250	-	250	-	12,000	6,000	5,846	154
Repairs and maintenance	500	500	405	-	405	95	20,600	10,000	9,560	440
Conferences & seminars	10,000	7,400	7,369	-	7,369	31	-	-	-	-
Dues, subscriptions, and licenses	2,000	2,000	1,984	-	1,984	16	-	-	-	-
Community relations	500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Professional fees	59,500	114,152	113,671	-	113,671	481	-	-	-	-
Office supplies and library	33,000	25,500	25,417	-	25,417	83	20.000	2.750	2.750	-
Computer services	20,000	21,520	8,454	-	9 151	12.066	20,000	3,750	3,750 7,127	(7.127)
Operating leases Witness fees	7,300	8,500	2,332	-	8,454 2,332	13,066 6,168	7,700	7,100	7,127	(7,127) 7,100
Filing/processing fees	4,000	1,100	2,332	-	2,332	(20,366)	7,700	7,100	-	7,100
Payroll taxes	17,000	16,000	15,977	-	15,977	(20,300)	-	-	-	-
Postage	10,000	10,000	9,235		9,235	765			_	
Travel	10,000	10,000	4,673	_	4,673	(4,673)	_	_	_	_
Janitorial service	-	_	-,075	_	.,075	(.,075)	13,200	13,200	13,200	_
Other	6,100	70,352	1,401	_	1,401	68,951	2,000	400	525	(125)
Capital outlays	300,000							130,000	130,391	(391)
Total expenditures	1,436,400	1,162,224	1,328,042	(215,000)	1,113,042	49,182	79,500	176,450	176,373	77
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	361,100	429,536	508,873	-	508,873	79,337	40,000	(77,850)	(76,952)	898
Intergovernmental transfers			6,270		6,270	6,270			(6,270)	6,270
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING	727,752	727,752	727,752		727,752		92,711	92,711	92,711	
FUND BALANCE, ENDING	\$ 1,088,852	\$ 1,157,288	\$ 1,242,895	\$ -	\$ 1,242,895		\$ 132,711	\$ 14,861	\$ 9,489	

SCHEDULE OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024*

	12/31/2024	12/31/2023	12/31/2022	12/31/2021	12/31/2020	12/31/2019	12/31/2018	12/31/2017	12/31/2016	12/31/2015
<u>Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System</u> City Court's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.003420%	0.003650%	0.003420%	0.003360%	0.003090%	0.003469%	0.003599%	0.003614%	0.003759%	0.003522%
City Court's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 186,205	\$ 244,515	\$ 258,695	\$ 185,044	\$ 255,564	\$ 251,859	\$ 245,449	\$ 254,382	\$ 295,177	\$ 239,549
City Court's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$ 88,803	\$ 78,662	\$ 72,737	\$ 70,815	\$ 68,012	\$ 66,240	\$ 65,928	\$ 66,073	\$ 66,779	\$ 65,089 >
City Court's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll	209.68%	310.84%	355.66%	261.31%	375.76%	380.22%	372.30%	385.00%	442.02%	368.03%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	74.59%	68.42%	63.65%	72.78%	58.00%	62.90%	64.30%	62.54%	57.73%	62.66%

^{*}The amounts presented have a measurement date of June 30, 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, and 2015, respectively.

SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS - RETIREMENT PLAN FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024*

	12/31/2024	12/31/2023	12/31/2022	12/31/2021	12/31/2020	12/31/2019	12/31/2018	12/31/2017	12/31/2016	12/31/2015
Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 36,608	\$ 34,830	\$ 31,572	\$ 30,663	\$ 28,855	\$ 27,933	\$ 26,398	\$ 25,108	\$ 25,377	\$ 27,012
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	_(36,608)	(34,830)	(31,572)	(30,663)	(28,855)	(27,933)	(26,398)	(25,108)	(25,377)	(27,012)
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	<u>\$ -</u>
City Court's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$ 88,803	\$ 78,662	\$ 72,737	\$ 70,815	\$ 67,416	\$ 67,688	\$ 65,830	\$ 65,791	\$ 66,694	\$ 65,089
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll	41.22%	44.28%	43.41%	43.30%	42.80%	41.27%	40.10%	38.16%	38.05%	41.50%

^{*}The amounts presented have a measurement date of June 30, 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, and 2015, respectively.

NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DECEMBER 31, 2024

(1) <u>PENSION PLAN SCHEDULES</u>

Changes of Benefit Terms

There were no changes of benefit terms during any of the years presented.

Changes of Assumptions

During the year ended December 31, 2024, the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS) raised its assumption of the inflation rate from 2.3% to 2.4%.

During the year ended December 31, 2022, the LASERS adjusted its assumption of the investment rate of return and the discount rate from 7.40% to 7.25%.

During the year ended December 31, 2021, LASERS adjusted its assumption of the investment rate of return and the discount rate from 7.55% to 7.40%.

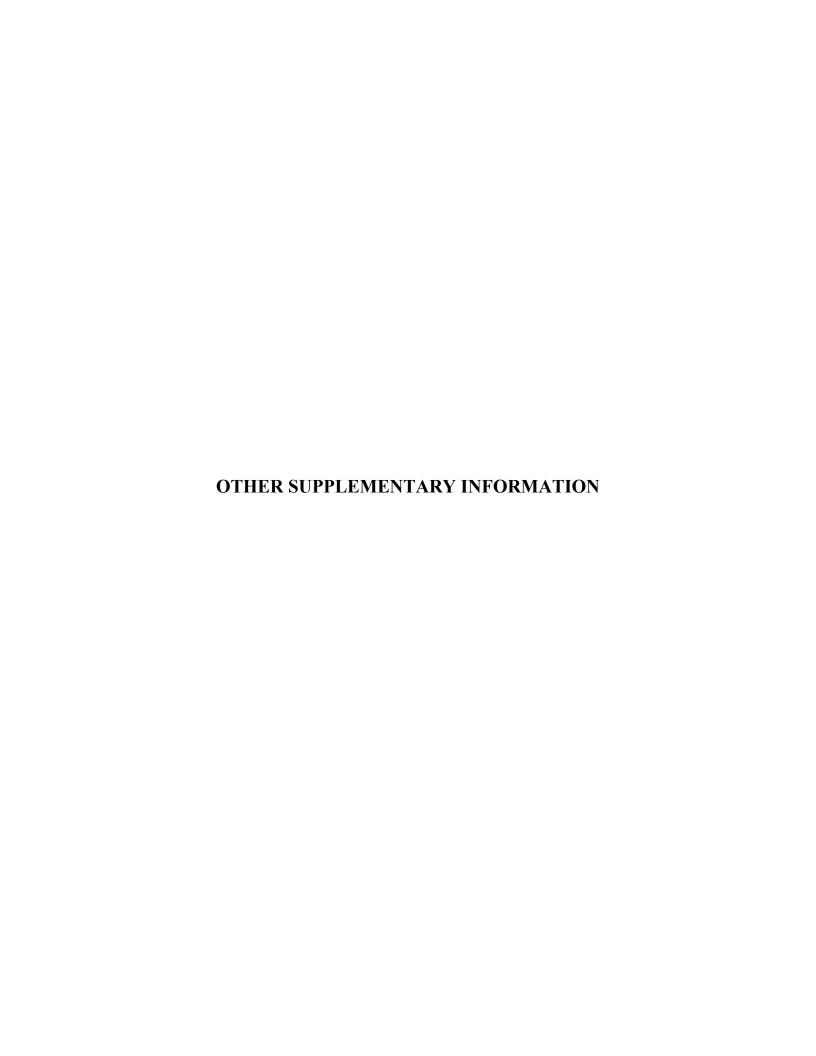
During the year ended December 31, 2020, LASERS adjusted its assumption of the investment rate of return and the discount rate from 7.60% to 7.55%. LASERS lowered its inflation rate assumption from 2.50% to 2.30%. Additionally, mortality rates used changed from RP-2014 Healthy Mortality Table with mortality improvement projected using the MP-2018 to RP-2014 Blue Collar (males/females) and White Collar (females) Healthy Annuitant Tables projected using the MP-2018. The adjusted the ranges of its salary increase assumptions from 3.2% – 14.0% to 3.0% – 13.8%.

During the year ended December 31, 2019, LASERS adjusted its assumption of the investment rate of return and the discount rate from 7.65% to 7.60%. LASERS lowered its inflation rate assumption from 2.75% to 2.50%. Additionally, LASERS adjusted its expected remaining service lives from 3 years to 2 years. Mortality rates used changed from RP-2000 Combined Healthy Mortality Table with mortality improvement projected to 2015 to RP-2014 Healthy Mortality Table with mortality improvement projected using the MP-2018. The adjusted the ranges of its salary increase assumptions from 3.4% – 14.3% to 3.2% – 14.0%.

During the year ended December 31, 2018, LASERS adjusted its assumption of the investment rate of return and the discount rate from 7.70% to 7.65%.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, the LASERS adjusted its assumption of the investment rate of return and the discount rate from 7.75% to 7.70%. LASERS lowered its inflation rate assumption from 3.0% to 2.75%. Additionally, LASERS adjusted the ranges of its salary increase assumptions from 3.6% - 14.5% to 3.4% - 14.3%.

There were no changes in assumptions during any other years presented.



Schedule "A-4"

SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION, BENEFITS, AND OTHER PAYMENTS TO AGENCY HEAD FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	Judge Bryan Haggerty		
Salary	\$	88,803	
Benefits - insurance (life and disability)		582	
Benefits - insurance (professional liability)		3,025	
Benefits - retirement defined benefit plan		36,608	
Benefits - retirement defined contribution plan		10,656	
Per diem		826	
Reimbursements		16	
Travel		66	
Registration fees		1,496	
Conference travel		649	
Continuing professional education fees		1,875	
Housing		1,467	
Legal library and Westlaw subscription		14,322	
Total compensation, benefits, and other payments	\$	160,391	

Cash Basis Presentation	First Six Month Period End June 30, 2024	Second Six Month Period End December 31, 2024
Beginning balance of amounts collected (i.e. cash on hand)	1,375,528	1,593,586
Add: collections		
Civil fees	271,858	326,963
Bond fees \$15 per bond	5,383	5,637
Criminal court costs/agency fees	495,922	488,993
Criminal fines - contempt	140,261	141,018
Criminal fines - other - criminal court fund, city fines & state fines	358,801	348,576
Probation/Parola/Supervision fees	138,547	112,650
Service/collection fees - 5% credit card processing fees	15,130	14,678
Interest earnings on collected balances	968	1,058
Other	98,204	78,198
Total collections	1,525,074	1,517,771
Less: disbursements to governments & nonprofits:		
City of Slidell, Criminal Fines - Other	142,328	145,250
City of Slidell, Criminal Court Costs/Fees	29,620	30,046
City of Slidell, Bond Fees	2,590	2,512
Department of Public Safety, Criminal Court Costs/Fees	30,234	30,361
District Attorney, Criminal Court Costs/Fees	25,083	23,994
District Attorney, Criminal Fines - Other	14,517	14,096
Public Defender, 22nd JDC, Criminal Court Costs/Fees	95,783	94,361
Public Defender, 22nd JDC, Bond Fees	741	716
Florida Parish Juvenile Detention Center, Criminal Court Costs/Fees	10,590	10,464
Louisiana Commission Law Enforcement, Criminal Court Costs/Fees	7,715	7,790
Parish of St. Tammany, Criminal Fines - Other	-	306,004
Parish of St. Tammany, Criminal Court Costs/Fees	-	125
Slidell City Marshal, Criminal Court Costs/Fees	66,111	65,559
Slidell City Marshal, Civil Fees	585	510
LA State Treasurer, Criminal Court Costs/Fees	6,580	6,499
LA State Treasurer, Civil Fees	46,286	51,715
Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, Criminal Court Costs/Fees	5,875	5,927
Crimestoppers, Criminal Court Costs/Fees	4,227	4,180
STPSO Criminalistic Lab, Criminal Court Costs/Fees	57,019	56,406
STPSO Criminalistic Lab, Bond Fees	740	716
Louisiana Supreme Court, Criminal Court Costs/Fees	1,057	1,043
Louisiana Supreme Court, Civil Fees	786	852
Covington Clerk of Court, Civil Fees	-	33
Garnishee, Civil Fees	-	45
Judge Fee, Civil Fees	82,451	90,487
Refunds of Civil, Civil Fees	67	-
Secretary of State, Civil Fees	-	50
Sheriff, E. Baton Rouge Parish, Civil Fees	90	90
Sheriff, Jefferson Parish, Civil Fees	90	90
Sheriff, Orleans Parish, Civil Fees	45	90
Sheriff, Plaquemines Parish, Civil Fees	45	

JUSTICE SYSTEM FUNDING SCHEDULE - COLLECTING/DIBURSING ENTITY (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

Cash Basis Presentation		st Six Month d End June 30, 2024	Second Six Month Period End December 31, 2024
Sheriff, St. Bernard Parish, Civil Fees Sheriff, St. Tammany Parish, Civil Fees		45 45	
Less: amounts retained by collecting agency			
Self-Disbursed to CCEST - criminal court costs/fees		158,495	151,193
Self-Disbursed to CCEST - criminal fines - contempt		138,181	133,248
Self-Disbursed to CCEST - criminal fines - other		89,263	95,906
Self-Disbursed to CCEST - probation/parole/supervision fees		131,256	124,257
Self-Disbursed to CCEST - bond fees		1,487	1,462
Self-Disbursed to CCEST - civil fees		104,165	152,553
Self-Disbursed to CCEST - Service/Collection Fees (e.g. credit card fees, report fees/			
3rd party service fees)		3,756	4,042
Less: disbursements to individuals/3rd party collection or processing agencies			
Other disbursements to individuals		37,972	12,665
Payments to 3rd party collection/processing agencies		11,096	10,517
Total disbursements/retainage		1,307,016	1,635,854
Total: ending balance of amounts collected but not			
disbursed/retained (i.e. cash on hand)	\$	1,593,586	\$ 1,475,503
Ending balance of "partial payments" collected but not disbursed	\$	_	\$ -
Other information:			
Ending balance of total amounts assessed but not yet collected	* \$	_	\$ -
Total waivers during the fiscal period	* \$		\$ -
	*		*

^{*} Due to lack of case management reporting capabilities, this amount is not obtainable at the present time.

JUSTICE SYSTEM FUNDING SCHEDULE - RECEIVING ENTITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

Cash Basis Presentation	First Six Month Period End June 30, 2024	Second Six Month Period End December 31, 2024	
Receipts from:			
LA Department of Public Safety & Corrections, Public			
Safety Services, Criminal Court Costs/Fees	\$ 75	\$ 88	
Total Receipts	\$ 75	\$ 88	
Ending balance of amounts assessed but not received	\$ -	\$ -	





INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' 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 Honorable Judge Bryan Haggerty City Court of East St. Tammany Slidell, Louisiana

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, and each major fund of City Court of East St. Tammany, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City Court of East St. Tammany's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated June 14, 2025.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the City Court of East St. Tammany's 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 City Court of East St. Tammany's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the City Court of East St. Tammany'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 have not been identified.



To the Honorable Judge Bryan Haggerty City Court of East St. Tammany June 14, 2025

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether City Court of East St. Tammany's 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 statement. 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 entity'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 entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose. However, under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

June 14, 2025 New Orleans, Louisiana

> Guikson Keestel, LLP Certified Public Accountants

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

SECTION I SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS

- 1. The Independent Auditors' Report expresses an unmodified opinion on the financial statements of the City Court of East St. Tammany.
- 2. No material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control relating to the audit of the financial statements are reported in the Independent Auditors' 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*.
- 3. No instances of noncompliance material to the financial statements of the City Court of East St. Tammany were reported in the Independent Auditors' 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*.
- 4. No management letter was issued for the year ended December 31, 2024.

SECTION II FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS

There were no financial statement findings related to the year ended December 31, 2024.

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

FINDINGS – FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT

There were no findings related to the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023.