



**EAST ST. CHARLES PARISH VOLUNTEER FIRE
DEPARTMENT, INC.
DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA**

FINANCIAL REPORT

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024



(A Professional Corporation)
164 West Main Street, Thibodaux, LA 70301
South end of Canal Boulevard
(985) 447-8507 Fax (985) 447-4833
www.kearnscpa.com

EAST ST. CHARLES PARISH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA

FINANCIAL REPORT

For the year ended December 31, 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Statement	Page
Financial Section		
Independent Auditor's Report		3
<u>Basic Financial Statements:</u>		
<u>Government-wide Financial Statements</u>		
Statement of Net Position	A	6
Statement of Activities	B	7
<u>Fund Financial Statements</u>		
Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds	C	8
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance – Governmental Funds	D	9
Reconciliation of the Governmental Fund Balance Sheet to the Government-wide Statement of Net Position		10
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities		11
Notes to the Financial Statements		12

EAST ST. CHARLES PARISH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA

FINANCIAL REPORT

For the year ended December 31, 2024

	Schedule	Page
Required Supplementary Information		
Budgetary Comparison Schedule – General Fund	1	22
Other Supplemental Information		
Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer	2	23
Reports by Management		
Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings	3	24
Corrective Action Plan for Current Year Audit Findings	4	25
Other Report Required By Government Auditing Standards		Page
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 <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>		26



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To The Board of Directors
East St. Charles Parish Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
Destrehan, Louisiana

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the East St. Charles Parish Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. (the Department) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Department's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the East St. Charles Parish Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. as of December 31, 2024 and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

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 Department 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 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 Department'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.

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 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 Department'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 Department'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.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Budgetary Comparison Schedule – General Fund information on page 22 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 Government 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 response 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.

Management has omitted the management's discussion and analysis information that the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Department's basic financial statements. The accompanying Supplementary Information on page 23, the Schedule of Compensation, Reimbursements, Benefits, and Other Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer, is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. 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 other supplementary information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 11, 2025 on our consideration of the Department's internal control over financial reporting and on our test of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Department's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Thibodaux, Louisiana
June 11, 2025

Basic Financial Statements

Government-Wide Financial Statements (GWFS)

EAST ST. CHARLES PARISH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
December 31, 2024

	Governmental Activites
Assets	
Current assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,246,207
Prepaid insurance	49,488
Due from Vendor	26,168
Due from Government - ad valorem taxes	10,000
Due from Government - sales taxes	120,996
Total current assets	<u>1,452,859</u>
Noncurrent assets:	
Capital assets, not being depreciated	1,007,068
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	2,993,660
Total noncurrent assets	<u>4,000,728</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>\$ 5,453,587</u></u>
Liabilities	
Current liabilities	
Accounts payable	28,487
Accrued payroll	9,243
Total current liabilities	<u>37,730</u>
Total Liabilities	<u><u>\$ 37,730</u></u>
Net Position	
Net investment in capital assets	4,000,728
Net Position - Unrestricted	1,415,129
Total Net Position	<u><u>\$ 5,415,857</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement

EAST ST. CHARLES PARISH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.

DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA

Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Program Revenues				Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants & Contributions	Capital Grants & Contributions	
Expenses:					
Governmental activities:					
Public safety - fire protection:					
Salaries and related benefits	\$ 320,988	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (320,988)
Repairs and maintenance	122,090	-	-	-	(122,090)
Professional services	32,141	-	-	-	(32,141)
Insurance	133,662	-	-	-	(133,662)
Fuel	14,107	-	-	-	(14,107)
Small furniture and equipment	1,187	-	-	-	(1,187)
Supplies and materials	28,225	-	-	-	(28,225)
Utilities	34,562	-	-	-	(34,562)
Training	17,082	-	-	-	(17,082)
Personnel insurance and medical	38,417	-	-	-	(38,417)
Dues and memberships	12,031	-	-	-	(12,031)
Office expense	15,767	-	-	-	(15,767)
Miscellaneous	5,339	-	-	-	(5,339)
Meetings and conventions	2,610	-	-	-	(2,610)
Meals	5,531	-	-	-	(5,531)
Installation	199	-	-	-	(199)
Interest expense	49	-	-	-	(49)
Depreciation expense	271,960	-	-	-	(271,960)
Total Governmental activities	\$ 1,055,947	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,055,947)

General Revenues (Losses):

Ad valorem tax	\$ 360,000
Sales tax - 1/8 percent	650,642
Fire insurance rebate	78,245
Interest income	789
Other revenues	35,047

Total general revenues (losses)	1,124,723
--	------------------

Special Items:

Loss on disposal of assets	(23,728)
----------------------------	----------

Total special items	(23,728)
----------------------------	-----------------

Change in net position	45,048
-------------------------------	---------------

Net Position - Beginning	5,370,809
---------------------------------	------------------

Net Position - Ending	\$ 5,415,857
------------------------------	---------------------

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement

Basic Financial Statements

Fund Financial Statements (FFS)

EAST ST. CHARLES PARISH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA

Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds
December 31, 2024

	General Fund	Non-Public Fund (Non-major)	Total (Memo Only)
Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,204,138	\$ 42,069	\$ 1,246,207
Prepaid Insurance	49,488	-	49,488
Due from Vendor	26,168	-	26,168
Due from Government - Ad Valorem taxes	10,000	-	10,000
Due from Government - Sales taxes	120,996	-	120,996
Total Assets	<u>1,410,790</u>	<u>42,069</u>	<u>1,452,859</u>
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Accounts payable	28,486	-	28,486
Accrued payroll	9,243	-	9,243
Total Liabilities	<u>37,729</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>37,729</u>
Fund balance			
Nonspendable - prepaid expenses	49,488	-	49,488
Unassigned	1,323,573	42,069	1,365,642
Total Fund Balance	<u>1,373,061</u>	<u>42,069</u>	<u>1,415,130</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	<u>\$ 1,410,790</u>	<u>\$ 42,069</u>	<u>\$ 1,452,859</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement

EAST ST. CHARLES PARISH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances
- Governmental Fund

For the year ended December 31, 2024

	General Fund	Non-Public Fund (Non-major)	Total (Memo Only)
Revenues			
Ad valorem tax	\$ 360,000	\$ -	\$ 360,000
Sales tax - 1/8 percent	650,642	-	650,642
Fire insurance rebate	78,245	-	78,245
Interest income	745	44	789
Other revenues	14,697	20,350	35,047
Total revenues	<u>1,104,329</u>	<u>20,394</u>	<u>1,124,723</u>
Expenditures			
Public safety - fire protection:			
Current:			
Salaries and related benefits	320,988	-	320,988
Repairs and maintenance	122,090	-	122,090
Professional services	32,141	-	32,141
Insurance	133,662	-	133,662
Fuel	14,107	-	14,107
Supplies and materials	28,225	-	28,225
Small furniture and equipment	1,187	-	1,187
Utilities	34,562	-	34,562
Training	17,082	-	17,082
Personnel insurance and medical	38,417	-	38,417
Dues and memberships	12,031	-	12,031
Office expense	15,767	-	15,767
Meetings	2,610	-	2,610
Miscellaneous	1,857	3,482	5,339
Installation	199	-	199
Meals	5,531	-	5,531
Interest expense	49	-	49
Capital Outlay:			
Equipment purchases	145,255	-	145,255
Buildings	412,021	-	412,021
Total expenditures	<u>1,337,781</u>	<u>3,482</u>	<u>1,341,263</u>
Excess of revenues over/(under) expenditures	(233,452)	16,912	(216,540)
Fund Balance - Beginning	<u>1,606,513</u>	<u>25,157</u>	<u>1,631,670</u>
Fund Balance - End of Year	<u>\$ 1,373,061</u>	<u>\$ 42,069</u>	<u>\$ 1,415,130</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement

EAST ST. CHARLES PARISH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.

DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA

Reconciliation of the Governmental Fund Balance Sheet to the Government-Wide Statement of Net Position

December 31, 2024

Total Fund Balances - Governmental Funds at December 31, 2024	\$ 1,415,130
---	--------------

Total net position reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position is different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the Governmental Fund Balance Sheet. Those assets consist of:

Land	\$ 207,068	
Assets not yet in service	800,000	
Buildings, net of \$ 1,522,897 accumulated depreciation	2,108,427	
Vehicles, net of \$ 1,592,501 accumulated depreciation	627,645	
Equipment, net of \$ 580,029 accumulated depreciation	<u>257,587</u>	<u>4,000,727</u>

Total Net Position - Governmental activities at December 31, 2024	<u>\$ 5,415,857</u>
---	---------------------

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement

EAST ST. CHARLES PARISH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.

DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA

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

Total net changes in fund balances at December 31, 2024 per Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances	\$ (216,540)
---	--------------

Total change in net position reported for governmental activities in the
Statement of Activities is different because:

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the
Statement of Activities, the costs of those assets are allocated over there
estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense.

Capital outlay which is considered expenditures on the Statement of Revenue, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances	557,276	
Basis of capital assets removed from service	(23,728)	
Depreciation expense for the year ended December 31, 2024	<u>(271,960)</u>	<u>261,588</u>

Change in Net Position - Governmental activities at December 31, 2024	<u><u>\$ 45,048</u></u>
---	-------------------------

Notes to the Financial Statements

**EAST ST. CHARLES PARISH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA**

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2024

INTRODUCTION

The East St. Charles Parish Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. (the Department) was organized as a non-profit corporation as defined by Revised Statutes of Louisiana Title 12, Section 101 (8). The Department is exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code. Its objective is to provide fire protection to the East St. Charles Parish area, Fire Protection District No.8 of St. Charles Parish.

The Department receives funding from local and state government sources and must comply with the same requirements of these funding source entities. However, the Department is a "primary government" and is not included as a component unit of any other St. Charles Parish governmental "reporting entity" as defined in GASB pronouncements, since the entity is a non-profit corporation, and the board members have decision making authority, the power to designate management, the ability to significantly influence operations and primary accountability for fiscal matters. The Department includes all activities that are controlled by it as a quasi-public non-profit corporation organized to provide fire protection to the Parish of St. Charles. The Department has no component units.

The accounting and reporting policies of the Department conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governmental units.

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying financial statements of East St. Charles Parish Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant accounting policies established in GAAP and used by the Fire Department are discussed below,

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*, issued in June 1999, 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 statement of activities display information about the reporting government as a whole. They include the fund of the reporting entity, which is considered to be a governmental activity.

The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the Department's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include (a) fees and charges paid by the recipients for goods or services offered by the programs, and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational

EAST ST. CHARLES PARISH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2024

or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenue.

Fund Financial Statements (FFS)

The accounts of the Department are organized and operated on the basis of funds. A fund is an independent fiscal and accounting entity with a separate set of self-balancing accounts. Fund accounting segregates funds according to their intended purpose and is used to aid management in demonstrating compliance with finance- related legal and contractual provisions. The minimum number of funds is maintained consistent with legal and managerial requirements.

The fund of the Department is classified as a governmental fund. The emphasis on fund financial statements is on major governmental and enterprise funds, each displayed in a separate column. The Department has one fund, a governmental fund. A fund is considered major if it is the primary operating fund of the entity or meets the following criteria:

- a. Total assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, revenues, or expenditures/expenses of that individual governmental or enterprise fund are at least 10 percent of the corresponding total for all funds of that category or type; and
- b. Total assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, revenues, or expenditures/expenses of the individual governmental or enterprise fund are at least 5 percent of the corresponding total for all governmental and enterprise funds combined.

Major fund:

Governmental Fund - General Fund

The General Fund, as provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 13:781 is the principal fund of the Department and is used to account for the operations of the Department. General operating expenditures are paid from this fund.

Governmental Fund – Non-Public Fund

The purpose of the non-public fund is to account for funds collected by the Department from private sources such as donations. These funds are accounted for separately from the public funds which are held in the general fund.

B. Measurement Focus / Basis of Accounting

Measurement focus is a term used to describe "which" transactions are recorded within the various financial statements. Basis of accounting refers to "when" transactions are recorded regardless of the measurement focus applied.

Measurement Focus

On the government-wide statement of net position and the statement of activities, governmental activities are presented using the economic resources measurement focus. The accounting objectives

EAST ST. CHARLES PARISH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2024

of this measurement focus are the determination of operating income, changes in net position (or cost recovery) and financial position.

All assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources associated with its activities are reported. Government-wide fund equity is classified as net position. In the fund financial statements, the "current financial resources" measurement focus is used. Only current financial assets and liabilities are generally included on its balance sheet. Their operating statement presents sources and uses of available spendable financial resources during a given period. This fund uses fund balance as its measure of available spendable financial resources at the end of the period.

Basis of Accounting

In the government-wide statement of net position and statement of activities, the governmental activities are presented using the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recorded when the liability is incurred or economic asset used. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources resulting from exchange and exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange takes place.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Revenues are classified by source and expenditures are classified by function and character. Expenditures (including capital outlay) generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures are recorded only when payment is due.

The Department reports deferred inflows of resources on its governmental fund balance sheet. For governmental fund financial statements, deferred inflows arise when potential revenue does not meet both the "measurable" and "available" criteria for recognition in the current period. Deferred inflows also arise when resources are received before the Department has a legal claim to them, as when grant monies are received prior to the incurrence of qualifying expenditures. In subsequent periods, when both revenue recognition criteria are met, or when the Department has a legal claim to the resources, the deferred inflow is removed from the balance sheet and revenue is recognized. When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the District's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

C. Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

The Department prepares a budget for its general fund which is approved by its board of directors. The budget is reported on the cash basis of accounting. Budgets are not, however, legally adopted nor required in the basic financial presentation. The budget is reviewed monthly by the finance committee and quarterly by the full membership and compared to actual expenditures for use in managing expenditures.

EAST ST. CHARLES PARISH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2024

While the Department reports financial position, results of operations and changes in fund balance on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), the budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts and disbursements. The Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget (non-GAAP basis) and Actual presented as RSI for each major governmental fund is presented on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The major differences between the budgetary basis and GAAP basis are for revenue accruals of \$7,234 and expenditure accruals of \$22,762.

D. Encumbrances

The Department does not use encumbrance accounting.

E. Cash and Interest-bearing Deposits

Under state law, the Department may deposit funds in demand deposits, interest bearing demand deposits, money market accounts, or time deposits with state banks organized under Louisiana law or any other state of the United States, or under the laws of the United States.

For purposes of the statement of net position, cash and interest-bearing deposits include all demand accounts, savings accounts and certificates of deposit with an original maturity of less than 90 days, and are stated at cost, which approximates fair market value.

F. Investments

Louisiana state law allows all political subdivisions to invest excess funds in obligations of the United States, certificates of deposit of state or national banks having their principal office in Louisiana or any other federally insured investment.

The Department's only investments are certificates of deposit, with an original maturity of greater than 90 days, which are stated at cost, which approximates market. Investments in certificates of deposit are reported at cost because they are "nonparticipating" interest-earning investment contracts as discussed in GASB 31. The term "nonparticipating" means that the investment value does not vary with market interest rate changes. Investments which include securities traded on a national or international exchange are valued based on their last reported sales price (fair value). Investments that do not have an established market are reported at estimated fair value.

G. Prepaid Expenditures

Payments made for goods and services that will benefit periods beyond December 31, 2024, have been recorded as prepaid expenditures.

H. Receivables

The Department considers all receivables to be collectible within the next 60 days; therefore, no allowance has been established for doubtful accounts. If uncollectible amounts are identified, necessary adjustments are made when information becomes available. These amounts are not considered to be material to the financial statements.

EAST ST. CHARLES PARISH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2024

I. Inventories

Physical inventories consist of expendable supplies held for consumption. Because inventories are expended within one operating cycle they are recorded as expenditures when paid for and are not recorded as an inventory asset.

J. Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources

In some instances, the GASB requires an entity to delay recognition of decreases in net position as expenditures until a future period. In other instances, entities are required to delay recognition of increases in net position as revenues until a future period. In these circumstances, deferred outflows and deferred inflows of resources result from the delayed recognition of expenditures or revenues, respectively.

K. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

L. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, vehicles, and equipment, purchased or acquired with an original cost of \$1,000 or more are reported at historical cost or estimated historical cost. Donated assets are reported at fair market value as of the date received. Additions, improvements, and other capital outlays that significantly extend the useful life of an asset are capitalized. Other costs incurred for repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred. Depreciation is recorded using the straight-line method over the useful lives of the assets as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Estimated Lives</u>
Buildings	40 years
Building improvements	10-40 years
Equipment	5-15 years
Vehicles	5-15 years

In the fund financial statements, capital assets used in the Department's operations are accounted for as capital outlay expenditures of the governmental fund that provided the resources to acquire the assets. Depreciation is not computed or recorded on capital assets for purposes of the fund financial statements.

M. Compensated Absences

Full-time employees earn Paid Time Off (PTO) on January 1 of each year. Five to fifteen PTO days are earned depending on length of service. All PTO must be used by December 31st of each year. Unused leave cannot be forwarded to the following year; therefore, a liability for compensated absences is not recorded.

EAST ST. CHARLES PARISH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2024

N. Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements, debt and principal payments of both government and business-type activities are reported as decreases in the balance of the liability on the Statement of Net Position. In the fund financial statements, however, debt and principal payments of governmental funds are recognized as expenditures when paid.

O. Equity Classifications

In the Government-Wide Financial Statements, the difference between a government's assets and liabilities is recorded as net position. The three components of net position are as follows:

1. Net Investment in Capital Assets This category records capital assets net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by any outstanding balances of bonds, mortgages, notes or other borrowing attributable to the acquisition, construction or improvement of capital assets.
2. Restricted Net Position Net positions that are restricted by external sources such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or by law through either enabling legislation or constitutional provisions are reported separately as restricted net position. When assets are required to be retained in perpetuity, these non-expendable net positions are recorded separately from expendable net positions. These are components of restricted net positions.
3. Unrestricted Net Position All other net positions that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "invested in capital assets, net of related debt."

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

1. Nonspendable Amounts that cannot be spent either because they are in nonspendable form or because they are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The Department has prepaid insurance which is considered *nonspendable* fund balance on the fund financial statements.
2. Restricted Amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes because of constitutional provisions or enabling legislation or because of constraints that are externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or the laws or regulations of other governments.
3. Committed Amounts that can be used only for specific purposes determined by a formal decision of the Board.
4. Assigned Amounts that do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed but that are intended to be used for specific purposes by a decision of the Board.
5. Unassigned All other spendable amounts.

When an expenditure is incurred for the purposed for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available, the Board considers restricted funds to have been spent first. When an expenditure is incurred for which committed, assigned, or unassigned fund balances are available, the Board considers amounts to have been spent first out of committed funds, then assigned funds, and

**EAST ST. CHARLES PARISH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA**

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2024

finally unassigned funds, as needed, unless the Board has provided otherwise in its commitment or assignment actions.

P. Recently Issued and Implemented Accounting Pronouncements

The Department adopted the following statements during the year ended December 31, 2024:

GASB Statement No. 100, *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections*. This Statement establishes accounting and financial reporting requirements for (a) accounting changes and (b) the correction of an error in previously issued financial statements (error correction). This Statement defines accounting changes as changes in accounting principles, changes in accounting estimates, and changes to or within the financial reporting entity and describes the transactions or other events that constitute those changes. This Statement prescribes the accounting and financial reporting for (1) each type of accounting change and (2) error corrections. This Statement requires that (a) changes in accounting principles and error corrections be reported retroactively by restating prior periods, (b) changes to or within the financial reporting entity be reported by adjusting beginning balances of the current period, and (c) changes in accounting estimates be reported prospectively by recognizing the change in the current period. This Statement requires disclosure in notes to financial statements of descriptive information about accounting changes and error corrections, such as their nature. In addition, information about the quantitative effects on beginning balances of each accounting change and error correction should be disclosed by reporting unit in a tabular format to reconcile beginning balances as previously reported to beginning balances as restated. Furthermore, this Statement addresses how information that is affected by a change in accounting principle or error correction should be presented in required supplementary information (RSI) and supplementary information (SI). There were no significant impacts of implementing this Statement.

GASB Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*. The objective of this Statement is to better meet the information needs of financial statement users by updating the recognition and measurement guidance for compensated absences. That objective is achieved by aligning the recognition and measurement guidance under a unified model and by amending certain previously required disclosures. There were no significant impacts of implementing this Statement.

NOTE 2. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

At December 31, 2024, the Department has cash and cash equivalents (book balances) totaling \$1,246,207, as follows:

Demand Deposits	\$ 1,244,700
Time and savings deposits	<u>1,507</u>
Total	<u>\$ 1,246,207</u>

These deposits are stated at cost, which approximates market. Under state law, these deposits (or the resulting bank balances) must be secured by federal deposit insurance, or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal agent bank. The market value of the pledged securities plus the federal deposit insurance must at all times equal the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent. These securities must be

EAST ST. CHARLES PARISH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2024

held in the name of the pledging fiscal agent bank in a holding or custodial bank that is mutually acceptable to both parties.

NOTE 3. CUSTODIAL CREDIT RISK

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution the Department's deposits may not be recovered or will not be able to recover collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. These deposits are stated at cost, which approximates market. Under state law, these deposits, (or the resulting bank balances) must be secured by federal deposit insurance or similar federal security 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 bank. These securities are held in the name of the Department or the pledging fiscal agent bank by a holding or custodial bank that is mutually acceptable to both parties.

Deposit balances (bank balances) at December 31, 2024 in the amount of \$1,246,736 were secured with federal deposit insurance and pledged securities. Deposits secured by pledged securities were exposed to custodial credit risk. These deposits are uninsured and collateralized with securities held by the pledging institution's trust Department or agent, but not in the Department's name. 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 Department that the fiscal agent has failed to pay deposited funds on demand. The Department does not have a policy for custodial credit risk.

NOTE 4. CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the year ended December 31, 2024 was as follows:

	Balance at 12/31/2023	Additions	Deletions	Balance at 12/31/2024
Capital assets; not being depreciated:				
Construction not yet in service	\$ 818,730	\$ -	\$ (18,730)	\$ 800,000
Land	207,068	-	-	207,068
Total	1,025,798	-	(18,730)	1,007,068
Capital assets, being depreciated:				
Equipment	862,477	120,355	(145,215)	837,618
Buildings	3,207,712	430,751	(7,139)	3,631,324
Vehicles	2,279,359	24,900	(84,113)	2,220,146
Total	6,349,548	576,006	(236,466)	6,689,088
Less: accumulated depreciation	(3,636,205)	(271,960)	212,738	(3,695,427)
Total capital, assets being depr; net	2,713,343	304,046	(23,728)	2,993,661
Total capital assets, net	\$ 3,739,141	\$ 304,046	\$ (42,458)	\$ 4,000,729

EAST ST. CHARLES PARISH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2024

Depreciation expense for the year of \$271,960 was charged to public safety.

On December 30, 2022, the Department entered into a purchase agreement with Sunbelt Fire, Inc. for a E-One Rescue Pumper on a Custom E-One Typhoon Chassis for a total cost of \$828,657. In 2023, the Department paid \$800,000 and the remaining is to be paid at the time of delivery. The apparatus is expected to be delivered in the upcoming year.

NOTE 5. FIRE PROTECTION CONTRACT – AD VALOREM TAX

An agreement was signed in December 1990, between the St. Charles Parish Council and the St. Charles Firemen's Association to provide fire protection for the St. Charles Parish area. The agreement states that in exchange for fire protection for the entire parish, the Parish Council agrees to distribute a 1.4 mill tax levy evenly to all members of the St. Charles Parish Firemen's Association. The Department's share of this ad valorem tax for the year ended December 31, 2024 was \$360,000.

NOTE 6. FIRE PROTECTION CONTRACT – SALES TAXES

An agreement was signed in July 1980, between the St. Charles Parish Council and the St. Charles Firemen's Association to provide fire protection for the St. Charles parish area. Consideration for this agreement is a sales tax of one-eighth of one percent which is collected by the St. Charles Parish School Board and administered by the Parish President. The sales tax is to be used for the fire protection of the Parish of St. Charles. The funds are distributed monthly by the Parish President to the individual fire departments of the St. Charles Parish Firemen's Association, Inc. Effective April 4, 2011 (Ord#11-4-4), the sales tax is distributed on the following basis:

Department	Basis	Funds
Bayou Gauche Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	3.78%
Des Allemands Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	4.10%
East Side St. Charles Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	22.72%
Hahnville Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	7.00%
Killona Volunteer Fire Dept. Inc.	\$2,500	1.47%
Luling Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	30.85%
Norco Area Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	9.81%
Paradis Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	4.93%
St. Rose Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	15.34%

The Department receives a monthly base amount of \$2,500 in sales tax plus 22.72% of the remaining funds. The total revenue under this agreement for the year ended December 31, 2024, was \$650,642.

Due from government – sales taxes at December 31, 2024 of \$120,996, consists of the Department's share of the 1/8th cent sales tax for the months of November and December 2024, collected by the St. Charles Parish School Board and remitted by St. Charles Parish in January and February 2025.

EAST ST. CHARLES PARISH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2024

NOTE 7. LEASES

The Department has two leases for two pieces of land that its stations are on. The first lease is for the piece of land where Station #83 is located at 1901 Ormond Blvd. in Destrehan, Louisiana. This lease is with St. Charles Parish Government at no cost as long as the Department is providing fire protection commencing November 5, 2022, through November 5, 2042. The second lease is for the piece of land where Station #82 is located at 13902 River Road in Destrehan, Louisiana. This lease is with St. Charles Parish Government at no cost as long as the Department is providing fire protection commencing September 13, 2017, through September 13, 2027.

NOTE 8. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Department is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; illnesses or injuries to its volunteers; and natural disasters. The Department has purchased commercial insurance to cover or reduce the risk of loss. No settlements were made during the current or prior three fiscal years that exceeded the Department's insurance coverage.

NOTE 9. INCOME TAXES

The Fire Department is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code. It is exempt from Louisiana income tax under the authority of R.S. 47:121(7). The Fire Department's evaluation as of December 31, 2024 revealed no tax positions that would have a material impact on the financial statements. The 2021 through 2024 tax years remain subject to examination by the IRS. The Fire Department does not believe that any reasonably possibly changes will occur within the next twelve months that will have a material impact on the financial statements.

NOTE 10. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Subsequent events have been evaluated through June 10, 2025 which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

NOTE 11. LITIGATION AND CLAIMS

At December 31, 2024, the Department had no litigation or claims pending.

Required Supplemental Information

**EAST SIDE ST. CHARLES PARISH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA**

**Budget Comparison Schedule
General Fund - Non-GAAP (Cash) Basis
For the Year ended December 31, 2024**

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - favorable (unfavorable)</u>
Revenues:				
Ad valorem tax	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 350,000	\$ 50,000
Sales tax	650,000	650,000	653,408	3,408
Fire insurance rebate	100,000	100,000	78,245	(21,755)
Interest	1,000	1,000	745	(255)
Other revenue	-	-	14,697	14,697
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total revenues	\$ 1,051,000	\$ 1,051,000	\$ 1,097,095	\$ 46,095
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Expenditures:				
Repairs and maintenance	\$ 128,200	\$ 108,500	\$ 134,890	\$ (26,390)
Professional fees	40,500	40,500	33,341	7,159
Insurance	199,000	199,000	141,620	57,380
Fuel	15,000	15,000	12,743	2,257
Small furniture and equipment	9,000	5,000	1,043	3,957
Supplies and materials	49,800	52,500	45,410	7,090
Utilities and telephone	37,900	37,900	34,072	3,828
Personnel	326,000	324,000	353,466	(29,466)
Training	19,500	16,500	13,621	2,879
Intallation	3,200	3,200	199	3,001
Meals	8,000	8,000	5,359	2,641
Meetings and conventions	6,000	6,000	2,792	3,208
Miscellaneous	100	100	1,857	(1,757)
Dues and subscriptions	8,250	50	16,616	(16,566)
Office expense	25,550	20,550	17,626	2,924
Capital outlay	617,400	592,400	545,888	46,512
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total expenditures	\$ 1,493,400	\$ 1,429,200	\$ 1,360,543	\$ 68,657
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(442,400)	(378,200)	(263,448)	
Fund balance, beginning	<u>not budgeted</u>	<u>not budgeted</u>	<u>1,631,670</u>	
Fund balance, ending	<u>not budgeted</u>	<u>not budgeted</u>	<u>1,368,222</u>	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

**EAST ST. CHARLES PARISH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA**

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

*Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments
to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer*

Donald Peyton, Chief

Purpose	Amount
Salary	0
Benefits-insurance	0
Benefits-retirement	0
Benefits-other	0
Car allowance	0
Vehicle provided by government	0
Per diem	0
Reimbursements	0
Travel	0
Registration fees	0
Conference travel	0
Continuing professional education fees	0
Housing	0
Unvouchered expenses*	0
Special meals	0
Others (Call Incentives)	\$2,120

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

Reports by Management

**EAST ST. CHARLES PARISH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA**

**Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024**

**Section I – Internal Control and Compliance Material to the Financial
Statements:**

There were no findings in the prior year.

Section II – Management Letter:

There was no management letter issued in the prior year.

**EAST ST. CHARLES PARISH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA**

**Corrective Action Plan for Current Year Audit Findings
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024**

Section I – Internal Control and Compliance Material to the Financial Statements

There were no findings issued in the current year.

Section II – Management Letter:

There was no management letter issued in the current year.

**OTHER REPORT REQUIRED BY
*GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS***



**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL
REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN
AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

**Board of Directors
East St. Charles Parish Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
Destrehan, 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 the East St. Charles Parish Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. (the Department), a component unit of Lafourche Parish Consolidated Government, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Department's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated June 11, 2025.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

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

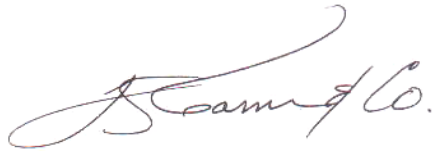
Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Department'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 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 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. Although the intended use of this report may be limited, under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "T. S. Kearns & Co.", is positioned above the typed name and date.

Thibodaux, Louisiana
June 11, 2025



**EAST ST. CHARLES VOLUNTEER
FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.**

DESTREHAN, LOUISIANA

**Independent Accountant's Report
On Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures**

**Louisiana Legislative Auditor's
Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures**

Year Ended December 31, 2024



(A Professional Corporation)
164 West Main Street, Thibodaux, LA 70301
South end of Canal Boulevard
(985) 447-8507 Fax (985) 447-4833
www.kearnscpa.com



**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT
ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024**

To the Board of Directors
East St. Charles Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
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 01, 2024 through December 31, 2024. The East St. Charles Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. (the Department's) management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

The Department 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 the LLA's SAUPs for the fiscal period January 01, 2024 through December 31, 2024. 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

A. 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:

- i. ***Budgeting***, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget.

Exception noted. The Department's written bylaws address the adoption of the budget, but does not address preparation, monitoring, nor amending the budget.

- ii. ***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.

Exception noted. The written policy contains all criteria above except for how vendors will be added to the vendor list.

- iii. **Disbursements**, including processing, reviewing, and approving.

No exceptions noted.

- iv. **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).

No exceptions noted.

- v. **Payroll/Personnel**, including (1) payroll processing, and (2) reviewing and approving time and attendance records, including leave and overtime worked, and (3) approval process for employee(s) rate of pay or approval and maintenance of pay rate schedules.

No exceptions noted.

- vi. **Contracting**, including (1) types of services requiring written contracts, (2) standard terms and conditions, (3) legal review, (4) approval process, and (5) monitoring process.

Exception noted. The Department has no written policy for this area.

- vii. **Travel and Expense Reimbursement**, including (1) allowable expenses, (2) dollar thresholds by category of expense, (3) documentation requirements, and (4) required approvers.

No exceptions noted.

- viii. **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).

No exceptions noted.

- ix. **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.

Not applicable to a nonprofit organization.

- x. **Debt Service**, including (1) debt issuance approval, (2) continuing disclosure/EMMA reporting requirements, (3) debt reserve requirements, and (4) debt service requirements.

Not applicable. The Department has no debt.

- xi. **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.

No exceptions noted.

- xii. **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.

Not applicable to a nonprofit organization.

2) Bank Reconciliations

- A. Obtain a listing of client 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 selected each account, and observe that:

Obtained a list of bank accounts from management and management provided representation that the listing is complete.

- i. Bank reconciliations include evidence that they were prepared within 2 months of the related statement closing date (e.g., initialed and dated, electronically logged);

No exceptions noted.

- ii. Bank reconciliations include written evidence that a member of management/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, electronically logged); and

No exceptions noted.

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

No exceptions noted.

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

- 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.

Obtained a list of credit cards from management and management provided 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

- i. Observe whether there is evidence that the monthly statement or combined statement and supporting documentation (e.g., original 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. [Note: Requiring such approval may constrain the legal authority of certain public officials (e.g., mayor of a Lawrason Act municipality); these instances should not be reported]; and

No exceptions noted.

- ii. Observe that finance charges and late fees were not assessed on the selected statements.

No exceptions noted.

- C. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under #7B 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 (i.e., each card should have 10 transactions subject to testing). For each

transaction, observe 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 note whether management had a compensating control to address missing receipts, such as a "missing receipt statement" that is subject to increased scrutiny.

No exceptions noted.

Managements Response: Procedure 1a - The Department's management agrees with the exceptions noted in the written policies and procedures section and will continue to work to develop written policies over all necessary areas.

We were engaged by the East St. Charles Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. 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 the East St. Charles Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. 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.



Thibodaux, Louisiana
June 11, 2025