

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Financial Report
Year Ended June 30, 2017

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1996
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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Honorable Judge Gregory Vidrine
City Court of Ville Platte
Ville Platte, Louisiana

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City Court of Ville Platte as of and for the year ended June 30, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise City Court's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility 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.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatements.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's

preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City Court of Ville Platte, as of June 30, 2017, 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.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the budgetary comparison information, pension plan schedules, and notes to required supplementary information on pages 31-34 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such 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. 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.

Management has omitted Management's Discussion and Analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires 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.

Honorable Judge Gregory Vidrine
City Court of Ville Platte
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Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the City Court of Ville Platte's financial statements. The other supplementary information is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements.

The Fiduciary Fund financial statements are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. Such 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 Fiduciary Fund financial statements are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated October 27, 2017, on our consideration of the City Court of Ville Platte's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the 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 City Court of Ville Platte's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

John S. Dowling & Company

Opelousas, Louisiana
October 27, 2017

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**GOVERNMENT-WIDE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (GWFS)**

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2017

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
ASSETS	
Cash and interest-bearing deposits	<u>\$ 230,539</u>
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Pension	<u>85,207</u>
LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable	709
Cash bonds payable	1,879
Net pension liability	<u>112,291</u>
Total liabilities	<u>114,879</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Pension	<u>32,655</u>
NET POSITION	
Unrestricted	<u>\$ 168,212</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (FFS)

FUND DESCRIPTIONS

General Fund

The General Fund is used to account for resources traditionally associated with governments which are not required to be accounted for in another fund.

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Balance Sheet
Governmental Fund - General Fund
June 30, 2017

ASSETS

Cash and interest-bearing deposits \$ 230,539

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

Liabilities:

Accounts payable \$ 709
Cash bonds payable 1,879
Total liabilities 2,588

Fund balance:

Unassigned 227,951

Total liabilities and fund balance \$ 230,539

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Reconciliation of the Governmental Fund Balance Sheet
to the Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2017

Total fund balance for the governmental fund at June 30, 2017	\$ 227,951
Total net position reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position is different because:	
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the fund. Those assets consist of:	
Furniture, fixtures and equipment, net of \$34,577 accumulated depreciation	-
Pension related resources are not due and payable in the current year and, therefore are not reported in the governmental fund, as follows:	
Deferred outflows of resources	85,207
Deferred inflows of resources	(32,655)
Long term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore are not reported in the governmental fund.	<u>(112,291)</u>
Net position at June 30, 2017	<u>\$ 168,212</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance-
General Fund
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

Revenues:	
Costs assessed for court	\$ 199,220
Other charges for services	61,785
On-behalf payments	267,979
Miscellaneous	<u>487</u>
Total revenues	<u>529,471</u>
Expenditures:	
Current -	
Judiciary:	
Fines remitted to other governmental units	91,731
Marshall fees	27,481
Office expense	16,389
On-behalf payments	267,979
Judges retirement	16,096
Professional fees	3,354
Dues and subscriptions	1,504
Professional development	2,458
Appropriation to City of Ville Platte	83,489
Insurance	875
Travel	<u>3,334</u>
Total expenditures	<u>514,690</u>
Net change in fund balance	14,781
Fund balance, beginning	<u>213,170</u>
Fund balance, ending	<u>\$227,951</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and
Changes in Fund Balance of the Governmental Fund
to the Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

Total net change in fund balance for the year ended June 30, 2017 per statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance	\$ 14,781
The change in net position reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities is different because:	
The governmental fund reports capital outlay 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	
Depreciation expense	-
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore, are not reported as expenditures in the governmental fund	
Pension expense	<u>(59,739)</u>
Change in net position for the year ended June 30, 2017 per statement of activities	<u>\$ (44,958)</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Statement of Fiduciary Assets and Liabilities
June 30, 2017

ASSETS

Cash and interest-bearing deposits	<u>\$ 60,333</u>
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LIABILITIES

Due to litigants and others	<u>\$ 60,333</u>
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The accompanying financial statements of the City Court of Ville Platte have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. GAAP includes all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements. The accounting and reporting framework and the more significant accounting policies are discussed in subsequent subsections of this note.

The following is a summary of certain significant accounting policies:

A. Financial Reporting Entity

The City Court of Ville Platte is composed of an independently elected City Judge. For financial reporting purposes, the City Court of Ville Platte includes all funds which are maintained by the City Court of Ville Platte.

B. Basis of Presentation

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. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other nonexchange transactions. Fiduciary funds are not included in the GWFS. Fiduciary funds are reported only in the Statement of Fiduciary Assets and Liabilities at the fund financial statement level.

The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the City Court'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 or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

Fund Financial Statements (FFS)

The accounts of the City Court 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.

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

The various funds of the City Court are classified into two categories: governmental and fiduciary. The emphasis on fund financial statements is on major governmental fund. A fund is considered major if it is the primary operating fund of the entity or total assets, liabilities, revenues, or expenditures/expenses of the individual governmental fund is at least 10 percent of the corresponding total for all funds.

The major fund of the City Court is described below:

Governmental Fund -

General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund of the City Court. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Additionally, the City Court reports the following fund type:

Fiduciary Fund --

Fiduciary funds account for assets held by the government in a trustee capacity or as an agent on behalf of other funds with the City Court. The fund accounted for in the category by the City Court is the agency fund. The agency fund is as follows:

Civil Fund

The Civil Fund is used to account for the receipt and subsequent disbursement of civil docket fees, small claims fees, and garnishments.

C. 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.

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

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 of this measurement focus are the determination of operating income, changes in net position (or cost recovery) and financial position. All assets and liabilities (whether current or noncurrent) 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 or the "economic 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. 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.

Program revenues

Program revenues included in the Statement of Activities are derived directly from the program itself or from parties outside the City Court's taxpayers or citizenry, as a whole; program revenues reduce the cost of the function to be financed from the City Court's general revenues.

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

Use of Restricted Resources

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

D. Assets, Deferred Outflows of Resources, Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Equity

Cash and interest-bearing deposits

Louisiana statutes authorize City Court of Ville Platte to invest in United States bonds, treasury notes or certificates, time certificates of deposit in state and national banks, the Louisiana Asset Management Pool, or any other federally insured investments. For purposes of the statement of net position, cash and interest-bearing deposits include all demand accounts, savings accounts, and certificates of deposits of the City Court of Ville Platte.

Interfund Receivable and Payables

During the course of operations, transactions sometimes occur between individual funds that may result in amounts owed between funds. Those related to goods and services type transactions are classified as "due to and from other funds". Interfund receivables and payables between funds within governmental activities are eliminated in the statement of net position.

Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant, and equipment, are reported in the governmental activities column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are capitalized at historical cost or estimated cost if historical cost is not available. Donated assets are recorded as capital assets at their estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The City Court maintains a threshold level of \$5,000 or more for capitalizing capital assets. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized.

Depreciation of all exhaustible capital assets is recorded as an expense in the statement of activities, with accumulated depreciation reflected in the statement of net position. Depreciation is provided over the assets' estimated useful lives using the straight-line method of depreciation. The range of estimated useful lives by type of asset is as follows:

Furniture, fixtures and equipment

5-10 years

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources

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

Equity Classifications

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

- a. Net investment in capital assets – consists of net capital assets reduced by outstanding balances of any related debt obligations and deferred inflows of resources attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets and increased by balances of deferred outflows of resources related to those assets.
- b. Restricted net position – consists of net position with constraints 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. Restricted net position is reduced by liabilities and deferred inflows of resources related to the restricted assets.
- c. Unrestricted net position – consist of all other net position that does not meet the definition of “restricted” or “net investment in capital assets.”

In the fund statements, governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance. Fund balances of the government funds are classified as follows:

- a. 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.
- b. 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.
- c. Committed – amounts that can be used only for specific purposes determined by a formal decision of the Judge, which is the highest level of decision-making authority for the City Court of Ville Platte.

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

- d. 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. Under the City Court of Ville Platte’s adopted policy, only the Judge may assign amounts for specified purposes.
- e. Unassigned – all other spendable amounts.

When an expenditure is incurred for the purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available, the City Court of Ville Platte considers restricted funds to have been spent first. When an expenditure is incurred for which committed, assigned, or unassigned fund balances are available, the City Court of Ville Platte considers amounts to have been spent first out of committed funds, then assigned funds, and finally unassigned funds, as needed, unless the City Court of Ville Platte has provided otherwise in its commitment or assignment actions.

E. Revenues, Expenditures, and Expenses

Operating Revenues

Operating revenues are those that result from providing services and producing and delivering goods and/or services. Revenues and fees and other charges for services are recorded when the City Court is entitled to the funds. Interest on interest-bearing deposits is recorded or accrued as revenue when earned. Substantially all other revenues are recorded when received.

Expenditures/Expenses

In the government-wide financial statements, expenses are classified by function. In the fund financial statements, governmental fund expenditures are classified by character.

F. Use of Estimates

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

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

(2) Cash and Interest-Bearing Deposits

Under state law, the City Court of Ville Platte may deposit funds within a fiscal agent bank organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana, the laws of any other state in the Union, or the laws of the United States. The City Court may invest in certificates and time deposits of state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having principal offices in Louisiana. At June 30, 2017, the City Court has cash and cash equivalents (book balances) totaling \$290,872 as follows:

	Governmental Activities	Fiduciary Fund	Total
Demand deposits	\$ 167,818	\$ 60,333	\$ 228,151
Time and savings deposits	62,721	-	62,721
Total	\$ 230,539	\$ 60,333	\$ 290,872

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, the City Court'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 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 pledging fiscal agent bank in a holding or custodial bank that is mutually acceptable to both parties. Deposit balances (bank balances) of \$375,847 at June 30, 2017, were secured by FDIC. City Court of Ville Platte does not have a policy for custodial credit risk.

(3) Capital Assets

Capital asset balances and activity for the year ended June 30, 2017 are as follows:

	Balance 7/1/2016	Additions	Deletions	Balance 6/30/2017
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	\$ 34,577	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 34,577
Less: Accumulated depreciation	34,577	-	-	34,577
Net capital assets	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

(4) Retirement Plan

Employees, except the Judge, of the City Court are included on the City of Ville Platte's payroll and participate in the same retirement system as the employees of that entity.

LASERS

Plan Description

One employee, the Judge, of the City Court is provided with a pension through a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit plan administered by the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS). Section 401 of Title 11 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes (LA RS 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.

Benefits Provided

The following is a description of the plan and its benefits and is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to the appropriate statutes for more complete information.

Retirement

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. Additionally, members may choose to retire with 20 years of service at any age, with an actuarially reduced benefit.

Average compensation is defined as the member's average annual earned compensation for the highest 36 consecutive months of employment for members employed prior to July 1, 2006. For members hired July 1, 2006 or later, average compensation is based on the member's average annual earned compensation for the highest 60 consecutive months of employment. The maximum annual retirement benefit cannot exceed the lesser of 100% of average compensation or a certain specified dollar amount of actuarially determined monetary limits, which vary depending upon the member's age at retirement. Judges, court officers, and certain elected officials receive an additional annual retirement benefit equal to 1.0% of average compensation multiplied by the number of years of creditable service in their respective capacity. As an alternative to the basic retirement benefits, a member may elect to receive their retirement benefits under any one of six different options providing for reduced retirement benefits payable throughout their life, with certain benefits being paid to their designated beneficiary after their death.

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

Act 992 of the 2010 Louisiana Regular Legislative Session, changed the benefit structure for LASERS members hired on or after January 1, 2011. This resulted in three new plans: regular, hazardous duty, and judges. The new regular plan includes regular members and those members who were formerly eligible to participate in specialty plans, excluding hazardous duty and judges. Regular members and judges are eligible to retire at age 60 after five years of creditable service and, may also retire at any age, with a reduced benefit, after 20 years of creditable service. Hazardous duty members are eligible to retire with twelve years of creditable service at age 55, 25 years of creditable service at any age or with a reduced benefit after 20 years of creditable service. Average compensation will be based on the member's average annual earned compensation for the highest 60 consecutive months of employment for all three new plans. Members in the regular plan will receive a 2.5% accrual rate, hazardous duty plan a 3.33% accrual rate, and judges a 3.5% accrual rate. The extra 1.0% accrual rate for each year of service for court officers, the governor, lieutenant governor, legislators, House clerk, sergeants at arms, or Senate secretary, employed after January 1, 2011, was eliminated by Act 992. Specialty plan and regular members, hired prior to January 1, 2011, who are hazardous duty employees have the option to transition to the new hazardous duty plan.

Act 226 of the 2014 Louisiana Regular Legislative Session established new retirement eligibility for members of LASERS hired on or after July 1, 2015, excluding hazardous duty plan members. Regular members and judges under the new plan are eligible to retire at age 62 after five years of creditable service and, may also retire at any age, with a reduced benefit, after 20 years of creditable service. Average compensation will be based on the member's average annual earned compensation for the highest 60 consecutive months of employment. Members in the regular plan will receive 2.5% accrual rate, and judges a 3.5% accrual rate, with the extra 1.0% accrual rate based on all years of service as a judge.

A member leaving employment before attaining minimum retirement age, but after completing certain minimum service requirements, becomes eligible for a benefit provided the member lives to the minimum service retirement age, and does not withdraw their accumulated contributions. The minimum service requirement for benefits varies depending upon the member's employer and service classification.

Deferred Retirement Benefits

The State Legislature authorized LASERS to establish a Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP). When a member enters DROP, their status changes from active member to retiree even though they continue to work and draw their salary for a period of up to three years. The election is irrevocable once participation begins. During DROP participation, accumulated retirement benefits that would have been paid to each retiree are separately tracked. For members who entered DROP prior to January 1, 2004, interest at a rate of one-half percent less than the System's realized return on its portfolio (not to be less than zero) will be credited to the retiree after participation ends. At that time, the member must choose among available alternatives for the distribution of benefits that have accumulated in the DROP account. Members who enter DROP on or after January 1, 2004, are required to participate in LASERS Self-Directed Plan (SDP) which is administered by a third-party provider. The SDP allows DROP participants to choose from a menu of investment options for the allocation of their DROP balances. Participants may diversify their investments by choosing from an approved list of mutual funds with different holdings, management styles, and risk factors.

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

Members eligible to retire and who do not choose to participate in DROP may elect to receive at the time of retirement an initial benefit option (IBO) in an amount up to 36 months of benefits, with an actuarial reduction of their future benefits. For members who selected the IBO option prior to January 1, 2004, such amount may be withdrawn or remain in the IBO account earning interest at a rate of one-half percent less than the System's realized return on its portfolio (not to be less than zero). Those members who select the IBO on or after January 1, 2004, are required to enter the SDP as described above.

Disability Benefits

Generally, active members with ten or more years of credited service who become disabled may receive a maximum disability retirement benefit equivalent to the regular retirement formula without reduction by reason of age. Upon reaching age 60, the disability retiree may receive a regular retirement benefit by making application to the Board of Trustees. For injuries sustained in the line of duty, hazardous duty personnel in the Hazardous Duty Services Plan will receive a disability benefit equal to 75% of final average compensation.

Survivor's Benefits

Certain eligible surviving dependents receive benefits based on the deceased member's compensation and their relationship to the deceased. The deceased regular member hired before January 11, 2011 who was in state service at the time of death must have a minimum of five years of service credit, at least two of which were earned immediately prior to death, or who had a minimum of twenty years of service credit regardless of when earned in order for a benefit to be paid to a minor or handicapped child. Benefits are payable to an unmarried child until age 18, or age 23 if the child remains a full-time student. The aforementioned minimum service credit requirement is ten years for a surviving spouse with no minor children, and benefits are to be paid for life to the spouse or qualified handicapped child.

The deceased regular member hired on or after January 1, 2011, must have a minimum of five years of service credit regardless of when earned in order for a benefit to be paid to a minor child. The aforementioned minimum service credit requirements for a surviving spouse are 10 years, 2 years being earned immediately prior to death, and active state service at the time of death, or a minimum of 20 years of service credit regardless of when earned. A deceased member's spouse must have been married for a least one year before death.

Permanent Benefit Increases/Cost-of-Living Adjustments

As fully described in Title 11 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, LASERS allows for the payment of permanent benefit increases, also known as cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs), that are funded through investment earnings when recommended by the Board of Trustees and approved by the State Legislature.

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

Contributions

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. Employee and employer contributions are deducted from a member's salary and remitted to LASERS by participating employers. The rates in effect during the year ended June 30, 2017 for the various plans follow:

Plan	Plan Status	Employee Rate	Employer Rate
Appellate Law Clerks	Closed	7.50%	35.80%
Appellate Law Clerks hired on or after 7/01/06	Open	8.00%	35.80%
Alcohol Tobacco Control	Closed	9.00%	30.70%
Bridge Police	Closed	8.50%	34.20%
Bridge Police hired on or after 7/01/06	Closed	8.50%	34.20%
Corrections Primary	Closed	9.00%	31.10%
Corrections Secondary	Closed	9.00%	35.30%
Harbor Police	Closed	9.00%	4.00%
Hazardous Duty	Open	9.50%	36.10%
Judges hired before 1/01/11	Closed	11.50%	38.00%
Judges hired after 12/31/10	Closed	13.00%	36.70%
Judges hired on or after 7/01/15	Open	13.00%	36.70%
Legislators	Closed	11.50%	39.10%
Optional Retirement Plan (ORP) before 7/01/06*	Closed	7.50%	35.80%
Optional Retirement Plan (ORP) on or after 7/01/06*	Closed	8.00%	35.80%
Peace Officers	Closed	9.00%	34.30%
Regular Employees hired before 7/01/06	Closed	7.50%	35.80%
Regular Employees hired on or after 7/01/06	Closed	8.00%	35.80%
Regular Employees hired on or after 1/01/11	Closed	8.00%	35.80%
Regular Employees hired on or after 7/01/15	Open	8.00%	35.80%
Special Legislative Employees	Closed	9.50%	41.10%
Wildlife Agents	Closed	9.50%	44.80%

*For ORP the projected employer contribution effort was calculated using the shared UAL portion of the contribution rate of 31.77% for 2017.

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

The City Court's contractually required composite contribution rate for the year ended June 30, 2017 was 36.7% of annual payroll, actuarially determined as an amount that, when combined with employee contributions, is expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year, with an additional amount to finance any Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability. Contributions to the pension plan from the City Court were \$16,096 for the year ended June 30, 2017.

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

At June 30, 2017, the City Court reported a liability of \$112,291 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2016 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, 2016, the City Court's proportion was 0.001430%, which was a decrease of 0.000628% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2015.

For the year ended June 30, 2017, the City Court recognized pension expense of \$11,542 plus the City Court's amortization of change in proportionate share and difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions of \$15,568.

At June 30, 2017, the City Court reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 65	\$ 0
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	13,986	1,041
Changes in proportion and differences between employer contributions and proportion of shared contributions	55,060	31,614
Employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date	16,096	-
Total	\$ 85,207	\$ 32,655

Deferred outflows of resources of \$16,096 related to pensions resulting from the City Court's contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of net pension liability in the year ending June 30, 2017. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Years ending June 30:	
2018	\$ 36,959
2019	(9,274)
2020	5,435
2021	3,336

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions

A summary of the actuarial methods and assumptions used in determining the total pension liability as of June 30, 2016 are as follows:

Valuation Date	June 30, 2016																		
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal																		
Actuarial Assumptions:																			
Expected Remaining Service Lives	3 years.																		
Investment Rate of Return	7.75% per annum, net of investment expenses																		
Inflation Rate	3.0% per annum.																		
Mortality	Non-disabled members - Mortality rates based on the RP-2000 Combined Healthy Mortality Table with mortality improvement projected to 2015. 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 (2009-2013) experience study of the System's members.																		
Salary Increases	Salary increases were projected based on a 2009-2013 experience study of the System's members. The salary increase ranges for specific types of members are:																		
	<table border="0" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>Member Type</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>Lower Range</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>Upper Range</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Regular</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4.0%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">13.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Judges</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3.0%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Corrections</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3.6%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">14.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hazardous Duty</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3.6%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">14.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wildlife</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3.6%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">14.5%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>Member Type</u>	<u>Lower Range</u>	<u>Upper Range</u>	Regular	4.0%	13.0%	Judges	3.0%	5.5%	Corrections	3.6%	14.5%	Hazardous Duty	3.6%	14.5%	Wildlife	3.6%	14.5%
<u>Member Type</u>	<u>Lower Range</u>	<u>Upper Range</u>																	
Regular	4.0%	13.0%																	
Judges	3.0%	5.5%																	
Corrections	3.6%	14.5%																	
Hazardous Duty	3.6%	14.5%																	
Wildlife	3.6%	14.5%																	
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 of 3.25% and an adjustment for the effect of rebalancing/diversification. The resulting

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

expected long-term rate of return is 8.72% for 2016. 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, 2016 are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	0%	-0.24%
Domestic equity	27%	4.56%
International equity	30%	5.67%
Domestic fixed income	11%	2.24%
International fixed income	2%	3.64%
Alternative investments	23%	7.82%
Global asset allocation	7%	3.70%
Total	100%	5.66%

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.75%. 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 contributions from participating employers will be made at the actuarially determined rates approved by PRSAC taking into consideration the recommendation of the pension plan's actuary. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current 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.

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 7.75%, 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:

	1.0% Decrease (6.75%)	Current Discount Rate (7.75%)	1.0% Increase (8.75%)
City Court's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 137,960	\$ 112,291	\$ 90,481

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued LASERS 2016 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report at www.lasersonline.org

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

(5) Expenditures of the City Court Paid by the City of Ville Platte

The cost of salaries and related benefits for the operation of the City Court, as required by Louisiana Revised Statute 13:1889 are paid by the City of Ville Platte, Louisiana. These expenditures amounted to \$267,979 for the year ended June 30, 2017, and are recorded as revenues and as judiciary expenditures in the government-wide and General Fund financial statements.

(6) Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)

City Court does not provide any post-employment benefits to retirees and therefore is not required to report under GASB Statement No. 45, Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Post-employment Benefits Other than Pensions.

(7) Risk Management

The City Court is exposed to risks of loss in the area of employee dishonesty. This risk is handled by purchasing commercial insurance coverage. There have been no significant reductions in the insurance coverage during the year, nor have settlements exceeded coverage for the past three years.

(8) Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to Agency Head

A detail of compensation, benefits, and other payments paid to the Ville Platte City Court Judge Gregory Vidrine for the year ended June 30, 2017 follows:

<u>Purpose:</u>	
Civil fees	\$ 43,858
Retirement	16,096
Dues	500
Registration fees	675
Hotel	<u>1,328</u>
Total	<u>\$ 62,457</u>

(9) Litigation

There is no litigation pending against the City Court at June 30, 2017.

(10) Subsequent Events

Subsequent events were evaluated through October 27, 2017, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued. As of October 27, 2017 there were no subsequent events noted.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

General Fund
Budgetary Comparison Schedule
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

	Budget		Actual	Variance with
	Original	Final		Final Budget Positive (Negative)
Revenues:				
Costs assessed for court	\$ 130,000	\$ 187,164	\$ 199,220	\$ 12,056
Other charges for services	60,000	63,677	61,785	(1,892)
On-behalf payments	270,000	270,000	267,979	(2,021)
Interest income	<u>250</u>	<u>139</u>	<u>487</u>	<u>348</u>
Total revenues	<u>460,250</u>	<u>520,980</u>	<u>529,471</u>	<u>8,491</u>
Expenditures:				
Current -				
Judiciary:				
Fines remitted to other governmental units	40,000	119,101	91,731	27,370
Marshall fees	30,000	28,465	27,481	984
Office expense	15,000	19,169	16,389	2,780
On-behalf payments	270,000	275,000	267,979	7,021
Judges retirement	20,000	15,447	16,096	(649)
Professional fees	3,000	3,000	3,354	(354)
Dues and subscriptions	1,000	1,704	1,504	200
Professional development	1,000	2,958	2,458	500
Appropriation to City of Ville Platte	80,000	83,574	83,489	85
Insurance	1,000	875	875	-
Travel	<u>5,000</u>	<u>145</u>	<u>3,334</u>	<u>(3,189)</u>
Total expenditures	<u>466,000</u>	<u>549,438</u>	<u>514,690</u>	<u>34,748</u>
Net change in fund balance	(5,750)	(28,458)	14,781	43,239
Fund balances, beginning	<u>211,421</u>	<u>213,170</u>	<u>213,170</u>	<u>-</u>
Fund balances, ending	<u>\$ 205,671</u>	<u>\$ 184,712</u>	<u>\$ 227,951</u>	<u>\$ 43,239</u>

See independent auditor's report.

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Schedule of Employer's Share of Net Pension Liability
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017*

Year ended June 30,	Employer's proportion of the net pension liability (asset)	Employer's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset)	Employer's covered employee payroll	Employer's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability
Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System					
2017	0.00143%	\$112,291	\$48,858	256%	57.70%
2016	0.00206%	\$139,975	\$48,947	286%	62.70%

*Amounts presented were determined as of the measurement date (previous fiscal year end).

This schedule is intended to show information for 10 years.
Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

See independent auditor's report.

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Schedule of Employer Contributions
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017*

Year Ended June 30,	(a) Statutorily Required Contribution	(b) Contributions in relation to the statutorily required contribution	(a-b) Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Employer's covered employee payroll	Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll
Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System					
2017	\$16,096	\$16,096	\$-	\$43,858	36.70%
2016	\$19,236	\$19,236	\$-	\$48,947	39.30%
2015	\$6,203	\$6,203	\$-	\$17,136	36.20%

*Amounts presented were determined as of the end of each fiscal year.

This schedule is intended to show information for 10 years.
Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

See independent auditor's report.

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Notes to Required Supplementary Information
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

(1) Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

The proposed budget is submitted to the Judge for the fiscal year no later than fifteen days prior to the beginning of each fiscal year. The budget is adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Budgeted amounts included in the accompanying financial statements are as originally adopted or as finally amended by the Ville Platte City Court. All budgetary appropriations lapse at the end of each fiscal year.

(2) Pension Plan

There were no changes of benefit terms for the year ended June 30, 2017. There were no changes of benefit assumptions for the year ended June 30, 2017.

OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

OTHER FINANCIAL INFORMATION

FIDUCIARY FUNDS

Civil Fund

To account for the receipt and subsequent disbursement of civil docket fees, small claims fees, and garnishments. Funds are posted by the plaintiff filing the suit and are held until the cases are processed. After the cases are processed, funds are disbursed.

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Statement of Fiduciary Assets and Liabilities
Agency Fund - Civil Fund
June 30, 2017

ASSETS

Cash and interest-bearing deposits	<u>\$ 60,333</u>
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LIABILITIES

Due to litigants and others	<u>\$ 60,333</u>
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VILLE PLATTE CITY COURT
 Ville Platte, Louisiana
 Agency Funds

Combining Statement of Changes in Assets and Liabilities- Civil Fund
 For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

ASSETS

Balances, beginning of year	<u>\$ 49,766</u>
Additions:	
Costs assessed for court	91,581
Miscellaneous	<u>14,219</u>
Total additions	<u>105,800</u>
Reductions:	
Court costs	12,050
Marshall fees	7,026
Judge's supplemental compensation fund	17,968
Civil fees - judge and marshal	49,555
Operating expenses	<u>8,634</u>
Total reductions	<u>95,233</u>
Balances, end of year	<u>\$ 60,333</u>

LIABILITIES

Due to litigants and others, beginning of year	\$ 49,766
Additions	105,800
Reductions	<u>95,233</u>
Due to litigants and others, end of year	<u>\$ 60,333</u>

INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE

James L. Nicholson, Jr., CPA
G. Kenneth Pavy, II, CPA
Michael A. Roy, CPA
Lisa Trouille Manuel, CPA
Dana D. Quebedeaux, CPA



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John S. Dowling, CPA
1904-1984
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1936-2005
Chizal S. Fontenot, CPA
1955-2012

Van L. Auld, CPA

Retired

Harold Dupre, CPA
1996
Dwight Ledoux, CPA
1998
Joel Lanclos, Jr., CPA
2003
Russell J. Stelly, CPA
2005

**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**

Honorable Judge Gregory Vidrine
City Court of Ville Platte
Ville Platte, 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, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City Court of Ville Platte, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City Court of Ville Platte's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated October 27, 2017.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the City Court of Ville Platte's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine 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 City Court of Ville Platte's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the City Court of Ville Platte'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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. We did identify a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses that we consider to be a significant deficiency as item 2017-1.

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The Honorable Judge Gregory Vidrine
City Court of Ville Platte
Page 2

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the City Court of Ville Platte'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 determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matter that is required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

City Court of Ville Platte's Responses to Findings

City Court of Ville Platte's responses to the findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. City Court of Ville Platte's responses were not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

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. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

John L. Dowling & Company

Opelousas, Louisiana
October 27, 2017

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Schedule of Findings and Responses
For the Year Ended June 30, 2016

I. SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS

1. The auditor's report expresses an unmodified opinion on the basic financial statements of the City Court of Ville Platte, Louisiana.
2. One significant deficiency and no material weakness relating to the audit of the financial statements is reported in the 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.
3. No instance of noncompliance relating to the audit of the financial statements was reported in the 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.
4. No management letter was issued for City Court of Ville Platte as of and for the year ended June 30, 2017.
5. There was no single audit requirement under Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (Uniform Guidance).

II. FINDINGS – FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT

INTERNAL CONTROL

2017-1 Segregation of Duties

Condition: Due to the small number of employees, the City Court did not have adequate segregation of functions within the accounting system.

Criteria: Accounting duties should be segregated among employees.

Cause: There are a small number of employees at City Court performing the daily operating activities.

Effect: Accounting functions are not segregated and it is important that you are aware of this condition because errors or fraud could occur and not be detected.

Recommendation: A system of internal control should be established in order to mitigate the problem of having such a small number of employees performing the daily accounting functions.

Response: Due to the nature of the transactions and the size of the entity, accounting functions cannot be segregated.

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Schedule of Findings and Responses
For the Year Ended June 30, 2016

II. FINDINGS – FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT (Continued)

Contact Person: Judge Gregory Vidrine

COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS

N/A

CITY COURT OF VILLE PLATTE
Ville Platte, Louisiana

Schedule of Prior Year Findings
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

SECTION I – Internal Control and Compliance

Internal Control

2016-1 Segregation of Duties

Unresolved

Compliance

2016-2 Budget Not Properly Amended

Resolved

SECTION II – Management Letter

None

James L. Nicholson, Jr., CPA
G. Kenneth Pavy, II, CPA
Michael A. Roy, CPA
Lisa Trouille Manuel, CPA
Dana D. Quebedeaux, CPA



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Joel Lanclos, Jr., CPA
2003
Russell J. Stelly, CPA
2005

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT
ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Honorable Judge Gregory Vidrine
City Court of Ville Platte
Ville Platte, Louisiana

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by City Court of Ville Platte (Entity) and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor (LLA) on the control and compliance (C/C) areas identified in the LLA's Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs) for the fiscal period July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017. The Entity's management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and applicable standards of Government Auditing Standards. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of the specified users of this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

The procedures and associated findings are as follows:

Written Policies and Procedures

1. Obtain the entity's written policies and procedures and report whether those written policies and procedures address each of the following financial/business functions (or report that the entity does not have any written policies and procedures), as applicable:
 - a) **Budgeting**, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget
 - b) **Purchasing**, including (1) how purchases are initiated; (2) how vendors are added to the vendor list; (3) the preparation and approval process of purchase requisitions and purchase orders; (4) controls to ensure compliance with the public bid law; and (5) documentation required to be maintained for all bids and price quotes.
 - c) **Disbursements**, including processing, reviewing, and approving
 - d) **Receipts**, including receiving, recording, and preparing deposits
 - e) **Payroll/Personnel**, including (1) payroll processing, and (2) reviewing and approving time and attendance records, including leave and overtime worked.
 - f) **Contracting**, including (1) types of services requiring written contracts, (2) standard terms and conditions, (3) legal review, (4) approval process, and (5) monitoring process

- g) ***Credit Cards (and debit cards, fuel cards, P-Cards, if applicable)***, including (1) how cards are to be controlled, (2) allowable business uses, (3) documentation requirements, (4) required approvers, and (5) monitoring card usage
- h) ***Travel and expense reimbursement***, including (1) allowable expenses, (2) dollar thresholds by category of expense, (3) documentation requirements, and (4) required approvers
- i) ***Ethics***, including (1) the prohibitions as defined in Louisiana Revised Statute 42:1111-1121, (2) actions to be taken if an ethics violation takes place, (3) system to monitor possible ethics violations, and (4) requirement that all employees, including elected officials, annually attest through signature verification that they have read the entity's ethics policy. Note: Ethics requirements are not applicable to nonprofits.
- j) ***Debt Service***, including (1) debt issuance approval, (2) EMMA reporting requirements, (3) debt reserve requirements, and (4) debt service requirements.

Finding: There are no written policies for budgeting, purchasing, disbursements, receipts, and contracting. The Louisiana State Employees Guide to travel regulations is used for travel and expense reimbursements. The other policies were not applicable.

Board (or Finance Committee, if applicable)

- 2. Obtain and review the board/committee minutes for the fiscal period, and:
 - a) Report whether the managing board met (with a quorum) at least monthly, or on a frequency in accordance with the board's enabling legislation, charter, or other equivalent document.
 - b) Report whether the minutes referenced or included monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the General Fund and any additional funds identified as major funds in the entity's prior audit (GAAP-basis).
 - If the budget-to-actual comparisons show that management was deficit spending during the fiscal period, report whether there is a formal/written plan to eliminate the deficit spending for those entities with a fund balance deficit. If there is a formal/written plan, report whether the meeting minutes for at least one board meeting during the fiscal period reflect that the board is monitoring the plan.
 - c) Report whether the minutes referenced or included non-budgetary financial information (e.g. approval of contracts and disbursements) for at least one meeting during the fiscal period.

Finding: This procedure is not applicable since there is no board.

Bank Reconciliations

3. Obtain a listing of client bank accounts from management and management's representation that the listing is complete.
4. Using the listing provided by management, select all of the entity's bank accounts (if five accounts or less) or one-third of the bank accounts on a three year rotating basis (if more than 5 accounts). If there is a change in practitioners, the new practitioner is not bound to follow the rotation established by the previous practitioner. For each of the bank accounts selected, obtain bank statements and reconciliations for all months in the fiscal period and report whether:
 - a) Bank reconciliations have been prepared;
 - b) Bank reconciliations include evidence that a member of management or a board member (with no involvement in the transactions associated with the bank account) has reviewed each bank reconciliation; and
 - c) If applicable, management has documentation reflecting that it has researched reconciling items that have been outstanding for more than 6 months as of the end of the fiscal period.

Finding: Bank reconcilements are prepared monthly for all 3 bank accounts by an outside CPA firm. There was no evidence that the Judge reviewed them.

Collections

5. Obtain a listing of cash/check/money order (cash) collection locations and management's representation that the listing is complete.
6. Using the listing provided by management, select all of the entity's cash collection locations (if five locations or less) or one-third of the collection locations on a three year rotating basis (if more than 5 locations). If there is a change in practitioners, the new practitioner is not bound to follow the rotation established by the previous practitioner.

For each cash collection location selected:

- a) Obtain existing written documentation (e.g. insurance policy, policy manual, job description) and report whether each person responsible for collecting cash is (1) bonded, (2) not responsible for depositing the cash in the bank, recording the related transaction, or reconciling the related bank account (report if there are compensating controls performed by an outside party), and (3) not required to share the same cash register or drawer with another employee.

- b) Obtain existing written documentation (e.g. sequentially numbered receipts, system report, reconciliation worksheets, policy manual) and report whether the entity has a formal process to reconcile cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or agency fund additions, by a person who is not responsible for cash collections in the cash collection location selected.
- c) Select the highest (dollar) week of cash collections from the general ledger or other accounting records during the fiscal period and:
 - Using entity collection documentation, deposit slips, and bank statements, trace daily collections to the deposit date on the corresponding bank statement and report whether the deposits were made within one day of collection. If deposits were not made within one day of collection, report the number of days from receipt to deposit for each day at each collection location.
 - Using sequentially numbered receipts, system reports, or other related collection documentation, verify that daily cash collections are completely supported by documentation and report any exceptions.
- 7. Obtain existing written documentation (e.g. policy manual, written procedure) and report whether the entity has a process specifically defined (identified as such by the entity) to determine completeness of all collections, including electronic transfers, for each revenue source and 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) by a person who is not responsible for collections.

Finding: All employees collecting money orders and checks (cash is not accepted) are bonded. Each deposit is reconciled to appropriate subsidiary daily receipt report. There is a lack of segregation of duties concerning collecting, depositing, and reconciling. Collections were deposited within one day of collection. All deposits were supported by documentation. There are no written procedures to determine completeness of collections. An outside CPA firm reconciles the bank statements monthly for all bank accounts.

Disbursements – General (excluding credit card/debit card/fuel card/P-Card purchases or payments)

- 8. Obtain a listing of entity disbursements from management or, alternately, obtain the general ledger and sort/filter for entity disbursements. Obtain management's representation that the listing or general ledger population is complete.

9. Using the disbursement population from #8 above, randomly select 25 disbursements (or randomly select disbursements constituting at least one-third of the dollar disbursement population if the entity had less than 25 transactions during the fiscal period), excluding credit card/debit card/fuel card/P-card purchases or payments. Obtain supporting documentation (e.g. purchase requisitions, system screens/logs) for each transaction and report whether the supporting documentation for each transaction demonstrated that:
 - a) Purchases were initiated using a requisition/purchase order system or an equivalent electronic system that separates initiation from approval functions in the same manner as a requisition/purchase order system.
 - b) Purchase orders, or an electronic equivalent, were approved by a person who did not initiate the purchase.
 - c) Payments for purchases were not processed without (1) an approved requisition and/or purchase order, or electronic equivalent; a receiving report showing receipt of goods purchased, or electronic equivalent; and an approved invoice.
10. Using entity documentation (e.g. electronic system control documentation, policy manual, written procedure), report whether the person responsible for processing payments is prohibited from adding vendors to the entity's purchasing/disbursement system.
11. Using entity documentation (e.g. electronic system control documentation, policy manual, written procedure), report whether the persons with signatory authority or who make the final authorization for disbursements have no responsibility for initiating or recording purchases.
12. Inquire of management and observe whether the supply of unused checks is maintained in a locked location, with access restricted to those persons that do not have signatory authority, and report any exceptions. Alternately, if the checks are electronically printed on blank check stock, review entity documentation (electronic system control documentation) and report whether the persons with signatory authority have system access to print checks.
13. If a signature stamp or signature machine is used, inquire of the signer whether his or her signature is maintained under his or her control or is used only with the knowledge and consent of the signer. Inquire of the signer whether signed checks are likewise maintained under the control of the signer or authorized user until mailed. Report any exceptions.

Finding: Obtained disbursements from the general ledgers that management represented were complete. City Court of Ville Platte does not have a purchase order system. All 25 transactions selected had supporting documentation and approval. There is a lack of segregation of duties for initiating purchases, signatory authority, and access to checks. The Judge gives final approval on all purchases. All transactions are recorded by an outside CPA firm. Unused checks are locked in a vault but the employees that have access to these checks also have signatory authority. There is no signature stamp.

Credit Cards/Debit Cards/Fuel Cards/P-Cards

14. Obtain from management a listing of all active credit cards, bank debit cards, fuel cards, and P-cards (cards), 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.
15. Using the listing prepared by management, randomly select 10 cards (or at least one-third of the cards if the entity has less than 10 cards) that were used during the fiscal period, rotating cards each year. If there is a change in practitioners, the new practitioner is not bound to follow the rotation established by the previous practitioner.

Obtain the monthly statements, or combined statements if multiple cards are on one statement, for the selected cards. Select the monthly statement or combined statement with the largest dollar activity for each card (for a debit card, select the monthly bank statement with the largest dollar amount of debit card purchases) and:

- a) Report whether there is evidence that the monthly statement or combined statement and supporting documentation was reviewed and approved, in writing, 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.]
 - b) Report whether finance charges and/or late fees were assessed on the selected statements.
16. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under #15 above, obtain supporting documentation for all transactions for each of the 10 cards selected (i.e. each of the 10 cards should have one month of transactions subject to testing).
 - a) For each transaction, report whether the transaction is supported by:
 - An original itemized receipt (i.e., identifies precisely what was purchased)
 - Documentation of the business/public purpose. For meal charges, there should also be documentation of the individuals participating.
 - Other documentation that may be required by written policy (e.g., purchase order, written authorization.)
 - b) For each transaction, compare the transaction's detail (nature of purchase, dollar amount of purchase, supporting documentation) to the entity's written purchasing/disbursement policies and the Louisiana Public Bid Law (i.e. transaction is a large or recurring purchase requiring the solicitation of bids or quotes) and report any exceptions.

- c) For each transaction, compare the entity's documentation of the business/public purpose to the requirements of Article 7, Section 14 of the Louisiana Constitution, which prohibits the loan, pledge, or donation of funds, credit, property, or things of value, and report any exceptions (e.g. cash advances or non-business purchases, regardless whether they are reimbursed). If the nature of the transaction precludes or obscures a comparison to the requirements of Article 7, Section 14, the practitioner should report the transaction as an exception.

Finding: This section is not applicable since there are no credit/debit/fuel/P cards.

Travel and Expense Reimbursement

17. Obtain from management a listing of all travel and related expense reimbursements, by person, during the fiscal period or, alternately, obtain the general ledger and sort/filter for travel reimbursements. Obtain management's representation that the listing or general ledger is complete.
18. Obtain the entity's written policies related to travel and expense reimbursements. Compare the amounts in the policies to the per diem and mileage rates established by the U.S. General Services Administration (www.gsa.gov) and report any amounts that exceed GSA rates.
19. Using the listing or general ledger from #17 above, select the three persons who incurred the most travel costs during the fiscal period. Obtain the expense reimbursement reports or prepaid expense documentation of each selected person, including the supporting documentation, and choose the largest travel expense for each person to review in detail. For each of the three travel expenses selected:
 - a) Compare expense documentation to written policies and report whether each expense was reimbursed or prepaid in accordance with written policy (e.g., rates established for meals, mileage, lodging). If the entity does not have written policies, compare to the GSA rates (#18 above) and report each reimbursement that exceeded those rates.
 - b) Report whether each expense is supported by:
 - An original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased.
 - Documentation of the business/public purpose.
 - Other documentation as may be required by written policy.
 - c) Compare the entity's documentation of the business/public purpose to the requirements of Article 7, Section 14 of the Louisiana Constitution, which prohibits the loan, pledge, or donation of funds, credit, property, or things of value, and report any exceptions (e.g. hotel stays that extend beyond conference periods or payment for the travel expenses of a spouse). If the nature of the transaction precludes or obscures a comparison to the requirements of Article 7, Section 14, the practitioner should report the transaction as an exception.

- d) Report whether each expense and related documentation was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving reimbursement.

Finding: Obtained all travel and related expense reimbursements from the general ledgers which management represented were complete. There are no formal written policies related to travel and expense reimbursements. City Court of Ville Platte uses the Louisiana State Employees Guide to travel regulations for mileage and meal reimbursements. All expenses examined were supported by receipts and/or public purpose and approved by the Judge. There were no violations of Article 7, Section 14 of the Louisiana Constitution.

Contracts

20. Obtain a listing of all contracts in effect during the fiscal period or, alternately, obtain the general ledger and sort/filter for contract payments. Obtain management's representation that the listing or general ledger is complete.
21. Using the listing above, select the five contract "vendors" that were paid the most money during the fiscal period (excluding purchases on state contract and excluding payments to the practitioner). Obtain the related contracts and paid invoices and:
 - a) Report whether there is a formal/written contract that supports the services arrangement and the amount paid.
 - b) Compare each contract's detail to the Louisiana Public Bid Law or Procurement Code. Report whether each contract is subject to the Louisiana Public Bid Law or Procurement Code and:
 - If yes, obtain/compare supporting contract documentation to legal requirements and report whether the entity complied with all legal requirements (e.g., solicited quotes or bids, advertisement, selected lowest bidder)
 - If no, obtain supporting contract documentation and report whether the entity solicited quotes as a best practice.
 - c) Report whether the contract was amended. If so, report the scope and dollar amount of the amendment and whether the original contract terms contemplated or provided for such an amendment.
 - d) Select the largest payment from each of the five contracts, obtain the supporting invoice, compare the invoice to the contract terms, and report whether the invoice and related payment complied with the terms and conditions of the contract.
 - e) Obtain/review contract documentation and board minutes and report whether there is documentation of board approval, if required by policy or law (e.g. Lawrason Act or Home Rule Charter).

Finding: City Court of Ville Platte had 3 contracts in effect during the fiscal year that management represented was complete. They all have formal written contracts to support the services and the amount paid. The contracts did not fall under the public bid law or procurement code. No solicited quotes were obtained. The contracts were not amended. All contracts were signed by the Judge and the payments examined complied with the terms and conditions of the contract.

Payroll and Personnel

22. Obtain a listing of employees (and elected officials, if applicable) with their related salaries, and obtain management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select five employees/officials, obtain their personnel files, and:
 - a) Review compensation paid to each employee during the fiscal period and report whether payments were made in strict accordance with the terms and conditions of the employment contract or pay rate structure.
 - b) Review changes made to hourly pay rates/salaries during the fiscal period and report whether those changes were approved in writing and in accordance with written policy.
23. Obtain attendance and leave records and randomly select one pay period in which leave has been taken by at least one employee. Within that pay period, randomly select 25 employees/officials (or randomly select one-third of employees/officials if the entity had less than 25 employees during the fiscal period), and:
 - a) Report whether all selected employees/officials documented their daily attendance and leave (e.g., vacation, sick, compensatory). (Note: Generally, an elected official is not eligible to earn leave and does not document his/her attendance and leave. However, if the elected official is earning leave according to policy and/or contract, the official should document his/her daily attendance and leave.)
 - b) Report whether there is written documentation that supervisors approved, electronically or in writing, the attendance and leave of the selected employees/officials.
 - c) Report whether there is written documentation that the entity maintained written leave records (e.g., hours earned, hours used, and balance available) on those selected employees/officials that earn leave.
24. Obtain from management a list of those employees/officials that terminated during the fiscal period and management's representation that the list is complete. If applicable, select the two largest termination payments (e.g., vacation, sick, compensatory time) made during the fiscal period and obtain the personnel files for the two employees/officials. Report whether the termination payments were made in strict accordance with policy and/or contract and approved by management.

25. Obtain supporting documentation (e.g. cancelled checks, EFT documentation) relating to payroll taxes and retirement contributions during the fiscal period. Report whether the employee and employer portions of payroll taxes and retirement contributions, as well as the required reporting forms, were submitted to the applicable agencies by the required deadlines.

Finding: City Court of Ville Platte does not have any employees. All personnel are employees of the City of Ville Platte. All retirement contributions for the employee and employer portions for the Judge as well as all required reporting forms were submitted by the required deadlines.

Ethics (excluding nonprofits)

26. Using the five randomly selected employees/officials from procedure #22 under "Payroll and Personnel" above, obtain ethics compliance documentation from management and report whether the entity maintained documentation to demonstrate that required ethics training was completed.
27. Inquire of management whether any alleged ethics violations were reported to the entity during the fiscal period. If applicable, review documentation that demonstrates whether management investigated alleged ethics violations, the corrective actions taken, and whether management's actions complied with the entity's ethics policy. Report whether management received allegations, whether management investigated allegations received, and whether the allegations were addressed in accordance with policy.

Finding: This section is not applicable since all personnel are employees of the City of Ville Platte.

Debt Service (excluding nonprofits)

28. If debt was issued during the fiscal period, obtain supporting documentation from the entity, and report whether State Bond Commission approval was obtained.
29. If the entity had outstanding debt during the fiscal period, obtain supporting documentation from the entity and report whether the entity made scheduled debt service payments and maintained debt reserves, as required by debt covenants.
30. If the entity had tax millages relating to debt service, obtain supporting documentation and report whether millage collections exceed debt service payments by more than 10% during the fiscal period. Also, report any millages that continue to be received for debt that has been paid off.

Finding: This section is not applicable since City Court of Ville Platte does not have any debt.

Other

31. Inquire of management whether the entity had any misappropriations of public funds or assets. If so, obtain/review supporting documentation and report whether the entity reported the misappropriation to the legislative auditor and the district attorney of the parish in which the entity is domiciled.

Finding: The clerk was not aware of any misappropriations of public funds or assets.

32. Observe and report whether the entity has posted on its premises and website, the notice required by R.S. 24:523.1. This notice (available for download or print at www.lja.la.gov/hotline) concerns the reporting of misappropriation, fraud, waste, or abuse of public funds.

Finding: The notice is posted on the entrance door. City Court of Ville Platte does not have a website.

33. If the practitioner observes or otherwise identifies any exceptions regarding management's representations in the procedures above, report the nature of each exception.

Finding: No exceptions were noted.

We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review, 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.

The purpose of this report is 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.

John S. Dowling & Company

Opelousas, Louisiana
October 27, 2017