

LAFAYETTE PARISH CLERK OF COURT

Financial Report

Year Ended June 30, 2005

Under provisions of state law. this report is a public document. A copy of the report has been submitted to the entity and other appropriate public officials. The report is available for public inspection at the Baton Rouge office of the Legislative Auditor and, where appropriate, at the office of the parish clerk of court.

Release Date 10/12/05

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

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The Honorable Louis J. Perret Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court Lafayette, Louisiana

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court (Clerk of Court), a component unit of the Lafayette Parish Government, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2005, which collectively comprise the Clerk of Court's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Clerk of Court. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. The prior year comparative information has been derived from the Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court's 2004 financial statements and, in our report dated September 1, 2004, we expressed unqualified opinions on the respective financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information.

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 <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court, as of June 30, 2005, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, we have also issued our report dated September 14, 2005, on our consideration of the Clerk of Court's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> and should be considered in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

The required supplementary information on page 30 is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it. The prior year comparative information on the required supplementary information has been derived from the Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court's 2004 financial statements, which were not audited by us and on which we expressed no opinion.

The Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court has not presented management's discussion and analysis that the Governmental Accounting Standards Board has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the basic financial statements.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Clerk of Court's basic financial statements. The accompanying financial information listed as "Other Supplementary Information" in the table of contents is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the other supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it. The prior year comparative information on the other supplementary information has been derived from the Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court's financial statements, which were not audited by us and on which we expressed no opinion.

Kolder, Champagne, Slaven & Company, LLC Certified Public Accountants

Lafayette, Louisiana September 14, 2005 BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (GWFS)

Statement of Net Assets June 30, 2005 With Comparative Amounts for June 30, 2004

	Governmen	tal Activities
	2005	2004
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and interest-bearing deposits	\$ 6,468,570	\$ 6,157,945
Receivables, net	273,751	253,332
Due from other governmental units	35,442	28,050
Accrued interest	57,077	40,183
Prepaid expenditures	11,781	104,377
Inventory	7,989	8,397
Total current assets	6,854,610	6,592,284
Noncurrent assets:		
Capital assets, net	<u>875,331</u>	529,287
Total assets	7,729,941	7,121,571
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts and other payables	452,952	594,589
Due to other governmental units	4,591	4,543
Total current liabilities	457,543	599,132
Noncurrent liabilities:		
Compensated absences payable	416,262	403,981
Total liabilities	873,805	1,003,113
Total haothtics		1,005,115
NET ASSETS		
Invested in capital assets	875,331	529,287
Unrestricted	5,980,805	5,589,171
Total net assets	\$ 6,856,136	\$ 6,118,458

Statement of Activities For the Year Ended June 30, 2005

		Progre	Program Revenues	Net (Expense) Revenues and Changes in Net Assets
		Charges for	Operating Grants	Governmental
Activities	Expenses	Services	and Contributions	Activities
Governmental activities:				
General government	\$6,103,904	\$6,171,722	\$135,221	\$ 203,039
	General revenues:	ies:		
	Interest and i	Interest and investment earnings	sgu	230,880
	Miscellaneous	ST		88,330
	Charges reim	ibursable by prii	Charges reimbursable by primary government	215,429
	Total g	Total general revenues and transfers	and transfers	534,639
	Change	Change in net assets		737,678
	Net assets - July 1, 2004	ly 1, 2004		6,118,458
	Net assets - June 30, 2005	ne 30, 2005		\$6,856,136

FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (FFS)

Balance Sheet - Governmental Fund June 30, 2005 With Comparative Amounts for June 30, 2004

	Genera	al Fund
	2005	2004
ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 2,650	\$ 1,850
Interest-bearing deposits	6,340,918	6,044,465
Receivables:		
Accounts receivable	267,539	253,060
Due from other governmental agencies	35,442	28,050
Accrued interest	57,077	40,183
Prepaid expenditures	11,781	104,377
Inventory	7,989	8,397
Total assets	\$6,723,396	\$6,480,382
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 45,554	\$ 201,200
Payroll liabilities payable	25,545	26,308
Due to other governmental agencies	4,591	4,543
Compensated absences	<u>262,506</u>	258,595
Total liabilities	338,196	490,646
Fund balance:		
Reserved for prepaid expenditures and inventory	19,770	112,774
Unreserved, undesignated	_6,365,430	5,876,962
Total fund balance	6,385,200	5,989,736
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$6,723,396	\$6,480,382

Reconciliation of the Governmental Fund Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Assets June 30, 2005

Total fund balance for the governmental fund at June 30, 2005		\$6,385,200
Cost of capital assets at June 30, 2005 Less: Accumulated depreciation	\$2,310,710 (1,435,379)	875,331
Long-term liabilities at June 30, 2005: Compensated absences payable		(416,262)
Assets and liabilities of Self Insurance Internal Service Fund		11,867
Total net assets of governmental activities at June 30, 2005		\$6,856,136

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

For the Year Ended June 30, 2005

With Comparative Amounts for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

	Genera	al Fund
	2005	2004
Revenues:		
Licenses and permits	\$ 59,222	\$ 59,470
Fees, charges and commissions -		
Court costs, fees and charges	210,867	193,467
Fees for recording legal documents	5,335,807	6,030,647
Fees for certified copies	565,826	594,140
Intergovernmental	350,650	390,310
Miscellaneous	316,034	189,870
Total revenues	6,838,406	7,457,904
Expenditures: Current -		
General government: Personnel services and related benefits	4,554,141	4,315,917
	608,425	• •
Operating services	•	797,264
Material and supplies	454,789	325,643
Appropriations to Lafayette Parish Government	247,645	298,454
Capital outlay	577,942	<u>194,367</u>
Total expenditures	6,442,942	5,931,645
Excess of revenues		
over expenditures	395,464	1,526,259
Fund balance, beginning of year	5,989,736	4,463,477
Fund balance, end of year	\$6,385,200	\$5,989,736

Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance of the Governmental Fund to the Statement of Activities For the Year Ended June 30, 2005

Total net change in fund balance for the year ended June 30, 2005 per Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance	\$	395,464
Add: Capital outlay costs which are considered as expenditures on Statement	\$ 577,942	
Less: Depreciation expense for year ended June 30, 2005	(224,402)	
Less: Loss on disposals for the year ended June 30, 2005	(7,496)	346,044
Less: Deficit of compensated absences used over compensated		
absences earned		(12,281)
Add: Earnings from the Self Insurance Internal Service Fund		8,451
Total change in net assets for the year ended June 30, 2005 per		
Statement of Activities	<u>\$</u>	737,678

LAFAYETTE PARISH CLERK OF COURT

Lafayette, Louisiana

Statement of Net Assets Proprietary Fund - Group Self-Insurance Internal Service Fund June 30, 2005

With Comparative Amounts for June 30, 2004

	Government	al Activities
	2005	2004
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Interest-bearing deposits	\$125,002	\$111,630
Aggregate and stop-loss insurance policy receivable	6,212	<u>272</u>
Total assets	\$131,214	\$111,902
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities:		
Claims payable	\$119,347	\$108,486
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	<u>11,867</u>	3,416
Total liabilities and net assets	\$131,214	\$111,902

Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Assets
Proprietary Fund - Group Self-Insurance Internal Service Fund
For the Year Ended June 30, 2005
With Comparative Amounts for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

	Government	al Activities
	2005	2004
Operating revenue:		
Employer contributions	\$ 456,820	\$ 461,462
Employer contributions- additional	313,894	200,000
Employee contributions	84,821	90,172
Total operating revenue	855,535	751,634
Operating expenses:		
Administrative fees	26,933	26,826
Insurance premiums	212,499	320,251
Medical claims	610,828	656,599
Total operating expenses	850,260	1,003,676
Operating profit (loss)	5,275	(252,042)
Nonoperating revenue:		
Interest income	3,176	2,820
Change in net assets	8,451	(249,222)
Net assets, beginning	3,416	252,638
Net assets, ending	<u>\$ 11,867</u>	\$ 3,416

Statement of Cash Flows

Proprietary Fund - Group Self-Insurance Internal Service Fund For the Year Ended June 30, 2005 With Comparative Amounts for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

	Government	al Activities
	2005	2004
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Receipts from general fund and employees	\$ 541,641	\$ 551,634
Payments to service providers	(245,372)	(206,634)
Medical claim payments to employees and others	(599,967)	(645,112)
Other receipts from general fund	313,894	200,000
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	10,196	(100,112)
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Interest on interest-bearing deposits	3,176	2,820
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	13,372	(97,292)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	111,630	_208,922
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 125,002	\$ 111,630
Reconciliation of operating profit (loss) to net cash used by operating activities: Operating profit (loss)	\$ 5,275	\$ (252,042)
Adjustments to reconcile operating profit (loss) to net cash provided (used) by operating activities:		
(Increase) decrease in aggregate and stop-loss receivable	(5,940)	140,443
Increase in claims payable	10,861	11,487
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	\$ 10,196	\$(100,112)

Statement of Fiduciary Assets and Liabilities
June 30, 2005
With Comparative Amounts for June 30, 2004

	Agency	Funds
	2005	2004
ASSETS		
Cash Interest-bearing deposits	\$ 5,121 _12,457,766	\$ 5,111 11,669,151
Total assets	<u>\$12,462,887</u>	\$11,674,262
LIABILITIES		
Due to litigants and others	\$12,462,887	\$11,674,262

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The accompanying financial statements of the Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court (Clerk of Court) have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. GAAP includes all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements. In the government-wide financial statements and the fund financial statements of the proprietary fund, Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) pronouncements and Accounting Principles Board (APB) opinions on or before November 30, 1989 have been applied unless those pronouncements conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements, in which case, GASB prevails. The accounting and reporting framework and the more significant accounting policies are discussed in the subsequent subsection of this note.

Such accounting and reporting procedures also conform to the requirements of Louisiana Revised Statutes 24:513 and to the industry audit guide, <u>Audits of State and Local Governments</u>.

The following is a summary of certain significant accounting policies:

A. Financial Reporting Entity

As provided by Article V, Section 28 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, a Clerk of Court serves as the ex-officio notary public, the recorder of conveyances, mortgages and other acts, and shall have other duties and powers provided by law. A Clerk of Court is elected for a term of four years.

These financial statements only include funds and activities that are controlled by the Clerk of Court as an independently elected parish official. The Clerk of Court is a component unit of the Lafayette Parish Government. The Clerk of Court is fiscally dependent on the Lafayette Parish Government since the Clerk of Court's offices are located in the Parish Court House. The upkeep and maintenance of the courthouse is paid by the Parish Government and certain operating expenditures of the Clerk of Court's office are paid by the Parish Government.

As an independently elected official, the Clerk of Court is solely responsible for the operations of his office, which includes the hiring or retention of employees, authority over budgeting, responsibility for deficits, and the receipt and disbursement of funds. Certain units of local government over which the Clerk of Court exercises no oversight responsibility, such as the parish school board, other independently elected officials, and municipalities within the parish, are excluded from the accompanying financial statements. These units of government are considered separate reporting entities and issue financial statements separate from that of the Clerk of Court.

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

B. Basis of Presentation

Government-Wide Financial Statements (GWFS)

The statement of net assets and statement of activities display information about the reporting government as a whole. They include all funds of the reporting entity, which are considered to be governmental activities. The Clerk of Court's internal service fund is a governmental activity. Internal service fund activity is eliminated to avoid "doubling up" revenues and expenses. Fiduciary funds are not included in the GWFS. Fiduciary funds are reported only in the Statement of Fiduciary Net Assets at the fund financial statement level.

The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the Clerk of Court's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include (a) fees and charges paid by the recipients for goods or services offered by the programs, and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

Fund Financial Statements (FFS)

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

The various funds of the Clerk of Court are classified into three categories: governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary. The emphasis on fund financial statements is on major governmental and enterprise funds, each displayed in a separate column. A fund is considered major if it is the primary operating fund of the entity or meets the following criteria:

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

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

The major fund of the Clerk of Court is described below:

Governmental Fund -

General Fund

The General Fund, as provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 13:781, is the principal fund of the Clerk of Court and is used to account for the operations of the Clerk of Court's office. The various fees and charges due to the Clerk of Court's office are accounted for in this fund. General operating expenditures are paid from this fund.

Additionally, the Clerk of Court reports the following fund types:

Proprietary Funds -

Proprietary funds are used to account for ongoing organizations and activities that are similar to those often found in the private sector. The measurement focus is based upon determination of net income, financial position, and cash flows. The following is the Clerk of Court's proprietary fund type:

Internal Service Fund

The Internal Service Fund is used to account for monies accumulated to provide group health coverage for employees of the Clerk of Court.

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues are derived from contributions made from the employer and employees. These revenues are planned to match: (1) expenses of insurance premiums in excess of self-insurance amounts; (2) actual claims and estimated liabilities for claims incurred but not yet reported at year-end, and (3) operating expenses. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

Fiduciary Funds -

Fiduciary funds account for assets held by the government in a trustee capacity or as an agent on behalf of other funds within the Clerk of Court. The funds accounted for in this category by the Clerk of Court are the agency funds. The agency funds are as follows:

Advance Deposit Fund – accounts for advance deposits on suits filed by litigants.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

Registry of the Court Fund – accounts for funds which have been ordered by the court to be held until judgment has been rendered in court litigation.

Election Qualifying Fund – accounts for funds collected from individuals qualifying to run for political office and remitted to the appropriate governmental bodies or political committees.

C. Measurement Focus/Basis of Accounting

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

Measurement Focus

On the government-wide statement of net assets and the statement of activities, governmental activities are presented using the economic resources measurement focus as defined in item b. below. In the fund financial statements, the "current financial resources" measurement focus or the "economic resources" measurement focus is used as appropriate:

- a. The governmental fund utilizes a "current financial resources" measurement focus. Only current financial assets and liabilities are generally included on its balance sheet. Their operating statement presents sources and uses of available spendable financial resources during a given period. This fund uses fund balance as its measure of available spendable financial resources at the end of the period.
- b. The government-wide financial statement utilizes an "economic resources" measurement focus. The accounting objectives of this measurement focus are the determination of operating income, changes in net assets (or cost recovery) and financial position. All assets and liabilities (whether current or noncurrent) associated with its activities are reported. Government-wide fund equity is classified as net assets.

Basis of Accounting

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

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

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

D. Assets, Liabilities and Equity

Cash and interest-bearing deposits

For purposes of the statement of net assets, cash and interest-bearing deposits include all demand accounts, savings accounts, and certificates of deposits of the Clerk of Court.

For the purpose of the proprietary fund statement of cash flows, "cash and cash equivalents" include all demand and savings accounts, and certificates of deposit with an original maturity of three months or less.

Inventory

Inventory in the Clerk of Court's General Fund consists of copies of historical books produced and published by the Clerk of Court for sale to the general public. The books are recorded at cost, which is lower than market at June 30, 2005.

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 Clerk of Court maintains a threshold level of \$1,000 or more for capitalizing capital assets. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized.

Depreciation of all exhaustible capital assets is recorded as an expense in the statement of activities, with accumulated depreciation reflected in the statement of net 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:

Furniture, fixtures and equipment

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

Compensated Absences

Employees of the Clerk of Court's office earn 10 to 20 days of vacation leave each year depending on length of service. In addition, employees earn 12 days of personal leave each year. Vacation leave must be used in the year earned. Upon resignation or retirement, employees may, at the discretion of the Clerk of Court, be paid for unused vacation leave at the employee's current rate of pay. Personal leave may be accumulated to a maximum of 90 days and carried over to succeeding years. Employees are paid for unused personal leave upon termination or retirement.

Equity Classifications

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

- a. Invested in capital assets, net of related debt 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 assets Consists of net assets 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 assets All other net assets that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "invested in capital assets, net of related debt."

In the fund statements, governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance. Fund balance is further classified as reserved and unreserved, with unreserved further split between designated and undesignated. Governmental funds report reservations of fund balance for amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for use for a specific purpose. Any designations of fund balance represent tentative management plans that are subject to change.

R.S. 13:785 requires that every four years (at the close of the term of office) the clerk of court must pay the parish treasurer the portion of the General Fund's fund balance that exceeds one-half of the revenues of the clerk's last year of his term of office. This payment is limited to no more than that which was received by the clerk in accordance with R.S. 13:784(A) during said term of office. At June 30, 2005, there was no amount due to the parish treasurer even though the General Fund's fund balance at June 30, 2005 exceeded one-half of the revenues of the General Fund for the last year of the clerk's four-year term of office because the Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court did not receive any funds from the parish treasurer in accordance with R.S. 13:784(A) during the current term of office.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

E. Revenues, Expenditures, and Expenses

Operating Revenues and Expenses

Operating revenues and expenses for proprietary funds are those that result from providing services and producing and delivering goods and/or services. It also includes all revenue and expenses not related to capital and related financing, noncapital financing, or investing activities.

Expenditures/Expenses

In the government-wide financial statements, expenses are classified by function. In the fund financial statements, expenditures are classified as follows:

Governmental Funds – By Character and Function Proprietary Fund – By Operating and Nonoperating

F. Budgetary and Budgetary Accounting

The Clerk of Court follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

- 1. A proposed budget is prepared and submitted to the Clerk of Court for the fiscal year no later than fifteen days prior to the beginning of each fiscal year.
- A summary of the proposed budget is published and the public is notified that the proposed budget is available for public inspection. At the same time, a public hearing is called.
- 3. A public hearing is held on the proposed budget at least ten days after publication of the call for a hearing.
- 4. After the holding of the public hearing and completion of all action necessary to finalize and implement the budget, the budget is legally adopted prior to the commencement of the fiscal year for which the budget is being adopted.
- 5. All budgetary appropriations lapse at the end of each fiscal year.
- 6. The budget is adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Budgeted amounts included in the accompanying financial statements are as originally adopted or as finally amended by the Clerk of Court. Such amendments, except for capital outlay, were not material in relation to the original appropriations.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

G. Bad Debts

Uncollectible amounts due for receivables are recognized as bad debts by direct write-off at the time information becomes available which would indicate the uncollectibility of the particular receivable. Although the specific charge-off method is not in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), no allowance for uncollectible accounts receivable was made due to immateriality at June 30, 2005.

(2) Cash and Interest-Bearing Deposits

Under state law, the Clerk of Court may deposit funds within a fiscal agent bank organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana, the laws of any other state in the union, or the laws of the United States. The Clerk of Court may invest in United States bonds, treasury notes, or certificates and time deposits of state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having principal offices in Louisiana. At June 30, 2005, the Clerk of Court has cash and cash equivalents (book balances) totaling \$18,931,457 as follows:

	Govern Activ		Fiduciary Funds		Total	
Cash Time and money market deposits	•	2,650 65,920	\$ 	5,121 ,45 <u>7,</u> 766	\$ 18	7,771 ,923,686
Total	\$ 6,46	8,570	\$12,	462,887	\$18	,931,457

These deposits are stated at cost, which approximates fair value. 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 fair value of the pledged securities plus the federal deposit insurance must at all times equal the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent. These securities are held in the name of the pledging fiscal agent bank in a holding or custodial bank that is mutually acceptable to both parties. The following is a summary of deposit balances (bank balances) at June 30, 2005, and the related federal insurance and pledged securities:

Bank balances	\$19,601,539
Federal insurance	\$ 3,416,353
Pledged securities (Category 3)	16,185,186
Total federal insurance and pledged securities	\$19,601,539

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

Pledged securities in Category 3 include uninsured or unregistered investments for which the securities are held by the broker or dealer, or by its trust department or agent, but not in the Clerk of Court's name. Even though the pledged securities are considered uncollateralized (Category 3) Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1229 imposes a statutory requirement on the custodial bank to advertise and sell the pledged securities within 10 days of being notified by the Clerk of Court that the fiscal agent has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand.

(3) <u>Due from Other Governmental Units</u>

Amount due from other governmental units at June 30, 2005 consisted of the following:

General Fund:

Amount due from the State of Louisiana-Non-Support program.

\$ 35,442

(4) <u>Capital Assets</u>

Capital asset balances and activity for the year ended June 30, 2005 is as follows:

	07/01/04	Additions	Deletions	6/30/05
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	\$ 1,957,517	\$ 577,942	224,749	\$ 2,310,710
Less: Accumulated depreciation	1,428,230	224,402	217,253	1,435,379
Net capital assets	\$ 529,287	\$ 353,540	\$ 7,496	\$ 875,331

Depreciation expense of \$224,402 was charged to the general government function.

(5) Accounts and Other Payables

The accounts and other payables consisted of the following at June 30, 2005:

	General Fund	Proprietary Fund	Total
Accounts	\$ 45,554	\$ -	\$ 45,554
Payroll liabilities	25,545	-	25,545
Compensated absences	262,506	-	262,506
Claims payable		119,347	119,347
Totals	\$333,605	\$119,347	\$452,952

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

(6) Pension Plan

<u>Plan Description</u>. – Substantially all employees of the Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court are members of the Louisiana Clerks of Court Retirement and Relief Fund (System), a cost sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by a separate board of trustees.

All regular employees who are under the age of 60 at the time of original employment are required to participate in the System. Employees who retire at or after age 55 with at least 12 years of credited service are entitled to a retirement benefit, payable monthly for life, equal to 3.33% of their final-average salary for each year of credited service, not to exceed 100% of their final-average salary. Final-average salary is the employee's average salary over the 36 consecutive or joined months that produce the highest average. Employees who terminate with at least 12 years of service and do not withdraw their employee contributions may retire at or after age 55 and receive the benefit accrued to their date of termination. The System also provides death and disability benefits. Benefits are established and amended by state statute.

The System issues an annual publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the System. That report may be obtained by writing to the Louisiana Clerks of Court Retirement and Relief Fund, 11745 Bricksome Avenue, Suite B1, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70816, or by calling (504) 293-1162.

Funding Policy. – Plan members are required by state statute to contribute 8.25% of their annual covered salary and the Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The current rate is 14.5% of annual covered payroll. Contributions to the System also include one-fourth of one percent of the taxes shown to be collectible by the tax rolls of each parish. The contribution requirements of plan members and the Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court are established and may be amended by state statute. As provided by R.S. 11:103, the employer contributions are determined by actuarial valuation and are subject to change each year based on the results of the valuation for the prior fiscal year. The Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court's contributions to the System for the years ended June 30, 2005, 2004, and 2003 were \$445,513, \$344.722, and \$296,247 respectively, equal to the required contributions for each year.

(7) Post-Retirement Health Care and Life Insurance Benefits

The Clerk of Court has an established policy regarding the payment of costs of providing continuing health care and life insurance benefits for its retired employees. The plan covers the employee's insurance premium and fifty (50) percent of the spouse's premium if the employee was covered by insurance at the time of retirement. The cost of these premiums is recorded as an expense when paid by the Clerk of Court annually.

In June 2004, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) issued Statement 45 "Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions." This statement requires the accrual of postemployment benefits for retired employees. The Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court is required to implement this standard for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010. The Clerk has not yet determined the full impact that adoption of GASB Statement 45 will have on the financial statements.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

(8) Changes in Agency Fund Balances

A summary of changes in agency fund unsettled deposits follows:

	Unsettled Deposits at Beginning			Unsettled Deposits at End	
	of Year	Additions	Reductions	of Year	
Agency funds:					
Advance Deposit	\$ 3,866,829	\$ 4,795,708	\$ 4,575,935	\$ 4,086,602	
Registry of Court	7,807,047	3,314,043	2,745,201	8,375,889	
Election Qualifying	386	160	150	396	
Totals	\$ 11,674,262	\$ 8,109,911	\$ 7,321,286	\$ 12,462,887	

(9) Risk Management - Group Self-Insurance Hospitalization

On July 1, 1992, the Clerk of Court established a limited risk management program for group hospitalization insurance. The General Fund pays premiums into the Group Self-Insurance Fund and funds are available to pay claims, claim reserves and administrative costs of the program. The Clerk of Court has contracted Benesys, Inc. to act as the third party administrator for the program. An excess of coverage insurance policy covers individual claims in excess of \$30,000 per year and \$1,000,000 per lifetime. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2005, the General Fund and employees of the Clerk of Court paid a total of \$855,535 in premiums. Interfund premiums are set to cover the maximum exposure to the program in a fiscal year and are reported as quasi-external in interfund transactions. Liabilities are reported when it is probable that a loss has occurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. Liabilities include an amount for claims that have been incurred but not reported. Claim liabilities are calculated considering the effects of inflation, recent claim settlement trends including frequency and amount of payouts and other economic and social factors. The Clerk of Court currently does not discount its claims liabilities. Changes in the claims liability are as follows:

	Beginning of Fiscal Year Liability	Claims and Changes in Estimates	Benefit Payments and Claims	Balance at Fiscal Year End
1999-2000	\$ 65,026	\$ 455,839	\$ 456,192	\$ 64,673
2000-2001	64,673	727,540	663,175	129,038
2001-2002	129,038	416,747	468,796	76,989
2002-2003	76,989	568,613	548,603	96,999
2003-2004	96,999	668,086	656,599	108,486
2004-2005	108,486	621,689	610,828	119,347

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

(10) Changes in Long-Term Debt

The following is a summary of long-term debt transactions of the Clerk of Court for the year ended June 30, 2005:

Compensated absences payable, June 30, 2004	\$ 403,981
Additions	12,281
Retirements	
Compensated absences payable, June 30, 2005	\$ 416,262

(11) Deferred Compensation Plan

The Clerk of Court offers its employees participation in the Louisiana Public Employees Deferred Compensation Plan adopted by the Louisiana Deferred Compensation Commission and established in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 457. The plan is reported as an agency fund in the State of Louisiana's financial statements. The plan, available to all Clerk of Court's employees, permits the employees to defer a portion of their salary until future years. The deferred compensation is not available to employees until termination, retirement, death, or proof of hardship.

All amounts of compensation deferred under the plan, all property and rights purchased with those amounts, and all income attributable to those amounts, property, or rights are (until paid or made available to the employee or other beneficiary) solely the property and rights of the State of Louisiana (without being restricted to the provisions of benefits under the plan) subject only to the claims of the general creditors of the State of Louisiana. Participants' rights under the plan are equal to those of general creditors of the State of Louisiana in an amount equal to the fair market value of the deferred account for each participant.

It is the opinion of management, after consulting with legal counsel, that the Clerk of Court has no liability for losses under the plan.

(12) Risk Management

The Clerk of Court is exposed to risks of loss in the areas of auto liability, professional liability and workers' compensation. All of these risks are handled by purchasing commercial insurance coverage. There have been no significant reductions in the insurance coverage during the year.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

(13) Expenditures of the Clerk of Court Paid by the Lafayette Parish Government

The Clerk of Court's office is located in the Lafayette Parish Courthouse. The Lafayette Parish Government pays the upkeep and maintenance of the courthouse. These expenditures are not reflected in the accompanying financial statements.

Income relating to court reporting attendance, maintenance agreements and capital outlay required to be paid by the Lafayette Parish Government are reported as revenues. During the years ended June 30, 2005 and 2004, the required payments by the Lafayette Parish Government were not received by the Clerk of Court but are reflected as appropriation expenditures.

(14) Litigation

There is no litigation pending against the Clerk of Court at June 30, 2005.

(15) Operating Leases

The Clerk of Court is contracted under two lease agreements. The vehicle lease is \$629 monthly and expires on March 31, 2008. The property lease is \$1,700 monthly and expires on June 30, 2008 with the option to renew for another four years.

In addition, the Clerk of Court leases ten copiers under operating leases ranging from 36 to 48 months and expiring at various dates from May, 2006 through September, 2008.

Future minimum lease payments are as follows:

2006	\$ 70,099
2007	65,424
2008	38,957
2009	1,560
Total	\$176,040

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Budgetary Comparison Schedule General Fund For the Year Ended June 30, 2005 With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

	2005					
	Budget		Variance with Final Budget Positive		2004	
	Original	Final	Actual	(Negative)	Actual	
Revenues: Licenses and permits	\$ 58,300	\$ 58,100	\$ 59,222	\$ 1,122	\$ 59,470	
Fees, charges and commissions -		7 00,	4 ,	-,	4 02,174	
Court costs, fees and charges	217,600	211,340	210,867	(473)	193,467	
Fees for recording legal documents	6,162,500	5,372,300	5,335,807	(36,493)	6,030,647	
Fees for certified copies	620,000	554,000	565,826	11,826	594,141	
Intergovernmental	645,000	310,000	350,650	40,650	390,310	
Miscellaneous	276,700	282,600	316,034	33,434	189,869	
Total revenues	7,980,100	6,788,340	6,838,406	50,066	7,457,904	
Expenditures:						
Current -						
General government:						
Personnel services and related benefits	4,695,765	4,583,215	4,554,141	29,074	4,315,917	
Operating services	959,600	633,538	608,425	25,113	797,264	
Material and supplies	439,320	472,600	454,789	17,811	325,643	
Appropriations to Lafayette Parish						
Government	268,228	179,100	247,645	(68,545)	298,454	
Capital outlay	2,020,000	558,700	577,942	(19,242)	194,367	
Total expenditures	8,382,913	6,427,153	6,442,942	_(15,789)	5,931,645	
Excess (deficiency) of revenues						
over expenditures	(402,813)	361,187	395,464	34,277	1,526,259	
Fund balance, beginning of year	5,989,736	5,989,736	5,989,736		4,463,477	
Fund balance, end of year	<u>\$5,586,923</u>	\$6,350,923	\$6,385,200	<u>\$ 34,277</u>	\$5,989,73 <u>6</u>	

OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Revenues For the Year Ended June 30, 2005 With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

	2005				
	Budget			Variance - Positive	2004
	Original	Final	Actual	(Negative)	Actual
T :					
Licenses and permits:	\$ 43,000	\$ 38,500	\$ 39,300	\$ 800	\$ 43,250
Marriage licenses Passports	\$ 43,000 12,500	36,300 16,400	\$ 39,300 16,710	310	13,020
Passports Birth/death certificates	2,800	3,200	3,212	12	3,200
Total licenses and permits	58,300	58,100	59,222	1,122	59,470
Fees, charges and commissions:					
Court costs, fees and charges -					
Criminal costs	90,000	84,000	88,954	4,954	77,880
Court attendance reporting	30,000	30,000	26,220	(3,780)	29,000
Other	97,600	97,340	95,693	(1,647)	86,587
Total court costs, fees					
and charges	217,600	211,340	210,867	(473)	193,467
and vinages					
Fees for recording legal documents:					
Recordings	2,850,000	2,460,000	2,452,597	(7,403)	2,759,203
Index search	10,500	12,300	12,370	70	10,540
Cancellations	292,000	225,000	223,059	(1,941)	289,145
Mortgage certificates	193,000	160,000	154,852	(5,148)	184,688
Suits and successions	2,780,000	2,475,000	2,453,659	(21,341)	2,751,484
UCC filing	37,000	40,000	39,270	(730)	35,587
Total fees for recording					
legal documents	6,162,500	5,372,300	5,335,807	(36,493)	6,030,647
Certified copies	620,000	554,000	_565,826	11,826	594,140
					(continued)

Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Revenues (Continued)
For the Year Ended June 30, 2005
With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

	Budget Original Final			Variance - Positive	2004
			Actual	(Negative)	Actual
Intergovernmental:					
Charges reimbursable by					
parish government	525,000	200,000	215,429	15,429	258,642
Federal grant - non-support	120,000	110,000	135,221	25,221	131,668
Total intergovernmental	645,000	310,000	350,650	40,650	390,310
Miscellaneous:					
Interest earned	125,000	190,000	227,704	37,704	99,524
Elections	60,000	56,000	51,088	(4,912)	56,228
Judicial commitments	300	450	385	(65)	340
Sales of books	400	150	126	(24)	420
Other	32,000	36,000	36,731	731	33,358
Refunds	59,000		<u> </u>		-
Total miscellaneous	276,700	282,600	316,034	33,434	189,870
Total revenues	\$7,980,100	\$6,788,340	\$6,838,406	\$ 50,066	\$7,457,904

Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Expenditures For the Year Ended June 30, 2005 With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

	2005				
				Variance -	2004
		dget	_	Positive	
	Original	Final	Actual	(Negative)	Actual
Expenditures:					
Current -					
Personnel services and related benefits -					
Salaries:					
Clerk	\$ 96,150	\$ 99,600	\$ 99,490	\$ 110	\$ 97,950
Deputy clerks	3,224,000	3,080,000	3,079,421	579	2,998,344
Clerk's expense allowance	9,615	9,615	9,615	-	9,555
Clerk's supplemental fund	33,000	33,000	33,000	-	31,500
Hospitalization insurance	933,000	795,000	770,714	24,286	661,462
Payroll taxes, retirement and					
compensated absences	400,000	566,000	561,901	4,099	517,106
Total personnel services					
and related benefits	4,695,765	4,583,215	4,554,141	29,074	4,315,917
Operating services -					
Insurance	48,000	55,000	48,143	6,857	48,978
Professional fees	63,000	49,000	48,127	873	58,673
UCC filing	37,000	39,500	39,560	(60)	35,495
Cott index	5,000	19,312	10,794	8,518	52,371
Book costs	-	-	407	(407)	221
Telephone	35,000	26,500	26,843	(343)	36,885
Travel and conventions	5,000	12,000	12,248	(248)	12,762
Election expense allowance	14,000	17,050	17,040	10	10,674
Copier expense	55,000	51,500	51,203	297	50,056
Computer operations	500,000	271,600	264,645	6,955	374,952
Parking fees	24,600	24,676	24,690	(14)	24,620
Reader/printer	65,000	_	-	_	-
Training	15,000	6,500	7,991	(1,491)	8,938
Center for family violence contribution	25,000	21,100	21,880	(780)	22,876
Workers' compensation	38,000	39,800	34,854	4,946	46,806
Other security	-	-	-	-	1,145
Repairs	-	-	-	_	11,812
Miscellaneous	30,000			<u> </u>	
Total operating services	959,600	633,538	608,425	25,113	797,264

Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Expenditures (Continued) For the Year Ended June 30, 2005 With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Year Ended June 30, 2004

2005

	2005				
	Budget			Variance - Positive	2004
	Original	Final	Actual	(Negative)	Actual
Materials and supplies -					
Office supplies and operations	363,000	359,000	354,881	4,119	293,244
Automobile and maintenance	3,000	10,400	2,883	7,517	2,829
Dues and subscription	3,600	3,200	3,116	84	3,524
Leases and rentals	9,720	30,000	27,948	2,052	22,266
Uniforms	60,000	70,000	65,961	4,039	3,780
Total materials and supplies	439,320	472,600	454,789	17,811	325,643
Appropriations to Lafayette Parish Government -					
Capital outlay	18,228	20,400	5,997	14,403	18,228
Operating revenues and	,	20,.00	-,,	- 1,112	10,220
expenditures unreimbursed	250,000	158,700	241,648	(82,948)	280,226
Total appropriations to		-			
Lafayette Parish Government	268,228	179,100	247,645	(68,545)	298,454
Capital outlay -					
Office equipment	20,000	7,700	6,991	709	88,101
Computer equipment	1,000,000	120,000	119,454	546	106,266
Computer software	1,000,000	431,000	451,497	(20,497)	<u>-</u>
Total capital outlay	2,020,000	558,700	577,942	(19,242)	194,367
Total expenditures	\$8,382,913	\$6,427,153	\$6,442,942	<u>\$ (15,789)</u>	\$5,931,645

FIDUCIARY FUNDS

Advance Deposit Fund -

The Advance Deposit Fund, as provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 13:842, is used to account for advance deposits on suits filed by litigants. The advances are refundable to the litigants after all costs have been paid.

Registry of Court Fund -

The Registry of Court Fund, as provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 13:475, is used to account for funds which have been ordered by the court to be held until judgment has been rendered in court litigation. Withdrawals of the funds can be made only upon specific court order.

Election Qualifying Fund -

The Election Qualifying Fund is used to account for funds collected from individuals qualifying to run for political office and remitted to the appropriate governmental bodies or political committees.

LAFAYETTE PARISH CLERK OF COURT

Lafayette, Louisiana Agency Funds

Combining Statement of Fiduciary Assets and Liabilities June 30, 2005

With Comparative Totals for June 30, 2004

	Advance	Registry Election		Totals		
	Deposit	of Court	Qualifying	2005	2004	
ASSETS						
Cash Interest-bearing deposits	\$ - _4,086,602	\$ 4,725 8,371,164	\$ 396 	\$ 5,121 12,457,766	\$ 5,111 11,669,151	
Total assets	\$4,086,602	\$8,375,889	\$ 396	<u>\$12,462,887</u>	\$11,674,262	
LIABILITIES						
Due to litigants and others	\$4,086,602	\$8,375,889	\$ 396	\$12,462,887	\$11,674,262	

LAFAYETTE PARISH CLERK OF COURT

Lafayette, Louisiana Agency Funds

Combining Statement of Changes in Assets and Liabilities For the Year Ended June 30, 2005 With Comparative Totals For the Year Ended June 30, 2004

	Advance	Registry	Election	Totals	
	Deposit	of Court	Qualifying	2005	2004
ASSETS					
Balances, beginning of year	\$3,866,829	\$ 7,807,047	\$ 386	\$11,674,262	\$ 8,282,488
Additions:					
Suits and successions	4,757,519	•	-	4,757,519	5,024,251
Deposits per court order	-	3,314,043	-	3,314,043	5,145,651
Interest earned for General Fund	38,189	-	10	38,199	11,302
Qualifying fees			150	150	22,815
Total additions	4,795,708	3,314,043	160	8,109,911	10,204,019
Total	8,662,537	_11,121,090	546	19,784,173	18,486,507
Reductions:					
Clerk's costs (transferred to General Fund)	2,456,421	-	-	2,456,421	2,746,789
Refunds to litigants	1,048,697	-	-	1,048,697	1,081,721
Other	503,052	-	150	503,202	523,747
Interest earned (transferred to General Fund)	38,189	-	-	38,189	11,280
Lafayette Parish Sheriff fees	360,979	-	-	360,979	390,388
Other Sheriff fees	168,597	-	-	168,597	172,129
Disbursements by court order		2,745,201		<u>2,745,201</u>	1,886,191
Total reductions	4,575,935	2,745,201	150	7,321,286	6,812,245
Balances, end of year	\$4,086,602	\$ 8,375,889	\$ 396	\$12,462,887	\$11,674,262
LIABILITIES					
Due to litigants and others, beginning of year	\$3,866,829	\$ 7,807,047	\$ 386	\$11,674,262	\$ 8,282,488
Additions	4,795,708	3,314,043	160	8,109,911	10,204,019
Reductions	4,575,935	2,745,201	150	7,321,286	6,812,245
Due to litigants and others, end of year	\$4,086,602	\$ 8,375,889	\$ 396	\$12,462,887	\$11,674,262

Combined Schedule of Interest-Bearing Deposits - All Funds June 30, 2005

	Financial Institution	Interest Rate	Т	Maturity	A
	Institution	Rate	Term	Date	Amount
General Fund -					
Certificate of deposit	1	2.25%	1 year	10/04/05	\$ 100,000
Certificate of deposit	I	2.15%	1 year	10/21/05	100,000
Certificate of deposit	R	2.00%	1 year	11/06/05	100,000
Certificate of deposit	I	2.20%	l year	10/31/05	500,000
Certificate of deposit	I	2.25%	1 year	10/05/05	1,156,014
Interest-bearing deposits	I	1.57%	N/A	N/A	16,435
Interest-bearing deposits	I	1.54%	N/A	N/A	4,368,469
Total General Fund					6,340,918
Group Self-Insurance Fund -					
Interest-bearing deposits	I	1.38%	N/A	N/A	125,002
Advance Deposit Fund -					
Certificate of deposit	R	2.25%	1 year	10/24/05	500,000
Certificate of deposit	M	1.15%	1 year	10/03/05	500,000
Certificate of deposit	M	1.15%	1 year	10/03/05	500,000
Certificate of deposit	H	2.10%	1 year	07/15/05	500,000
Interest-bearing deposits	В	variable	N/A	N/A	2,086,602
Total Advance Deposit Fund					4,086,602
Registry of the Court Fund -					
Interest-bearing deposits	I	variable	N/A	N/A	8,369,522
Interest-bearing deposits	В	variable	N/A	N/A	1,642
Total Registry of the Court Fun-	d				8,371,164
Total - all funds					\$ 18,923,686

Financial Institution:

- (H) Home Bank
- (M) Mid-South Bank
- (I) Iberia Bank
- (R) Rayne State Bank
- (B) Bank One/Chase Bank

INTERNAL CONTROL

AND

COMPLIANCE

KOLDER, CHAMPAGNE, SLAVEN & COMPANY, LLC

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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

The Honorable Louis J. Perret Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court Lafayette, Louisiana

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and athe aggregate remaining fund information of the Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court, a component unit of the Lafayette Parish Government, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2005, which collectively comprise the Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated September 14, 2005. 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.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Clerk of Court's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements caused by error or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Clerk of Court'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.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management of the Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than this specified party.

Kolder, Champagne, Slaven & Company, LLC Certified Public Accountants

Lafayette, Louisiana September 14, 2005

LAFAYETTE PARISH CLERK OF COURT

Summary Schedule of Current and Prior Year Audit Findings and Corrective Action Plan Year Ended June 30, 2005

Completion Date
Name of Contact Person
Corrective Action Planned
Corrective Action Taken
Description of Finding
Fiscal Year Finding Initially Occurred
Ref. No.

CURRENT YEAR (6/30/05) --

There were no findings noted for fiscal year end 6/30/05.

PRIOR YEAR (06/30/04) --

There were no findings noted for fiscal year end 6/30/04.