

**CITY OF NATCHITOCHEs,  
CITY MARSHAL  
ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

**DECEMBER 31, 2023**

City of Natchitoches, City Marshal  
December 31, 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Exhibit</u>	<u>Page</u>
Required Supplementary Information		
Management's Discussion and Analysis	-	1-4
Independent Auditors' Report		5-7
Basic Financial Statements		
Government-Wide Financial Statements		
Statement of Net Position	A	10
Statement of Activities	B	11
Fund Financial Statements		
Balance Sheet-Governmental Fund	C	13
Reconciliation of the Governmental Fund Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position	D	14
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance-Governmental Fund	E	15
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance of the Governmental Fund to the Statement of Activities	F	16
Statement of Fiduciary Net Position	G	17
Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position	H	18
Notes to Financial Statements	-	20-26
Other Required Supplementary Information		
Budgetary Comparison Schedule-General Fund	I	28
Supplementary Information		
Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer	J	30
Justice System Funding Schedule – Collecting/Disbursing Entity	K	31-32

City of Natchitoches, City Marshal  
December 31, 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Exhibit</u>	<u>Page</u>
Other Reports/Schedules		
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 <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	L	34-35
Schedule of Audit Findings	M	36
Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures	N	37-46
Management's Response to Exceptions to Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures	O	47

# CITY OF NATCHITOCHEs, CITY MARSHAL

450 Fifth Street  
Natchitoches, LA 71457

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

This section of the City of Natchitoches, City Marshal's (hereafter referred to as the City Marshal) annual financial report presents an overview and analysis of the City Marshal's financial activities for the year ended December 31, 2023. The intent of the MD&A is to look at the City Marshal's financial performance as a whole. It should, therefore be read in conjunction with this report. Certain comparative information is presented to provide an overview of the City Marshal's operations.

### Financial Highlights

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities provide information about the activities of the City Marshal as a whole and presents a longer-term view of the City Marshal's finances. These statements tell how these services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending.

#### Government-Wide Financial Statements

- The Statement of Net Position presents all of the City Marshal's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as "net position". Over time, increases or decreases in the City Marshal's net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the City Marshal is improving or deteriorating.
- The Statement of Activities presents information showing how the City Marshal's net position changed during the current year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Therefore, some revenues and some expenses that are reported in this statement will not result in cash flows until future years.

#### Fund Financial Statements

The services provided by the City Marshal are financed through a governmental fund. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The City Marshal uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The City Marshal conducts its day-to-day operations through a governmental fund, the General Fund. These statements provide a short-term view of the City Marshal's finances and assists in determining whether there will be adequate financial resources available to meet the current needs of the City Marshal. The City Marshal also maintains two Fiduciary Funds. As Fiduciary Funds are simply held for other parties and cannot be used for any of the City Marshal's activities, it is not included in the government-wide statement, but is separately reported in the statements of the Fiduciary Funds.

A summary of the basic government-wide financial statements is as follows:

Summary of Statement of Net Position

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
ASSETS:		
Current Assets	\$53,427	\$ 73,612
Capital Assets, Net of Accumulated Depreciation	<u>13,615</u>	<u>20,049</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$67,042</u>	<u>\$ 93,661</u>
LIABILITIES:		
Accounts Payable	\$ 1,979	\$ 41,635
Due to Fiduciary Fund	<u>2,939</u>	<u>130,920</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 4,918</u>	<u>\$172,555</u>
NET POSITION:		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$13,615	\$ 20,048
Unrestricted	<u>48,509</u>	<u>(98,942)</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$62,124</u>	<u>\$ (78,894)*</u>

- The City of Natchitoches, City Marshal has recorded prior period adjustments to restate governmental activities fund balances and net position for correction of accounting errors. As a result the amounts reported above do not articulate to the amounts reported on page 11, which have been restated.

## Summary of Statement of Activities

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
REVENUES:		
Charges for Services	\$ 48,749	\$281,948
Intergovernmental	225,109	205,132
Miscellaneous	<u>1,350</u>	<u>36,363</u>
Total Revenues	\$275,208	\$523,443
EXPENSES:		
Operating Expenses	<u>285,485</u>	<u>542,224</u>
Change in Net Position	\$ <u>(10,277)</u>	\$ <u>(18,781)</u>

- The City Marshal's assets exceeded its assets by \$62,124. This is an increase of \$141,018 from prior year.
- Unrestricted net position, the amount available for obligations to both citizens and creditors, increased \$147,451, from the prior year.

### General Fund Budgetary Highlights

Actual revenues were \$451,042 less than budgeted revenues and actual expenditures were \$447,199 less than budgeted expenditures.

### Economic Factors and Next Year's Budget

The City Marshal considered many factors when setting the budget for 2024. Revenues are expected to increase due to a service fee increase according to R.S. 13:5807 and expenses are not expected to differ significantly from 2023.

### Contacting the City Marshal

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens and creditors with a general overview of the City Marshal's finances and to show the City Marshal's accountability for the money it receives. Any questions about this report or requests for additional information may be directed to City of Natchitoches, City Marshal, 450 Fifth Street, Natchitoches, LA 71457.

**T | C | B | T**  
**THOMAS, CUNNINGHAM, BROADWAY & TODTENBIER**  
*Certified Public Accountants*

Eddie G. Johnson, CPA – A Professional Corporation (1927-1996)

Mark D. Thomas, CPA – A Professional Corporation  
Roger M. Cunningham, CPA – LLC  
Jessica H. Broadway, CPA – A Professional Corporation  
Ryan E. Todtenbier, CPA – A Professional Corporation

321 Bienville Street  
Natchitoches, Louisiana 71457  
(318) 352-3652  
Fax (318) 352-4447  
[www.tcbtcpa.com](http://www.tcbtcpa.com)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

Randy Williams, City Marshal  
City of Natchitoches  
450 Fifth Street  
Natchitoches, LA 71457

**Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

***Opinions***

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, major fund, and the fiduciary funds of the City Marshal of the City of Natchitoches (City Marshal), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City Marshal'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, major fund, and the fiduciary funds of the City Marshal as of December 31, 2023, 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 Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the City Marshal and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related 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, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about City Marshal's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statements date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

### ***Auditors' 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 opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

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

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City Marshal's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the City Marshal'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 Management's Discussion and Analysis and Budgetary's Comparison Schedule be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

### ***Supplementary Information***

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the City Marshal's basic financial statements. The Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer and Justice System Funding Schedule 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, the Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer and Justice System Funding Schedule 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 June 21, 2024, on our consideration of the City Marshal's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the City Marshal's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the City Marshal's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

### ***Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements***

In accordance with the requirements of the Louisiana Legislative Auditor, we have issued a report, dated June 21, 2024, on the results of our statewide agreed-upon procedures performed in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards*. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of testing performed on those control and compliance areas identified in the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's statewide agreed-upon procedures, and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on control or compliance.

*Thomas, Cunningham, Broadway & Todtenbier, CPA's*

Thomas, Cunningham, Broadway & Todtenbier, CPA's  
Natchitoches, Louisiana

June 21, 2024

## BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

GOVERNMENT-WIDE  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

City of Natchitoches, City Marshal  
Statement of Net Position  
December 31, 2023

	Governmental <u>Activities</u>
ASSETS:	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 47,834
Revenue Receivable	1,206
Prepaid Expense	<u>4,387</u>
Total Current Assets	\$ 53,427
Non-current Assets-	
Capital Assets (Net)	<u>13,615</u>
Total Assets	\$ <u>67,042</u>
LIABILITIES:	
Accounts Payable	\$ 1,979
Due to Fiduciary Fund	<u>2,939</u>
Total Liabilities	\$ <u>4,918</u>
NET POSITION:	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$ 13,615
Unrestricted	<u>48,509</u>
Total Net Position	\$ <u>62,124</u>

See independent auditors' report and notes to financial statements.

City of Natchitoches, City Marshal  
Statement of Activities  
December 31, 2023

<u>Activities</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Program Revenues</u>		<u>Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position Governmental Activities</u>
		<u>Charges for Services</u>	<u>Operating Grants and Contributions</u>	
Governmental Activities-				
Public Safety-				
Personnel Services	\$225,109	\$48,749	\$ 0	\$(176,360)
Operating Expenses	21,543	0	225,109	203,566
Materials & Supplies	27,773	0	0	(27,773)
Travel & Other Charges	<u>11,060</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(11,060)</u>
Total Governmental Activities	<u>\$285,485</u>	<u>\$48,749</u>	<u>\$225,109</u>	\$ (11,627)
		General Revenues		
				<u>1,350</u>
				Change in Net Position \$ (10,277)
				Net Position January 1, 2023 <u>72,401</u>
				(Restated see Note 1)
				Net Position December 31, 2023 \$ <u>62,124</u>

See independent auditors' report and notes to financial statements.

## FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

City of Natchitoches, City Marshal  
Balance Sheet-Governmental Fund  
December 31, 2023

Assets:

Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$47,834
Revenue Receivable	1,206
Prepaid Expense	<u>4,387</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$53,427</u>

Liabilities:

Accounts Payable	\$ 1,979
Due to Fiduciary Fund	<u>2,939</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 4,918</u>

Fund Balance:

Nonspendable	
Prepaid Expense	\$ 4,387
Unassigned	<u>44,122</u>
Total Fund Balance	<u>\$48,509</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	<u>\$53,427</u>

See independent auditors' report and notes to financial statements.

City of Natchitoches, City Marshal  
Reconciliation of the Governmental Fund  
Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position  
December 31, 2023

Total Governmental Fund Balance	\$ 48,509
Amounts reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of Net Position is different because:	
Non-current assets used in Governmental Activities are not financial resources. Therefore, they are not reported in the Governmental Fund Balance Sheet:	
Equipment and Vehicles	133,024
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(119,409)</u>
Total Net Position of Governmental Activities at December 31, 2023	\$ <u>62,124</u>

See independent auditors' report and notes to financial statements.

City of Natchitoches, City Marshal  
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance  
Governmental Fund  
Year Ended December 31, 2023

REVENUES:	
Charges for Services	\$ 48,749
Intergovernmental	225,109
Interest & Miscellaneous	<u>1,350</u>
Total Revenues	<u>\$275,208</u>
EXPENDITURES:	
Public Safety-	
Current-	
Personnel Services & Related Benefits	\$225,109
Operating Expenses	15,109
Materials & Supplies	27,773
Travel & Other Charges	<u>11,060</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$279,051</u>
Deficiency of Revenues over Expenditures	\$ (3,843)
Fund Balance-Beginning of Year (restated See Note 1)	<u>52,352</u>
Fund Balance-End of Year	<u>\$ 48,509</u>

See independent auditors' report and notes to financial statements.

City of Natchitoches, City Marshal  
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 December 31, 2023

Net Change in Fund Balance-Total Governmental Fund \$ (3,843)

Amounts reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of Activities are different because Governmental Funds report Capital Outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities, the cost of these assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. The current year amounts for these items were:

Depreciation Expense (6,434)

Change in Net Position per Statement of Activities \$(10,277)

See independent auditors' report and notes to financial statements.

City of Natchitoches, City Marshal  
Statement of Fiduciary Net Position  
Fiduciary Funds  
December 31, 2023

Assets:	<u>Civil Account</u>	<u>Delayed Fines</u>	<u>Total</u>
Cash	\$ 0	\$71,677	\$71,677
Due From General Fund	<u>2,939</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,939</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$2,939</u>	<u>\$71,677</u>	<u>\$74,616</u>
Liabilities:			
Bank Overdraft	\$2,089	\$ 0	\$ 2,089
Due to Other Government	0	6,543	6,543
Unsettled Deposits	<u>850</u>	<u>65,134</u>	<u>65,984</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$2,939</u>	<u>\$71,677</u>	<u>\$74,616</u>

See independent auditors' report and notes to financial statements.

City of Natchitoches, City Marshal  
Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position  
Agency Funds  
December 31, 2023

	<u>Civil Account</u>	<u>Delayed Fines</u>	<u>Total</u>
ADDITIONS:			
Suit Income	\$378,468	\$372,801	\$751,269
Interest	<u>0</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>70</u>
Total Additions	\$378,468	\$372,871	\$751,339
DEDUCTIONS:			
Disbursements	<u>378,468</u>	<u>367,166</u>	<u>745,634</u>
Change in Liabilities	\$ 0	\$ 5,705	\$ 5,705
Liabilities-Beginning	<u>2,939</u>	<u>65,972</u>	<u>68,911</u>
Liabilities-Ending	\$ <u>2,939</u>	\$ <u>71,677</u>	\$ <u>74,616</u>

See independent auditors' report and notes to financial statements.

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

City of Natchitoches, City Marshal  
Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2023

1. Introduction:

As provided by Louisiana Statutes, the City Marshal is the executive officer of the City Court. The City Marshal shall execute the orders and mandates of the Court system of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana. The City Marshal is elected to a term of six years.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:

The accompanying component unit financial statements of the City of Natchitoches, City Marshal, have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles.

A. Reporting Entity-

As the governing authority of the city, for reporting purposes, the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana is the financial reporting entity for the local government. The financial reporting entity consists of (a) the primary government (City of Natchitoches), (b) organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable, and (c) other organizations for which the 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 (GASB) Statement No. 14 established criteria for determining which component units should be considered part of the City of Natchitoches for financial reporting purposes. The basic criteria for including a potential component unit within the reporting entity is financial accountability. 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 city 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 city.
2. Organizations for which the city does not appoint a voting majority but are fiscally dependent on the city.
3. Organizations for which the reporting entity financial statements would be misleading if data of the organization is not included because of the nature or significance of the relationship.

Because of item 2 above, the City of Natchitoches, City Marshal, was determined to be a component unit of the City of Natchitoches, the financial reporting entity. The accompanying financial statements present information only on the funds maintained by the City Marshal and do not present information on the City, the general government services provided by that governmental unit, or the other governmental units that comprise the financial reporting entity.

City of Natchitoches, City Marshal  
Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2023

B. Basis of Presentation-

Government-Wide Financial Statements (GWFS)

The Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities report information about the reporting government as a whole. They include all funds of the reporting entity. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange revenues.

The Statement of Net Position presents the governmental-type activities on a consolidated basis, and is reported on a full accrual, economic resource basis, which recognizes all long-term assets and receivables as well as long-term debt and obligations.

The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the City Marshal's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function. Program revenues include (a) fees and charges paid by the recipient for goods or services offered by the program, 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 are presented as general revenues.

C. Fund Accounting-

The accounts of the City Marshal are organized 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 are maintained consistent with legal and managerial requirements.

The City Marshal maintains three funds. They are categorized as a governmental fund and two fiduciary funds. The emphasis on fund financial statements is on major governmental funds; each displayed in a separate column. A fund is considered major if it is the primary operating fund of the entity.

The funds of the City Marshal are described below:

Governmental Fund-

General Fund

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

City of Natchitoches, City Marshal  
Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2023

Fiduciary Fund-

Fiduciary Funds are used to account for assets held by the City Marshal in a trustee capacity or as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governments, and/or other funds. Fiduciary Funds are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations. Since by definition these assets are being held for the benefit of a third party and cannot be used to address activities of the City Marshal, these funds are not incorporated into the government-wide statements.

D. Measurement Focus/Basis of Accounting-

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues or expenditures/expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. It relates to the timing of the measurements made regardless of the measurement focus applied.

Accrual Basis - Government-Wide Financial Statements (GWFS)

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the City Marshal's office as a whole. Both of these statements have been prepared using the economic measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, and liabilities resulting from exchange and exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange takes place.

Modified Accrual Basis - Fund Financial Statements (FFS)

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. Governmental fund types use the flow of current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when susceptible to accrual; i.e., when they are both measurable and available. "Measurable" means the amount of the transaction can be determined and "available" means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. The City Marshal considers all revenues "available" if collected within 60 days after year-end. Expenditures are generally recorded under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related liability is incurred. The exceptions to this general rule are that (1) unmatured principal and interest on long-term debt, if any, are recorded when due and (2) claims and judgments and compensated absences are recorded as expenditures when paid with expendable available financial resources.

E. Assets, Liabilities, and Equity-

Cash and Interest-Bearing Deposits-

For purposes of the Statement of Net Position, cash and cash equivalents include all interest-bearing deposits, demand accounts and savings accounts of the City Marshal.

City of Natchitoches, City Marshal  
Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2023

#### 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 Marshal maintains a threshold level of \$500 or more for capitalizing capital assets.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of that asset or materially extend the life of that asset 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 useful lives by type of asset is as follows:

Furniture, computers	5 years
Radios	10 years
Vehicles	5 years

#### Compensated Absences-

Employees of the City Marshal are paid by the City of Natchitoches, including any leave payments, therefore there are no entries made to record compensated absences in the funds of the City Marshal.

#### 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 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 resources with constraints placed on their use either by (1) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (2) law through constitutional provision or enabling legislation.
- c. Unrestricted net position - All other net resources that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "net investment in capital assets".

When an expense is incurred for the purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available, management applies unrestricted resources first, unless a determination is made to use restricted resources. The policy concerning which to apply first varies with the intended use and legal requirements. This decision is typically made by management at the incurrence of the expense.

City of Natchitoches, City Marshal  
Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2023

In the fund statements, governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance and displayed in five components. The following classifications describe the relative strength of the spending constraints placed on the purposes for which resources can be used:

- a. Nonspendable fund balance - amounts that are not in a spendable form (such as prepaid expenses) or are required to be maintained intact;
- b. Restricted fund balance - amounts constrained to specific purposes by their providers (such as grantors, bondholders, and higher levels of government), through constitutional provisions, or by enabling legislation;
- c. Committed fund balance - amounts constrained to specific purposes by a government itself, using its highest level of decision-making authority; to be reported as committed, amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the government takes the same highest level action to remove or change the constraint;
- d. Assigned fund balance - amounts a government intends to use for a specific purpose; intent can be expressed by the governing body or by an official or body to which the governing body delegates the authority;
- e. Unassigned fund balance - amounts that are available for any purpose. Only the General Fund would report positive amounts in unassigned fund balance.

The General Fund has an unassigned fund balance of \$44,122. If applicable, the City Marshal would typically use restricted fund balances first, followed by committed resources and assigned resources as appropriate opportunities arise, but reserves the right to selectively spend unassigned resources first and to defer the use of these other classified funds.

F. Budgetary Practices-

Prior to the beginning of each fiscal year, the City Marshal adopts a budget for the next fiscal year. The budget is open for public inspection and all budgetary appropriations lapse at the end of the fiscal year. The budget is prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting.

The City Marshal's office performs only a custodial function in the case of fiduciary funds and therefore a budget for these funds is not appropriate.

G. 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 disclosures 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.

H. Prior Period Adjustment-

The City Marshal recorded prior period adjustments to restate governmental activities fund balances and net position for correction of accounting errors. The net effect of the restatement was to increase the net position and fund balance of the City Marshal by \$151,295.

City of Natchitoches, City Marshal  
Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2023

3. Cash and Cash Equivalents:

The cash and cash equivalents of the City of Natchitoches, City Marshal are subject to the following risk:

*Custodial Credit Risk:* Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, the City Marshal's office 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 fiscal 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 agent. These securities are held in the name of the pledging fiscal agent bank in a holding or custodial bank that is mutually acceptable to both parties. Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1229 imposes a statutory requirement on the custodial bank to advertise and sell the pledged securities within 10 days of being notified by the City Marshal 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 City Marshal's name.

Bank account balances at December 31, 2023, totaled \$125,907 and were fully secured by FDIC Insurance.

4. Capital Assets:

Capital asset balances and activity for the year ended December 31, 2023, is as follows:

Governmental Activities	Balance 01-01-23	Additions	Deletions	Balance 12-31-23
<b>Capital Assets:</b>				
Furniture, computers	\$ 20,841	\$ 0	\$0	\$ 20,841
Radios	12,693	0	0	12,693
Vehicles	97,690	0	0	97,690
Building	<u>1,800</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,800</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$133,024</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$133,024</u>
<b>Less Accumulated Depreciation:</b>				
Furniture, computers	\$ 16,372	\$ 1,088	\$0	\$ 17,460
Radios	6,970	743	0	7,713
Vehicles	87,834	4,432	0	92,266
Buildings	<u>1,799</u>	<u>171</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,970</u>
Total Depreciation	<u>\$112,975</u>	<u>\$ 6,434</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$119,409</u>
Net Capital Assets	<u>\$ 20,049</u>	<u>\$(6,434)</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$ 13,615</u>

Depreciation expense of \$6,434 was charged to the public safety function.

City of Natchitoches, City Marshal  
Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2023

5. On-Behalf Payments:

Employees of the City Marshal's office receive salaries and fringe benefits from the City of Natchitoches, including supplemental pay from the State of Louisiana. Fringe benefits paid by the City include the required contributions to the Louisiana Municipal Employees Retirement System.

Salaries	\$154,337
Fringe Benefits	<u>70,772</u>
Total	<u>\$225,109</u>

In accordance with GASB Statement No. 24, the City Marshal's office has recorded revenues and expenditures for these receipts and payments.

6. Litigation:

The City Marshal is not a party in any litigation seeking damages for the year ended December 31, 2023.

7. Subsequent Events:

Management has evaluated events through June 21, 2024, the date which the financial statements were available for issue. There were no items to be reported as subsequent events.

OTHER REQUIRED  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

City of Natchitoches, City Marshal  
General Fund  
Budgetary Comparison Schedule  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	<u>Budget</u>		Variance
	<u>Original/Final</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Favorable</u> <u>(Unfavorable)</u>
<b>REVENUES:</b>			
Charges for Services	\$349,375	\$ 48,749	\$(300,626)
Intergovernmental	376,875	225,109	(151,766)
Miscellaneous			
Interest & Miscellaneous	<u>0</u>	<u>1,350</u>	<u>1,350</u>
Total Revenues	<u>\$726,250</u>	<u>\$275,208</u>	<u>\$(451,042)</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>			
Public Safety-			
Current-			
Personnel Services & Related Benefits	\$209,000	\$225,109	\$ (16,109)
External Appropriations	392,250	0	392,250
Operating Expenses	58,200	15,109	43,091
Materials & Supplies	40,300	27,773	12,527
Travel & Other Charges	14,000	11,060	2,940
Capital Expenditures	<u>12,500</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>12,500</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$726,250</u>	<u>\$279,051</u>	<u>\$ 447,199</u>
Deficiency of Revenues over Expenditures	\$ 0	\$ (3,843)	\$ (3,843)
Fund Balance-Beginning of Year	<u>52,352</u>	<u>52,352</u>	<u>0</u>
Fund Balance-End of Year	<u>\$ 52,352</u>	<u>\$ 48,509</u>	<u>\$ (3,843)</u>

See independent auditors' report and notes to financial statements.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

City of Natchitoches, City Marshal  
Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to  
Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Agency Head Name: Randy Williams, Marshal

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount Paid by City of Natchitoches</u>
Salary	\$54,129
Benefits-Insurance	251
Benefits-Retirement	17,405
Benefits-Payroll Taxes	850
Benefits-Other	2,397
Dues	125
Training & Seminars	2,501
Other	<u>21,417</u>
Total	<u>\$99,075</u>

See independent auditor's report.

City of Natchitoches, City Marshal  
Parish of Natchitoches, Louisiana  
Justice System Funding Schedule – Collecting/Disbursing Entity  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	First Six Month Period Ended 06/30/23	Second Six Month Period Ended 12/31/23
<b>Cash Basis Presentation</b>		
<b>Beginning Balance of Amounts Collected (i.e. cash on hand)</b>	(3,950)	(5,018)
<b>Add: Collections</b>		
Civil Fees (including refundable amounts such as garnishments or advance deposits )	193,974	184,494
Bond Fees	5,340	6,314
Asset Forfeiture/Sale	-	-
Pre-Trial Diversion Program Fees	-	-
Criminal Court Costs/Fees	165,609	136,171
Criminal Fines - Contempt	56,014	57,153
Criminal Fines - Other	-	-
Restitution	-	-
Probation/Parole/Supervision Fees	-	-
Service/Collection Fees (e.g. credit card fees, report fees, 3rd party service fees)	-	-
Interest Earnings on Collected Balances	33	37
Other (do not include collections that fit into more specific categories above)	-	-
<b>Subtotal Collections</b>	<b>420,970</b>	<b>384,169</b>
<b>Less: Disbursements To Governments &amp; Nonprofits: (Must include one agency name and one collection type on each line and may require multiple lines for the same agency if more than one collection type is applicable. Additional rows may be added as necessary. )</b>		
Natchitoches Parish Clerk of Court-Civil Fees	29,016	28,135
City of Natchitoches-Criminal Fines-Other	81,261	26,162
Natchitoches City Court -Criminal Court Costs/Fees	73,259	48,294
Tenth Judicial District Attorney - Criminal Court Costs/Fees	9,786	5,859
Tenth Judicial Indigent Defender - Criminal Court Costs/Fees	21,915	13,005
Natchitoches Parish Clerk of Court - Criminal Court Costs/Fees	883	502
Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement- Criminal Court Costs/Fees	1,350	971
Juvenile Detention Center - Ware Youth- Criminal Court Costs/Fees	3,442	2,168
North Louisiana Crime Lab - Criminal Court Costs/Fees	15,870	12,070
Corrections Management Information Systems-LA State Treasurer - Criminal Court Costs/Fees	1,170	796
Louisiana Supreme Court-Criminal Court Costs/Fines	204	117
Natchitochs City Court-Buildng Fund-Criminal Court Costs/Fees	4,883	2,919
Lousiana Department of Health & Hospitals (THSCI)-Criminal Court Costs/Fees	285	115

Continued next page.

City of Natchitoches, City Marshal  
Parish of Natchitoches, Louisiana  
Justice System Funding Schedule – Collecting/Disbursing Entity  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Louisiana State Police-Criminal Court Costs/Fees	25	-
Natchitoches Parish Government-Criminal Court Costs/Fees	700	600
<b>Less: Amounts Retained by Collecting Agency</b>		
Collection Fee for Collecting/Disbursing to Others Based on Percentage of Collection		
Collection Fee for Collecting/Disbursing to Others Based on Fixed Amount		
Amounts "Self-Disbursed" to Collecting Agency ( <i>must include a separate line for each collection type, as applicable</i> ) - Example: Criminal Fines - Other ( <i>Additional rows may be added as necessary</i> )	-	-
Civil Fees		
Bond Fees	5,340	6,314
Criminal Court Costs/Fees	17,887	19,278
<b>Less: Disbursements to Individuals/3rd Party Collection or Processing Agencies</b>		
Civil Fee Refunds	5,169	13,088
Bond Fee Refunds	-	-
Restitution Payments to Individuals (additional detail is not required)	-	-
Other Disbursements to Individuals (additional detail is not required)		
Payments to 3rd Party Collection/Processing Agencies	149,593	132,415
<b>Subtotal Disbursements/Retainage</b>	<b>422,038</b>	<b>312,808</b>
<b>Total: Ending Balance of Amounts Collected but not Disbursed/Retained (i.e. cash on hand)</b>	<b>(5,018)</b>	<b>66,343</b>
<b>Ending Balance of "Partial Payments" Collected but not Disbursed</b> ( <i>only applies if collecting agency does not disburse partial payments until fully collected</i> ) - This balance is included in the Ending Balance of Amounts Collected but not Disbursed/Retained	-	-
<b>Other Information:</b>		
Ending Balance of Total Amounts Assessed but not yet Collected ( <i>i.e. receivable balance</i> )	-	-
Total Waivers During the Fiscal Period ( <i>i.e. non-cash reduction of receivable balances, such as time served or community service</i> )	-	-

See independent auditor's report.

OTHER REPORTS/SCHEDULES

**T | C | B | T**  
**THOMAS, CUNNINGHAM, BROADWAY & TODTENBIER**  
*Certified Public Accountants*

Eddie G. Johnson, CPA – A Professional Corporation (1927-1996)

Mark D. Thomas, CPA – A Professional Corporation  
Roger M. Cunningham, CPA – LLC  
Jessica H. Broadway, CPA – A Professional Corporation  
Ryan E. Todtenbier, CPA – A Professional Corporation

321 Bienville Street  
Natchitoches, Louisiana 71457  
(318) 352-3652  
Fax (318) 352-4447  
[www.tcbtcpa.com](http://www.tcbtcpa.com)

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*

Randy Williams, City Marshal  
City of Natchitoches  
504 Fifth Street  
Natchitoches, LA 71457

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 and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*, the financial statements of the governmental activities, major fund, and fiduciary funds as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City of Natchitoches, City Marshal's (City Marshal) basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 21, 2024.

**Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

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

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

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

## **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the City Marshal's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed one instance of noncompliance or other matters that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which is described in the accompanying schedule of audit findings as item 2023-001.

## **City Marshal's Response to Findings**

*Government Auditing Standards* requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the City Marshal's response to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of audit findings. The City Marshal's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

## **Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor as a public document.

*Thomas, Cunningham, Broadway & Todtenbier, CPA's*

Thomas, Cunningham, Broadway & Todtenbier, CPA's  
Natchitoches, Louisiana

June 21, 2024

City of Natchitoches, City Marshal  
Schedule of Audit Findings  
Year Ended December 31, 2023

I. SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS

The following summarize the audit findings:

1. An unmodified opinion was issued on the financial statements of the City of Natchitoches, City Marshal as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023.
2. The audit did not disclose any material weaknesses in internal control.
3. The audit disclosed one instance of noncompliance that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

II. FINDINGS IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

Noncompliance-

2023-001 *Local Government Budget Act*

*Criteria* - Revised Statutes 39:1301-1315, direct local governments as to the manner in which the annual budget shall be adopted, implemented, and amended. This included the requirements to revise the budget when total revenues and other uses are failing to meet the total budgeted revenues and other uses by five percent or more.

*Condition* - For the year ended December 31, 2023, the City Marshal did not follow the requirements of the Local Government Budget Act in that proper amendments were not made to ensure the five percent variance for revenues was met.

*Cause* - The City Marshal budgeted the collection of delayed fines and fees in the General Fund.

*Effect* - The City Marshal is not in compliance with the Local Government Budget Act.

*Recommendation* - The City Marshal should comply with all provisions of the Local Budget Act by monitoring revenues throughout the year that may have an effect on the budget.

*Management's Response* - The City Marshal fully intends to comply with the provisions of the Local Government Budget Act.

III. PRIOR YEAR AUDIT FINDINGS

Noncompliance-

2022-001 *Local Government Budget Act*

*Condition* - For the year ended December 31, 2022, the City Marshal did not follow the requirements of the Local Government Budget Act in that proper amendments were not made to ensure the five percent variance for revenues and expenditures were met.

*Status* - As of December 31, 2023 this condition still exists. See current year finding 2023-001.

**T | C | B | T**  
**THOMAS, CUNNINGHAM, BROADWAY & TODTENBIER**  
*Certified Public Accountants*

Eddie G. Johnson, CPA – A Professional Corporation (1927-1996)

Mark D. Thomas, CPA – A Professional Corporation  
Roger M. Cunningham, CPA – LLC  
Jessica H. Broadway, CPA – A Professional Corporation  
Ryan E. Todtenbier, CPA – A Professional Corporation

321 Bienville Street  
Natchitoches, Louisiana 71457  
(318) 352-3652  
Fax (318) 352-4447  
[www.tcbtcpa.com](http://www.tcbtcpa.com)

**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT’S REPORT ON APPLYING  
STATEWIDE AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES**

To the City of Natchitoches, City Marshal and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor:

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the control and compliance (C/C) areas identified in the Louisiana Legislative Auditor’s (LLA’s) Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs) for the fiscal period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. The City of Natchitoches, City Marshal’s (City Marshal) management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

The City Marshal has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of the engagement, which is to perform specified procedures on the C/C areas identified in LLA’s SAUPs for the fiscal period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. 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 for 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:

***Written Policies and Procedures***

---

1. We obtained and inspected the entity’s written policies and procedures and observed that they address each of the following categories and subcategories if applicable to public funds and the operations:
  - ***Budgeting***, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget.
  - ***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.
  - ***Disbursements***, including processing, reviewing, and approving.
  - ***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 custodial fund additions (e.g. periodic confirmation with outside parties, reconciliation to utility billing after cutoff procedures, reconciliation of traffic ticket number sequences, custodial fund forfeiture monies confirmation.)

- **Payroll/Personnel**, including (1) payroll processing, and (2) reviewing and approving time and attendance records, including leave and overtime worked, and (3) approval process for employee(s) rate of pay or approval and maintenance of pay rate schedules.
- **Contracting**, including (1) types of services requiring written contracts, (2) standard terms and conditions, (3) legal review, (4) approval process, and (5) monitoring process.
- **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).
- **Travel and expense reimbursement**, including (1) allowable expenses, (2) dollar thresholds by category of expense, (3) documentation requirements, and (4) required approvers.
- **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) a requirement that documentation is maintained to demonstrate that all employees and officials were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy.
- **Debt Service**, including (1) debt issuance approval, (2) continuing disclosure/EMMA reporting requirements, (3) debt reserve requirements, and (4) debt service requirements.
- **Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity**, including (1) identification of critical data and frequency of data backups, (2) storage of backups in a separate physical location isolated from the network, (3) periodic testing/verification that backups can be restored, (4) use of antivirus software on all systems, (5) timely application of all available system and software patches/updates, and (6) identification of personnel, processes, and tools needed to recover operations after a critical event.
- **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.

***Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.***

#### ***Board or Finance Committee***

---

2. We obtained and inspected the board/finance committee minutes for the fiscal period, as well as the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or equivalent documents in effect during the fiscal period, and:
  - Observed 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.
  - Observed that the minutes referenced or included monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the General Fund, quarterly budget-to-actual comparisons on all proprietary funds, and semi-annual budget-to-actual comparisons on all special revenue funds.
  - Obtained the prior year audit report and observed the unassigned fund balance in the General Fund. If the General Fund had a negative ending unrestricted net position in the prior year audit report, observed that the minutes for at least one meeting during the fiscal period referenced or included a formal plan to eliminate the negative unassigned fund balance in the General Fund.

- Observed 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.

*Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.*

### ***Bank Reconciliations***

---

3. We obtained a listing of entity bank accounts for the fiscal period from management and management's representation that the listing is complete. Management identified the entity's main operating account. We selected the entity's main operating account and randomly selected 4 additional accounts (or all if less than 5). We randomly selected one month from the fiscal period, obtained and inspected the corresponding bank statement and reconciliation for the selected accounts, and observed that:
  - Bank reconciliations include evidence that they were prepared within two months of the related statement closing date (e.g. initialed and dated, electronically logged);
  - Bank reconciliations included written evidence that a member of management or a board member who does not handle cash, post ledgers, or issue checks has reviewed each bank reconciliation within one month of the date the reconciliation was prepared (e.g. initialed and dated, electronically logged); and
  - 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.

*Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.*

### ***Collections (excluding electronic funds transfers)***

---

4. We obtained 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. We randomly selected 5 deposit sites (or all deposit sites if less than 5).
5. We obtained a listing of collection locations and management's representation that the listing is complete. We randomly selected one collection location for each deposit site selected. We obtained and inspected written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if no written policies or procedures, then inquired of employees about their job duties) at each collection location, and observed that job duties were properly segregated at each collection location such that:
  - Employees that are responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers/registers.
  - Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for preparing/making bank deposits, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling collection documentation (e.g. pre-numbered receipts) to the deposit.
  - Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for posting collection entries to the general ledger or subsidiary ledgers, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling ledger postings to each other and to the deposit.
  - The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or custodial fund additions, are not responsible for collecting cash, unless another employee/official verifies the reconciliation.

6. We obtained from management a copy of the bond or insurance policy for theft covering all employees who have access to cash. We observed that the bond or insurance policy for theft was in force during the fiscal period.
7. We randomly selected two deposit dates for each of the bank accounts selected for procedure #3 under “Bank Reconciliations” above (selected the next deposit date chronologically if no deposits were made on the dates randomly selected and randomly selected a deposit if multiple deposits were made on the same day). We obtained supporting documentation for each of the deposits selected and:
  - We observed that receipts are sequentially pre-numbered.
  - We traced sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.
  - We traced the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.
  - We observed 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).
  - We traced the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.

*Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.*

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

---

8. We obtained a listing of locations that process payments for the fiscal period and management’s representation that the listing is complete. We randomly selected the required amount of disbursement locations (or all locations if less than 5).
9. For each location selected under #8 above, obtained a listing of those employees involved with non-payroll purchasing and payment functions. We obtained written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if the agency has no written policies and procedures, then inquired of employees about their job duties), and we observed that job duties are properly segregated such that:
  - 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 involved in processing and approving payments to vendors.
  - 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.
  - 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.
  - Only employees/officials authorized to sign checks approved the electronic disbursement (release) of funds, whether through automated clearinghouse (ACH), electronic funds transfer (EFT), wire transfer, or some electronic means.

10. For each location selected under #8 above, we obtained the entity's non-payroll disbursement transaction population (excluding cards and travel reimbursements) and obtained management's representation that the population is complete. We randomly selected 5 disbursements for each location, and obtained supporting documentation for each transaction and:
- We observed that the disbursement, whether 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.
  - We observed whether the disbursement documentation included evidence (e.g., initial/date, electronic logging) of segregation of duties tested under #9, as applicable.
11. Using the entity's main operating account and the month selected in procedure #3 under Bank Reconciliations, we randomly selected 5 non-payroll-related electronic disbursements (or all electronic disbursements if less than 5) and observed 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. If no electronic payments were made from the main operating account during the month selected, we selected an alternative month and/or account for testing that does include electronic disbursements.

***Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.***

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

---

12. We obtained 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. We obtained management's representation that the listing is complete.
13. Using the listing prepared by management, we randomly selected the required amount of cards (up to five) that were used during the fiscal period. We randomly selected one monthly statement or combined statement for each card (for a debit card, randomly selected one monthly bank statement), and obtained supporting documentation, and:
- We observed that there is evidence that the monthly statement or combined statement and supporting documentation (e.g., original receipts for credit/debit card purchases, exception reports for excessive fuel card usage) was reviewed and approved, in writing (or electronically approved), by someone other than the authorized card holder.
  - We observed that finance charges and late fees were not assessed on the selected statements.
14. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under #12 above, excluding fuel cards, we randomly selected the required amount transactions (up to ten) from each statement, and obtained supporting documentation for the transactions. For each transaction, we observed that it is supported by (a) an original itemized receipt that identified precisely what was purchased, (b) written documentation of the business/public purpose, and (c) documentation of the individuals participating in meals (for meal charges only). For missing receipts, we described the nature of the transaction and noted whether management had a compensating control to address missing receipts, such as a "missing receipt statement" that is subject to increased scrutiny.

***Procedure Results: Two exceptions were noted. Finance charges and late fees were assessed on selected statements. Original itemized receipts were not supported and documentation was missing for individuals participating in meals.***

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

---

15. We obtained 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. We randomly selected 5 reimbursements, and obtained 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:

- If reimbursed using a per diem, we observed that the approved reimbursement rate is no more than those rates established by the State of Louisiana or the U.S. General Services Administration ([www.gsa.gov](http://www.gsa.gov)).
- If reimbursed using actual costs, we observed that the reimbursement is supported by an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased.
- We observed that each reimbursement was supported by documentation of the business/public purpose (for meal charges, we observed that the documentation includes the names of those individuals participating) and other documentation required by written policy (procedure #1, 8<sup>th</sup> bullet).
- We observed that each reimbursement was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving reimbursement.

***Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.***

***Contracts***

---

16. We obtained from management a listing of all agreements/contracts (or active vendor list) for professional services, materials, and supplies, leases, and construction activities that were initiated or renewed during the fiscal period. We obtained management's representation that the listing is complete. We randomly selected the required amount of contracts (up to 5) from the listing, excluding our contract, and:

- We observed that the contract was bid in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law (e.g., solicited quotes or bids, advertised), if required by law.
- We observed whether the contract was approved by the governing body/board, if required by policy or law (e.g. Lawrason Act, Home Rule Charter).
- If the contract was amended (e.g. change order), we observed 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 document approval).
- We randomly selected one payment from the fiscal period for each of the selected contracts, obtained the supporting invoice, agreed the invoice to the contract terms, and observed that the invoice and related payment agreed to the terms and conditions of the contract.

***Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.***

### ***Payroll and Personnel***

---

17. We obtained a listing of employees/elected officials employed during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. We randomly selected 5 employees or officials, obtained related paid salaries and personnel files, and agreed paid salaries to authorized salaries/pay rates in the personnel files.
18. We randomly selected one pay period during the fiscal period. For the 5 employees or officials selected under #17 above, we obtained attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and:
- We observed that all selected employees or officials documented their daily attendance and leave (e.g., vacation, sick, compensatory).
  - We observed that supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees or officials.
  - We observed that any leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's cumulative leave records.
  - We observed that the rate paid to the employees or officials agree to the authorized salary/pay rate found with the personnel file.
19. We obtained a listing of those employees or officials that received termination payments during the fiscal period and management's representation that the list is complete. If applicable, we selected two employees or officials, and obtained related documentation of the hours and pay rates used in management's termination payment calculations and the entity's policy on termination payments. If applicable, we agreed the hours to the employee's or official's cumulative leave records, and the pay rates to the employee's or official's authorized pay rates in the employee's or official's personnel files, and the termination payment to entity policy.
20. We obtained 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.

***Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.***

### ***Ethics***

---

21. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from procedure #17 under "Payroll and Personnel" above, we obtained ethics documentation from management, and:
- We observed whether the documentation demonstrates that each employee/official completed one hour of ethics training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:1170.
  - We observed that 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.
22. We inquired and/or observed whether the agency has appointed an ethics designee as required by R.S. 42:1170.

***Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.***

### ***Debt Service***

---

23. We obtained a listing of bonds/notes and other debt instruments issued during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. We selected all debt instruments on the listing, obtained supporting documentation, and observed that State Bond Commission approval was obtained for each debt instrument issued as required by Article VII, Section 8 of the Louisiana Constitution.
24. We obtained a listing of bonds/notes outstanding at the end of the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. We randomly selected one bond/note, inspected debt covenants, obtained supporting documentation for the reserve balance and payments, and agreed 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).

***Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.***

### ***Fraud Notice***

---

25. We obtained a listing of misappropriations of public funds and assets during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. We selected all misappropriations on the listing, obtained supporting documentation, and observed 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.
26. We observed whether 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.

***Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.***

### ***Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity***

---

27. We performed the following procedures:
  - We obtained and inspected the entity's most recent documentation that it has backed up its critical data (if no written documentation, inquired of personnel responsible for backing up critical data) and observed 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 obtained and inspected the entity's most recent documentation that it has tested/verified that its backups can be restored (if there is no written documentation, then inquired of personnel responsible for testing/verifying backup restoration) and observed evidence that the test/verification was successfully performed within the past 3 months.
  - We obtained a listing of the entity's computers currently in use, and their related locations, and management's representation that the listing is complete. We randomly selected the required number of computers (at least 5) and observed 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.
28. We randomly selected 5 terminated employees (or all terminated employees if less than 5) using the list of terminated employees obtained in procedure #19, and observed evidence that the selected terminated employees have been removed or disabled from the network.

29. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from procedure #17 under “Payroll and Personnel” above, we obtained cybersecurity training documentation from management, and observed that the documentation demonstrates that the selected 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.
- Hired on or after June 9, 2020, completed the training within 30 days of initial service or employment.

***Procedure Results: We performed the procedures and discussed the results with management.***

### ***Prevention of Sexual Harassment***

---

30. We randomly selected the employees/officials from procedure #17 under “Payroll and Personnel” above, obtained sexual harassment training documentation from management, and observed that the documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed at least one hour of sexual harassment training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:343.

31. We observed that the entity has posted its sexual harassment policy and complaint procedures on its website (or in a conspicuous location on the entity’s premises if the entity does not have a website).

32. We obtained the entity’s annual sexual harassment report for the current fiscal period, observed that the report was dated on or before February 1, and observed that it includes the applicable requirements of R.S. 42:344:

- Number and percentage of public servants in the agency who have completed the training requirements;
- Number of sexual harassment complaints received by the agency;
- Number of complaints which resulted in a finding that sexual harassment occurred;
- Number of complaints in which the finding of sexual harassment resulted in discipline or corrective action; and
- Amount of time it took to resolve each complaint.

***Procedure Results: No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.***

We were engaged by the City Marshal 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 City Marshal 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.

*Thomas, Cunningham, Broadway & Todtenbier, CPA's*

Thomas, Cunningham, Broadway & Todtenbier, CPA's  
Natchitoches, Louisiana

June 21, 2024

City of Natchitoches, City Marshal  
Management's Response to Exceptions  
to Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures  
Year Ended December 31, 2023

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSE TO EXCEPTIONS:

Item 13: Exception - Finance charges and late fees were assessed on selected credit card statements.

Response - Management will ensure that credit card statements are paid in a timely manner to avoid finance charges and late fee assessments.

Item 14: Exception - Original itemized receipts were not supported and documentation was missing for individuals participating in meals.

Response - Management will ensure that all credit card statements contain original itemized receipts and documentation of individuals participating in meal purchases.