

THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT INDIGENT DEFENDER FUND
PARISH OF CALCASIEU, LOUISIANA

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Year Ended June 30, 2024

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

November 5, 2024

Public Defender
The Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Fund
Lake Charles, Louisiana

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities of the Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Fund, a component unit of the Louisiana Public Defender Board, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities of the Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Fund as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for 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 Audit 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 Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Fund, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Fund'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 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 Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Fund'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 Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Fund'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 information on page 27 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.

The District has not presented management's discussion and analysis that 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 Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Fund's basic financial statements. The Justice System Funding Schedule – Collecting/Distributing Entity as Required by Act 87 of the 2020 Regular Legislative Session and the Justice System Funding Schedule – Receiving Entity as Required by Act 87 of the 2020 Regular Legislative Session are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the 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, Justice System Funding Schedule – Collecting/Distributing Entity as Required by Act 87 of the 2020 Regular Legislative Session and the Justice System Funding

Schedule – Receiving Entity as Required by Act 87 of the 2020 Regular Legislative Session are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual report. The other information comprises the Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Chief Executive Officer but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Report on Summarized Comparative Information

We have previously audited Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Fund's June 30, 2023 financial statements, and we expressed an unmodified opinion on those audited financial statements in our report dated December 16, 2023. In our opinion, the summarized comparative information presented herein as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements from which it has been derived.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 5, 2024 on our consideration of the Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Fund's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, 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 Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Board's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Sharon Cassidy Shillory

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

GOVERNMENT-WIDE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT INDIGENT DEFENDER FUND

Statement of Net Position

June 30, 2024

ASSETS

Cash	\$ 2,467,683
Receivables - court cost	114,462
Receivables - intergovernmental	86,449
Receivables - other	16,740
Prepaid Expenses	80,116
Capital assets, net	<u>3,884,126</u>
Total assets	<u>6,649,576</u>

DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES

-

LIABILITIES

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	<u>15,356</u>
Total liabilities	<u>15,356</u>

DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES

-

NET POSITION

Invested in capital assets	3,884,126
Unrestricted	<u>2,750,094</u>
Total net position	<u><u>\$ 6,634,220</u></u>

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

THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT INDIGENT DEFENDER FUND

Statement of Activities

Year Ended June 30, 2024

<u>Activities</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Program Revenues</u>		<u>Net Revenues (Expenses) and Changes in Net Position Governmental Activities</u>
		<u>Charges for Services</u>	<u>Operating Grants and Contributions</u>	
Governmental Activities:				
General government	\$ 2,856,401	\$1,474,142	\$ 1,614,218	\$ 231,959
		General Revenues:		
		Interest income		1,251
		Other income		163,541
		Change in Net Position		<u>396,751</u>
		Net Position, beginning		<u>6,237,469</u>
		Net Position, ending		<u><u>\$ 6,634,220</u></u>

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

FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT INDIGENT DEFENDER FUND

Balance Sheet - Governmental Fund

June 30, 2024

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
ASSETS		
Cash	2,467,683	\$1,244,382
Receivables		
Court costs	114,462	82,515
Intergovernmental	86,449	914,587
Other	16,740	-
Prepaid expenses	80,116	84,851
Total assets	<u>2,765,450</u>	<u>2,326,335</u>
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL ASSETS AND DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	<u><u>\$2,765,450</u></u>	<u><u>\$2,326,335</u></u>
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	<u>15,356</u>	<u>\$ 15,830</u>
Total liabilities	15,356	15,830
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
FUND BALANCE		
Restricted	-	-
Unassigned	<u>2,750,094</u>	<u>2,310,505</u>
Total fund balance	<u>2,750,094</u>	<u>2,310,505</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCE	<u><u>\$2,765,450</u></u>	<u><u>\$2,326,335</u></u>

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

THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT INDIGENT DEFENDER FUND

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

June 30, 2024

Total fund balance for governmental fund at June 30, 2024	\$ 2,750,094
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 funds. Those assets consist of:	
Capital assets, net of \$300,877 accumulated depreciation	<u>3,884,126</u>
Total net position of governmental activities at June 30, 2024	<u><u>\$ 6,634,220</u></u>

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

THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT INDIGENT DEFENDER FUND

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

Year Ended June 30, 2024

	2024	2023
REVENUES		
Court costs on fines and forfeitures	\$ 1,166,627	\$ 837,756
Intergovernmental-Grants	1,614,218	1,481,225
Intergovernmental-Building	-	3,750,000
Fees from individuals	307,515	257,707
Interest income	1,251	1,784
Other income	163,541	2,032
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>3,253,152</u>	<u>6,330,504</u>
EXPENDITURES		
General Government		
Salaries and related benefits	1,661,203	1,617,839
Professional services	733,312	704,979
Litigation support	16,300	7,757
Library	18,589	32,363
Material and supplies	36,919	29,993
Rent	33,285	32,970
Travel	4,606	5,250
Telephone	6,659	18,109
Other operating expenditures	245,905	107,043
Capital Outlay	56,785	3,939,134
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>2,813,563</u>	<u>6,495,437</u>
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	439,589	(164,933)
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING	<u>2,310,505</u>	<u>2,475,438</u>
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	<u>\$ 2,750,094</u>	<u>\$ 2,310,505</u>

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

THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT INDIGENT DEFENDER FUND

Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and
Changes in Fund Balance-Governmental Fund to the Statement of Activities

Year Ended June 30, 2024

Total net changes in fund balance at June 30, 2024 per Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance	\$ 439,589
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The change in net position reported for governmental activities
in the statement of activities different because:

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures.
However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those
assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and
reported as depreciation expense.

Capital outlay which is considered expenditures on the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance	\$ 56,785	
Depreciation expense for the year ended June 30, 2024	<u>(99,623)</u>	<u>(42,838)</u>

Total changes in net position at June 30, 2024 per Statement of Activities	<u>\$ 396,751</u>
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT INDIGENT DEFENDER FUND

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

June 30, 2024

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Fund, Parish of Calcasieu, Louisiana (District), is established in compliance with Louisiana Revised Statutes 15:144-149, to provide and compensate counsel appointed to represent indigents in criminal and quasi-criminal cases on the district court level. The judicial district encompasses the Parish of Calcasieu, Louisiana.

The more significant of the government's accounting policies are described below.

1. Reporting Entity

GASB Statement No. 14 established criteria for determining the governmental reporting entity and component units that should be included within the reporting entity. For financial reporting purposes, in conformance with GASB Statement No. 14, the Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Fund includes all funds, account groups, et cetera, that are within the oversight responsibility of the Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Fund.

As the governing authority, for reporting purposes, the Louisiana Public Defender Board is the financial reporting entity. The financial reporting entity consists of (a) the primary government, (b) organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable, and (c) other organizations for which nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 14 established criteria for determining which component units should be considered part of the Louisiana Public Defender Board for financial reporting purposes. The basic criterion for including a potential component unit within the reporting entity is financial accountability.

THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT INDIGENT DEFENDER FUND

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

June 30, 2024

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

The GASB has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. This criteria includes:

1. Appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body and
 - a. The ability of the Louisiana Public Defender Board to impose its will on that organization and/or
 - b. The potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to or impose specific financial burdens on the Louisiana Public Defender Board.
2. Organizations for which the Louisiana Public Defender Board does not appoint a voting majority but are fiscally dependent on the Louisiana Public Defender Board.
3. Organizations for which the reporting entity financial statements could be misleading if data of the organization is not included because of the nature or significance of the relationship.

Based upon the application of these criteria, the Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Fund is a component unit of Louisiana Public Defender Board.

2. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying basic financial statements of the District have been prepared in conformity with governmental accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The accompanying basic financial statements have been prepared in conformity with GASB Statement 34, "Basic Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis for State and Local Governments", issued in June 1999.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the District as a whole. They include all funds of the reporting entity. Governmental activities generally are financed through court costs, intergovernmental revenues, and other nonexchange revenues.

THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT INDIGENT DEFENDER FUND

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

June 30, 2024

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each of the functions of the District'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 of services offered by the District; and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirement of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues.

Fund Financial Statements

The District uses funds to maintain its financial records. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid management by segregating transactions related to certain District functions and activities. A fund is defined as a separate fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts.

The District has one fund, the General Fund, which is therefore considered its major fund.

3. 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, the activities are presented using the economic resources measurement focus. In the fund financial statements, the "current financial resources" measurement focus. Only current financial assets and liabilities are generally included on their balance sheets.

Their operating statements present sources and uses of available spendable financial resources during a given period. These funds use fund balance as their measure of available spendable financial resources at the end of the period.

THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT INDIGENT DEFENDER FUND

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

June 30, 2024

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

Basis of Accounting

In the government-wide statement of net position and statement of activities, the 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, and liabilities 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.

4. Cash

The cash and cash equivalents of the District are subject to the following risks.

Custodial Credit Risk: Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, the District will not be able to recover its deposits. 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 financial agent bank. The market value of the pledged securities plus the federal deposit insurance must at all times equal or exceed the amount on deposit with the fiscal 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. 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 District that the fiscal agent bank has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand. Further, Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1224 states that securities held by a third party shall be deemed to be held in the District's name.

THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT INDIGENT DEFENDER FUND

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

June 30, 2024

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

Interest Rate Risk: This is the risk that changes in market interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. Generally, the longer the maturity of an investment, the greater the sensitivity is its fair value to changes in market interest rates. The District does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates. However, as a means of offsetting exposure to interest rate risk, the District diversifies its investments by security type and institution.

Credit Risk: Generally, credit risk is the risk that the issuer of a debt type investment will not fulfill its obligation to the holder of the investment. U.S. government securities or obligations explicitly guaranteed by the U.S. government are not considered to have credit risk exposure. The District's investments comply with Louisiana Statutes (LSA R.S. 33:2955). Under state law, the District may deposit funds with a fiscal agent organized under the laws of Louisiana, the laws of any other state in the union, or the laws of the United States. The District may invest in United States bonds, treasury notes and bills, government-backed agency securities, or certificates of time deposits of state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having principal offices in Louisiana.

Cash includes amounts in demand deposits and time deposits with original maturities of 90 days or less. Under state law, the District may deposit funds in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, money market accounts, or time deposits with state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having their principal offices in Louisiana.

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. At June 30, 2024 the carrying amount was \$2,467,683 and the bank balance was \$2,522,495. These deposits are secured from risk by \$250,000 of federal deposit insurance and \$2,272,495 of pledged securities held by the custodial bank in the name of the fiscal agent bank.

5. Budgets

A budget is adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year end.

THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT INDIGENT DEFENDER FUND

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

June 30, 2024

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

On or before the last meeting of each year, the budget is prepared by function and activity, and includes information on the past year, current year estimates and requested appropriations for the next fiscal year.

The proposed budget is presented to the district's Board of Directors for review. The board may add to, subtract from or change appropriations, but may not change the form of the budget. Any changes in the budget must be within the revenues and reserves estimated.

Expenditures may not legally exceed budgeted appropriations at the activity level.

6. Accounts Receivable

No reserve for uncollectible receivables had been recorded as of June 30, 2024, as all receivables were considered collectible.

7. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant and equipment, are reported in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are capitalized at historical cost or estimated cost if historical is not available. Donated assets are recorded as capital assets at their estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The minimum capitalization threshold is any individual item with a total cost greater than \$500.

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 allocated expense in the statement of activities, with accumulated depreciation reflected in the statement of net assets. 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:

Equipment	3-7 years
Buildings	40 years

In the fund financial statements, capital assets used in governmental fund operations are accounted for as capital outlay expenditures of the governmental fund upon acquisition.

THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT INDIGENT DEFENDER FUND

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

June 30, 2024

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

8. Compensated Absences

All permanent, full-time employees earn from 22 to 42 days of vacation and sick leave each year, depending upon length of service. Leave is available for use by employees in the fiscal year it was earned.

9. Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America 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 expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

10. Equity Classification

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

- a. Net investment in capital assets— Consists of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of 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.
- c. Unrestricted net position – All other net position that do not meet the definition of “restricted” or “net investment in capital assets”.

THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT INDIGENT DEFENDER FUND

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

June 30, 2024

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

In the fund statements, governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance. Fund balance is further classified as restricted, assigned and unassigned.

- a. Restricted fund balance - includes fund balance amounts that are intended to be used for specific purposes based on generally outside actions.
- b. Assigned fund balance – includes fund balance amounts that are intended to be used for specific purposes based on internal (board) actions.
- c. Unassigned fund balance – includes positive fund balance within the general fund which has not been classified within the above mentioned categories.

When an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted (committed, assigned, or unassigned) amounts are available, expenditures are to be spent from restricted fund balance first and then unrestricted. Expenditures incurred in the unrestricted fund balances shall be reduced first from the committed fund balance, then from the assigned fund balance and finally, the unassigned fund balance.

11. Subsequent Events

Management has evaluated subsequent events through November 5, 2024, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

12. Comparative Data

Comparative totals for the prior year have been presented in the accompanying financial statement in order to provide an understanding of changes in the District's financial position and operations.

THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT INDIGENT DEFENDER FUND

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

June 30, 2024

NOTE B - CAPITAL ASSETS

A summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended June 30, 2024 follows:

	<u>Beginning of Year</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	<u>End of Year</u>
Governmental activities:				
Equipment	\$ 206,667	\$ 56,785	\$ -	\$ 263,452
Buildings	3,529,396	-	-	3,529,396
Land	<u>392,155</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>392,155</u>
Total	4,128,218	56,785	-	4,185,003
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Equipment	<u>201,254</u>	<u>99,623</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>300,877</u>
Governmental activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 3,926,964</u>	<u>\$ (42,838)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,884,126</u>

In 2024 the District purchased furniture and computer equipment for the new building of \$56,785.

NOTE C - RISK MANAGEMENT

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The District maintains commercial insurance coverage covering each of those risks of loss. Management believes such coverage is sufficient to preclude any significant uninsured losses to the District. Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

NOTE D - PENSION PLAN

Beginning in October 2011, the District offers a Savings Incentive Match Plan for Employees of a Small Employers (SIMPLE). Eligibility is limited to employees who are reasonably expected to receive at least \$5,000 in compensation and who have received at least \$5,000 in compensation during any 2 calendar years preceding the current calendar year. Mutual of America serves as the Designated Financial Institution (DFI) under the Plan. The District will make a matching contribution equal to an employee's salary reduction contribution, up to a limit of 3% of the employee's compensation for the year. For the year ended June 30, 2024, employees deferred \$59,798 of their compensation and employer contributions totaled \$31,689.

THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT INDIGENT DEFENDER FUND

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

June 30, 2024

NOTE F – GOVERNMENT FUND REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the major sources of governmental fund revenues and expenditures were as follows:

Revenues:

State Government	
Grants	\$ 1,614,218
Local Government	
Statutory fines, forfeitures, fees	
court costs and others	1,166,627
Charges for services	307,515
Investment earnings	1,251
Miscellaneous	163,541
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 3,253,152</u>

Expenditures:

Personnel Services and Benefits	
Salaries	\$ 1,343,835
Insurance	184,599
Payroll taxes	101,080
Retirement contributions	31,689
Other	-
	<u>1,661,203</u>
Professional Development	
Dues, licenses, and registrations	6,850
Travel	<u>5,635</u>
	12,485
Operating Costs	
Library and research	18,589
Contract services – attorney/legal	718,312
Contract services – other	15,000
Lease – office	32,285
Litigation support	16,300
Travel – transportation	4606
Insurance	45,577
Supplies	122,351
Repairs and maintenance	32,933
Utilities and telephone	58,875
Other	<u>18,262</u>
	1,083,090
Capital outlay	<u>56,785</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 2,813,563</u>

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT INDIGENT DEFENDER FUND

Budgetary Comparison Schedule - General Fund

Year Ended June 30, 2024

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE FAVORABLE (UNFAVORABLE)
REVENUES			
Court costs on fines and forfeitures	\$ 735,750	\$ 1,166,627	\$ 430,877
Intergovernmental	2,157,441	1,614,218	(543,223)
Fees from indigents	190,000	307,515	117,515
Interest	1,000	1,251	251
Other income	-	163,541	163,541
TOTAL REVENUES	3,084,191	3,253,152	168,961
EXPENDITURES			
General Government			
Salaries and related benefits	1,897,000	1,661,203	235,797
Professional services	764,500	733,312	31,188
Litigation support	10,000	16,300	(6,300)
Library	25,000	18,589	6,411
Materials and supplies	27,500	36,919	(9,419)
Rent	33,420	33,285	135
Travel	7,550	4,606	2,944
Telephone	-	6,659	(6,659)
Other operating expenditures	276,450	245,905	30,545
Capital Outlay	50,000	56,785	(6,785)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	3,091,420	2,813,563	277,857
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	(7,229)	439,589	446,818
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING	2,310,505	2,310,505	-
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	\$ 2,303,276	\$ 2,750,094	\$ 446,818

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT INDIGENT DEFENDER FUND
JUSTICE SYSTEM FUNDING SCHEDULE - COLLECTING/DISBURSING ENTITY
AS REQUIRED BY ACT 87 OF THE 2020 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Year Ended June 30, 2024

	First Six Month Period Ended December 31, 2023	Second Six Month Period Ended June 30, 2024
Cash Presentation		
Beginning Balance of Amounts Collected	\$ -	\$ -
Add: Collections		
Civil Fees	-	-
Bond Fees	-	-
Asset Forfeiture/Sale	-	-
Pre-Trial Diversion Program Fees	-	-
Criminal Court Costs/Fees	-	-
Criminal Fines - Contempt	-	-
Criminal Fines - Other	-	-
Restitution	-	-
Probation/Parole/Supervision Fees	-	-
Service/Collection Fees	-	-
Interest Earnings on Collected Balances	-	-
Other	-	-
Subtotal Collections	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Less: Disbursements To Governments & Nonprofits		
None	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Less: Amounts Retained by Collecting Agency		
Collection Fee for Collecting/Disbursing to Others Based on Percentage of Collection	-	-
Less: Disbursements to Individuals/3rd Party Collection or Processing Agencies		
Payments to 3rd Party Collection/Processing Agencies	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Subtotal Disbursements/Retainage	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total: Ending Balance of Amounts Collected but not Disbursed/Retained	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Ending Balance of "Partial Payments" Collected but not Disbursed	-	-
Other Information:		
Ending Balance of Total Amounts Assessed but not yet Collected	-	-
Total Waivers During the Fiscal Period	-	-

THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT INDIGENT DEFENDER FUND

JUSTICE SYSTEM FUNDING SCHEDULE - RECEIVING ENTITY
AS REQUIRED BY ACT 87 OF THE 2020 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Year Ended June 30, 2024

	First Six Month Period Ended December 31, 2023	Second Six Month Period Ended June 30, 2024
Cash Presentation		
Receipts From:		
Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office - Traffic Fines	\$ 46,800	\$ 77,130
Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office - Court Costs	38,726	35,339
Lake Charles City Court - Court Costs	71,448	82,013
Sulphur City Court - Court Costs	56,439	95,300
City of Dequincy - Court Costs	5,530	5,330
City of Westlake - Court Costs	21,780	23,730
Town of Iowa - Court Costs	25,570	21,060
Town of Vinton - Court Costs	7,600	6,370
Calcasieu Parish District Attorney's Office - Bond Forfeitures	181,732	102,568
Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Fund - Bond Fees	105,067	122,118
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Subtotal Receipts	<u><u>\$ 560,692</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 570,958</u></u>

Ending Balance of Amounts Assessed but Not Received

OTHER INFORMATION

THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT INDIGENT DEFENDER FUND

Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments
To Chief Executive Officer

Year Ended June 30, 2024

Chief Executive Officer: Harry Fontenot, District Defender

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Salary	\$ 131,250
Benefits-health insurance	6,008
Benefits-malpractice insurance	914
Benefits-retirement	3,938
Benefits-cell phone	-
Car allowance	-
Vehicle provided by government	-
Per diem	-
Reimbursements	-
Travel	997
Conference travel	-
Continuing professional education fees	-
Housing	-
Unvouchered expenses	-
Special meals	-
State bar dues	610
Mileage	-

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

November 5, 2024

Public Defender
The Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Fund
Lake Charles, Louisiana

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities of The Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Fund, a component unit of the Louisiana Public Defender Board, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statement, which collectively comprise The Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Board's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated November 5, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Fund'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 District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District'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 weakness 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 certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Fund's financial statements are free of 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 matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

District's Response to Findings

The District's response to the findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. The District's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

Purpose of the Report

This 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.

Theresa Cassady Guillory

THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT INDIGENT DEFENDER FUND

Schedule of Findings and Responses

Year Ended June 30, 2024

1. Summary of Auditors' Results:

Type of auditors' opinion issued: unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:

Material weakness(es) identified? ☐ yes ☒ no

Control deficiency(s) identified that are not considered to be material weakness(es)? ☒ yes ☐ none reported

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? ☐ yes ☒ no

2. Findings Relating to the Financial Statements Which Are Required to be Reported in Accordance with Generally Accepted Governmental Auditing Standards

Finding #2024-001:

Inadequate Segregation of Duties

Condition: Because of the small size of the District's office staff, the opportunity for segregation of duties is limited. Effective internal control requires adequate segregation of duties among entity personnel.

Effect: Without proper segregation of duties, misstatements in amounts may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions.

Recommendation: To the extent cost effective, duties should be segregated and management should attempt to mitigate this weakness by supervision and review procedures.

Response/Corrective Action Planned: Management has responded that it does not believe that it is cost effective to employ adequate personnel to achieve appropriate segregation of duties. Management has implemented supervision and review procedures such as review and approval of supporting documents related to expenditures, review listings of revenue received and review of bank reconciliations on a monthly basis.

Continued

THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT INDIGENT DEFENDER FUND

Schedule of Findings and Responses - Continued

Year Ended June 30, 2024

3. Findings and Questioned Costs for Federal Awards

N/A

4. Prior Year Audit Findings

Finding #2023-001: Inadequate segregation of duties.

Corrective Actions Taken – None, a repeat finding in 2024.



COY T. VINCENT, C.P.A.
MICHELLE LEE, C.P.A.
BRADLEY J. CASIDAY, C.P.A., C.V.A.
BRIAN MCCAIN, C.P.A.
GRAHAM A. PORTUS, E.A.
KATHRYN BLESSINGTON, C.P.A.
BLAKE MANUEL, C.P.A.
HEATHER SLAVIN, E.A.

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT
ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

November 5, 2024

Board of Commissioners
The Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Board
Lake Charles, Louisiana

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 year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. The District's management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

The Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Fund has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of the engagement, which is to perform specified procedures on the C/C areas identified in LLA's SAUPs for the fiscal year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 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.

The District's policies and procedures manual addresses budgeting.

- 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.

The District's policies and procedures manual addresses purchasing.

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

The District's policies and procedures manual addresses disbursements.

- 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 confirmations with outside parties, reconciliation to utility billing after cutoff procedures, reconciliation of traffic ticket number sequences, agency fund forfeiture monies confirmation).

The District's policies and procedures manual addresses receipt/collections.

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

The District's policies and procedures manual addresses payroll/personnel.

- 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.

The District's policies and procedures manual addresses contracting.

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

The District's policies and procedures manual addresses travel and expense reimbursement.

- 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).

The District's policies and procedures manual addresses credit cards.

- 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) requirement that documentation is maintained to demonstrate that all employees and officials were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy.

The District's policies and procedures manual addresses ethics.

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

The District's policies and procedures manual addresses debt service.

- xi. *Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity*, includes (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.

The District's policies and procedures manual addresses information technology disaster recovery/business continuity.

- 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.

The District's policies and procedures manual addresses prevention of sexual harassment.

2) Board or Finance Committee

- A. Obtain and inspect the board/finance committee minutes for the fiscal period, as well as the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or equivalent document in effect during the fiscal period, and
- i. Observe that the board/finance committee met with a quorum at least monthly, or on a frequency in accordance with the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or other equivalent document.

The District does not have a board.

- ii. For those entities reporting on the governmental accounting model, observe whether the minutes referenced or included monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the general fund, quarterly budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on proprietary funds, and semi-annual budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on special revenue funds. *Alternatively, for those entities reporting on the not-for-profit accounting model, observe that the minutes referenced or included financial activity relating to public funds if those public funds comprised more than 10% of the entity's collections during the fiscal period.*

The District does not have a board or minutes.

- iii. For governmental entities, obtain the prior year audit report and observe the unrestricted fund balance in the general fund. If the general fund had a negative ending unrestricted fund balance in the prior year audit report, observe that the minutes for at least one meeting during the fiscal period referenced or included a formal plan to eliminate the negative unrestricted fund balance in the general fund.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- iv. Observe whether the board/finance committee received written updates of the progress of resolving audit finding(s), according to management's corrective action plan at each meeting until the findings are considered fully resolved.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

3) Bank Reconciliations

- A. Obtain a listing of entity bank accounts for the fiscal period from management and management's representation that the listing is complete. Ask management to identify the entity's main operating account. Select the entity's main operating account and randomly select 4 additional accounts (or all accounts if less than 5). Randomly select one month from the fiscal period, obtain and inspect the corresponding bank statement and reconciliation for each selected account, and observe that:

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

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- ii. Bank reconciliations include evidence that a member of management or a board member who does not handle cash, post ledgers, or issue checks has reviewed each bank reconciliation within 1 month of the date the reconciliation was prepared. (e.g., initialed and dated, electronically logged); and

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- 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 were found as a result of this procedure.

4) Collections

- A. Obtain a listing of deposit sites for the fiscal period where deposits for cash/check/money orders (cash) are prepared and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 deposit sites (or all deposit sites if less than 5).

The listing was provided by management.

- B. For each deposit site selected, obtain a listing of collection locations and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one collection location for each deposit site (e.g. 5 collection locations for 5 deposit sites), obtain and inspect written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if no written policies or procedures, inquire of employees about their job duties) at each collection location, and observe the job duties are properly segregated at each collection location such that:

- i. Employees that are responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers/registers;

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- ii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not responsible for preparing/making bank deposits, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling collection documentation (e.g. pre-numbered receipts) to the deposit:

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- iii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not responsible for posting collection entries to the general ledger or subsidiary ledgers, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling ledger postings to each other and to the deposit; and

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- iv. The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or agency fund additions, is (are) not responsible for collecting cash, unless another employee/official verifies the reconciliation.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- C. Obtain from management a copy of the bond or insurance policy for theft covering all employees who have access to cash. Observe the bond or insurance policy for theft was enforced during the fiscal period.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- D. Randomly select two deposit dates for each of the 5 bank accounts selected for procedure Bank Reconciliations procedure #3A (select the next deposit date chronologically if no deposits were made on the dates randomly selected and randomly select a deposit if multiple deposits are made on the same day). Obtain supported documentation for each of the deposits and:

- i. Observe that receipts are sequentially pre-numbered.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- ii. Trace sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- iii. Trace the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- iv. Observe that the deposit was made within one business day of receipt at the collection location (within one week if the depository is more than 10 miles from the collection location or the deposit is less than \$100 and the cash is stored securely in a locked safe or drawer).

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- v. Trace the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

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

- A. Obtain a listing of locations that process payments for the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 locations (or all locations if less than 5).

The listing was provided by management.

- B. For each location selected under #5A above, obtain a listing of those employees involved with non-payroll purchasing and payment functions. Obtain written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if the agency has no written policies and procedures, then inquire of employees about their job duties), and observe that job duties are properly segregated such that

- i. At least two employees are involved in initiating a purchase request, approving a purchase, and placing an order or making the purchase;

At least two employees are not involved in initiating, approving and making a purchase.

Management Response: Management does not believe it is cost effective to employ adequate personnel to achieve appropriate segregation of duties.

- ii. At least two employees are involved in processing and approving payments to vendors;

At least two employees are not involved in processing and approving payments to vendors.

Management Response: Management does not believe it is cost effective to employ adequate personnel to achieve appropriate segregation of duties.

- iii. The employee responsible for processing payments is prohibited from adding/modifying vendor files, unless another employee is responsible for periodically reviewing changes to vendor files;

The employee responsible for processing payments is not prohibited from adding/modifying vendor files. No other employee is responsible for periodically reviewing changes to vendor files.

Management Response: Management does not believe it is cost effective to employ adequate personnel to achieve appropriate segregation of duties.

- iv. Either the employee/official responsible for signing checks mails the payment or gives the signed checks to an employee to mail who is not responsible for processing payments; and

The employee responsible for signing checks also mails the checks and processes payments.

Management Response: Management does not believe it is cost effective to employ adequate personnel to achieve appropriate segregation of duties.

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

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- C. For each location selected under procedure #5A above, obtain the entity's non-payroll disbursement transaction population (excluding cards and travel reimbursements) and obtain management's representation that the population is complete. Randomly select 5 disbursements for each location, obtain supporting documentation for each transaction, and

- i. Observe whether the disbursement, whether by paper or electronic means, matched the related original itemized invoice and supporting documentation indicates that deliverables included on the invoice were received by the entity, and

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- ii. Observe whether the disbursement documentation included evidence (e.g. initial/date, electronic logging) of segregation of duties tested under procedure #5B above, as applicable.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- D. Using the entity's main operating account and the month selected in Bank Reconciliations procedure #3A, randomly select 5 non-payroll-related electronic disbursements (or all electronic disbursements if less than 5) observe that each electronic disbursement was (a) approved by only those persons authorized to disburse funds (e.g., sign checks) per the entity's policy, and (b) approved by the required number of authorized signers per the entity's policy.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

6) 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.

The listing was provided by management.

- 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 excess fuel card usage) were reviewed and approved, in writing, (or electronically approved) by someone other than the authorized card holder; and

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

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

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- C. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under procedure #6B above, excluding fuel cards, randomly select 10 transactions (or all transactions if less than 10) from each statement, and obtain supporting documentation for the transactions (e.g. each card should have 10 transactions subject to inspection). For each transaction, observed that it is supported by (1) an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased, (2) written documentation of the business/public purpose, and (3) documentation of the individuals participating in meals (for meal charges only).

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

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

- A. Obtain from management a listing of all travel and travel-related expense reimbursements during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing or general ledger is complete. Randomly select 5 reimbursements and obtain the related expense reimbursement forms/prepaid expense documentation of each selected reimbursement, as well as the supporting documentation. For each of the 5 reimbursements selected
- i. If reimbursed using a per diem, observe that the approved reimbursement rate is no more than those rates established either by the State of Louisiana or the U.S. General Services Administration (www.gsa.gov);

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- ii. If reimbursed using actual costs, observe that the reimbursement is supported by an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased;

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

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

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- iv. Observe that each reimbursement was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving reimbursement.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

8) Contracts

- A. Obtain from management a listing of all agreements/contracts for professional services, materials and supplies, leases, and construction activities that were initiated or renewed during the fiscal period. Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 contracts (or all contracts if less than 5) from the listing, excluding the practitioner's contract, and

- i. Observe whether the contract was bid in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law (e.g., solicited quotes or bids, advertised), if required by law;

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- ii. Observe whether the contract was approved by the governing body/board, if required by policy or law (e.g. Lawrason Act, Home Rule Charter);

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- iii. If the contract was amended (e.g. change order), observe that the original contract terms provided for such an amendment and that amendments were made in compliance with the contract terms (e.g., if approval is required for any amendment, the documented approval); and

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- iv. Randomly select one payment from the fiscal period for each of the 5 contracts, obtain the supporting invoice, agree the invoice to the contract terms, and observe that the invoice and related payment agreed to the terms and conditions of the contract.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

9) Payroll and Personnel

- A. Obtain a listing of employees and officials employed during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select five employees or officials, obtain related paid salaries and personnel files, and agree paid salaries to the authorized salaries/pay rates in the personnel files.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- B. Randomly select one pay period during the fiscal period. For the 5 employees or officials selected under procedure #9A above, obtain attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and
- i. Observe that all selected employees or officials documented their daily attendance and leave (e.g., vacation sick, compensatory);

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- ii. Observe whether supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees or officials.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- iii. Observe that any leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's cumulative leave records; and

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- iv. Observe the rate paid to the employees or officials agrees to the authorized salary/pay rate found within the personnel file.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- C. Obtain a listing of those employees or officials that received termination payments during the fiscal period and management's representation that the list is complete. Randomly select two employees or officials and obtain related documentation of the hours and pay rates used in management's termination payment calculations and the entity's policy on termination payments. Agree the hours to the employee's or official's cumulate leave records, agree the pay rates to the employee's or official's authorized pay rates in the employee's or official's personnel files, and agree the termination payment to the entity policy.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- D. Obtain management's representation that employer and employee portions of third-party payroll related amounts (e.g., payroll taxes, retirement contributions, health insurance premiums, garnishments, workers' compensation premiums, etc.) have been paid, and any associated forms have been filed, by required deadlines.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

10) Ethics

- A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A obtain ethics documentation from management, and

- i. Observe whether the documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed one hour of ethics training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:1170; and

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- ii. Observe whether the entity maintains documentation which demonstrates each employee and official were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy during the fiscal period, as applicable.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- B. Inquire and/or observe whether the agency has appointed an ethics designee as required by R.S. 42:1170.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

11) Debt Service

- A. Obtain a listing of bonds/notes and other debt instruments issued during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Select all debt instruments on the listing, obtain supporting documentation, and observe that the State Bond Commission approval was obtained for each debt instrument issued as required by Article VII, Section 8 of the Louisiana Constitution.

The District did not issue any debt.

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

The District has no debt outstanding.

12) Fraud Notice

- A. Obtain a listing of misappropriations of public funds and assets during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Select all misappropriations on the listing, obtain supporting documentation, and observe that the entity reported the misappropriation(s) to the legislative auditor and the district attorney of the parish in which the entity is domiciled as required by R.S. 24:523.

The District was not aware of any misappropriation of public funds or assets during the fiscal year.

- B. Observe the entity has posted on its premises and website, the notice required by R.S. 24:523.1 concerning the reporting of misappropriation, fraud, waste, or abuse of public funds.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

13) Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity

- A. Perform the following procedures,

- i. Obtain and inspect the entity's most recent documentation that it has backed up its critical data (if no written documentation, then inquire of personnel responsible for backing up critical data) and observe evidence that such backup (a) occurred within the past week, (b) was not stored on the government's local server or network, and (c) was encrypted.

We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management. No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- ii. Obtain and inspect the entity's most recent documentation that it has tested/verified that its backups can be restored (if no written documentation, then inquire of personnel responsible for testing/verifying backup restoration) and observe evidence that the test/verification was successfully performed within the past 3 months.

We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management. No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- iii. Obtain a listing of the entity's computers currently in use and their related locations, and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 computers and observe while management demonstrates that the selected computers have current and active antivirus software and that the operating system and accounting system software in use are currently supported by the vendor.

We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management. No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- B. Randomly select 5 terminated employees (or all terminated employees if less than 5) using the list of terminated employees obtained in procedure #9C. Observe evidence that the selected terminated employees have been removed or disabled from the network.

We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management. No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- C. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A, obtain cybersecurity training documentation from management, and observe that the documentation demonstrates that the following employees/officials with access to the agency's information technology assets have completed cybersecurity training as required by R.S. 42:1267. The requirements are as follows:
- Hired before June 9, 2020 - completed the training; and
 - Hired on or after June 9, 2020 - completed the training within 30 days of initial service or employment.

We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.

14) Prevention of Sexual Harassment

- A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A, obtain sexual harassment training documentation from management, and observe the documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed at least one hour of sexual harassment training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:343.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- B. Observe the entity has posted its sexual harassment policy and complaint procedure on its website (or in a conspicuous location on the entity's premises if the entity does not have a website).

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- C. Obtain the entity's annual sexual harassment report for the current fiscal period, observe that the report was dated on or before February 1, and observe that the report includes the applicable requirements of R.S. 42:344:
- i. Number and percentage of public servants in the agency who have completed the training requirements;

The number and percentage of public servants in the agency who have completed the training requirements was not included in the report.

Management Response: Management include the number and percentage of public servants in the agency who have completed the training requirements on future annual sexual harassment reports.

- ii. Number of sexual harassment complaints received by the agency;

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- iii. Number of complaints which resulted in a finding that sexual harassment occurred;

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- iv. Number of complaints in which the finding of sexual harassment resulted in discipline or corrective action; and

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

- v. Amount of time it took to resolve each complaint.

No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

We were engaged by the Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Fund 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 Fourteenth Judicial District Indigent Defender Fund 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.

Shagun, Cassidy: Shillery