# 2021

Nassau County Clerk of the Circuit Court Nassau County, Florida

Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report

September 30, 2021



## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

## NASSAU COUNTY CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA

#### **SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Honorable John A. Crawford Nassau County Clerk of the Circuit Court Nassau County, Florida

#### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Nassau County, Florida, Clerk of the Circuit Court (the Clerk) as of and for the year ended September 30, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Clerk's financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

#### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

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

#### **Auditor's Responsibility**

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

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

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

#### **Opinions**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Clerk as of September 30, 2021, and the respective changes in financial position and budgetary comparison for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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The Honorable John A. Crawford Nassau County Clerk of the Circuit Court Nassau County, Florida

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

#### **Emphasis of Matter**

As discussed in Note 1 to the financial statements, the financial statements referred to above were prepared solely for the purpose of complying with the *Rules of the Auditor General* of the State of Florida (the Rules). In conformity with the Rules, the accompanying financial statements are intended to present the financial position and changes in financial position of each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information, only for that portion of the major funds, and the aggregate remaining fund information, of Nassau County that is attributable to the Clerk. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of Nassau County as of September 30, 2021, and the changes in its financial position for the fiscal year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to these matters.

#### Change in Accounting Principle

As described in Note 7 to the financial statements, the Clerk of Courts adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

#### **Other Matters**

#### Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Clerk's financial statements. The supplementary information as listed in the table of contents, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements.

The supplementary information is the responsibility of management and was derived from, and relates directly to, the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the supplementary information is 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 a report dated February 15, 2022, on our consideration of the Clerk'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 effectiveness of the Clerk'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 Clerk's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

February 15, 2022 Gainesville, Florida



## NASSAU COUNTY CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

		Majo	r Fur	nds			No	n-Major Fund		
	General Fund	Court Fund	Mo	blic Records odernization Trust Fund		Child Support Fund		Jury Services	Go	Total vernmental Funds
Assets										
Cash	\$ 639,520	\$ 93,874	\$	1,320,473	\$	403,790	\$	1,052	\$	2,458,709
Due from Board of County										
Commissioners	22,047	-		-		-		-		22,047
Due from Other Funds	121,858	117,005		36,560		-		-		275,423
Due from Other Governments	53,869	-		-		20,920		1,954		76,743
Prepaid Expenses	 1,072	 30		-		-		-		1,102
Total Assets	 838,366	 210,909	_	1,357,033	_	424,710	-	3,006	_	2,834,024
Liabilities and Fund Balances										
Liabilities										
Accounts Payable	155,064	195		34,990		97		1,222		191,568
Due to Board of County										
Commissioners	508,277	127		-		-		-		508,404
Due to Other Funds	-	34,798		-		3,711		1,784		40,293
Due to Other Governments	398	55,900		5,554		-		-		61,852
Unearned Revenue	-	119,889		-		-		-		119,889
Other Accrued Liabilities	174,627	 -		-		-		-		174,627
Total Liabilities	 838,366	 210,909		40,544		3,808		3,006		1,096,633
Fund Balances										
Restricted:										
Records Modernization	-	-		1,316,489		_		-		1,316,489
Child Support	-	-		-		420,902		-		420,902
Total Fund Balances	 -	-		1,316,489	_	420,902		-		1,737,391
Total Liabilities and										
Fund Balances	\$ 838,366	\$ 210,909	\$	1,357,033	\$	424,710	\$	3,006	\$	2,834,024

		Majo	r Funds	Non-Major Fund	_	
			Public Records	Child		Total
	General	Court	Modernization	Support	Jury	Governmental
	Fund	Fund	Trust Fund	Fund	Services	Funds
Revenues						
Intergovernmental Revenue	\$ -	\$ 16,824	\$ -	\$ 105,780	\$ 65,377	\$ 187,981
Charges for Services	934,851	941,632	434,057	-	-	2,310,540
Judgments and Fines	-	398,722	-	-	-	398,722
Miscellaneous Revenue	20,023	2,071	57			22,151
Total Revenues	954,874	1,359,249	434,114	105,780	65,377	2,919,394
Expenditures						
Current:						
General Government:						
Personnel Services	2,682,945	-	-	-	-	2,682,945
Operating Expenditures	779,741	-	-	-	-	779,741
Economic Environment:						
Personnel Services	62,553	-	-	-	-	62,553
Operating Expenditures	4,649	-	-	-	-	4,649
Court-Related:						
Personnel Services	-	1,247,910	-	96,537	57,709	1,402,156
Operating Expenditures	-	42,600	129,110	6,519	7,668	185,897
Capital Outlay	91,303					91,303
(Total Expenditures)	(3,621,191)	(1,290,510)	(129,110)	(103,056)	(65,377)	(5,209,244)
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues						
Over (Under) Expenditures	(2,666,317)	68,739	305,004	2,724	-	(2,289,850)
Other Financing Sources (Uses)						
Reversion to State of Florida	-	(68,739)	-	-	-	(68,739)
Transfers in from Board of County						
Commissioners	3,174,396	-	20,477	-	-	3,194,873
Transfers (out) to Board of County						
Commissioners	(508,079)	-	-	-	-	(508,079)
Total Other Financing						
Sources (Uses)	2,666,317	(68,739)	20,477	-	_	2,618,055
Net Change in Fund Balances	-	-	325,481	2,724	-	328,205
Fund Balances, Beginning of Year			991,008	418,178	-	1,409,186
Fund Balances, End of Year	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,316,489	\$ 420,902	\$ -	\$ 1,737,391

	General Fund							
		Budgeted Original	l Amo	ounts Final		Actual Amounts	Fin I	iance With al Budget Positive legative)
Revenues		Original		Filiai		Amounts		iegative)
Charges for Services	\$	555,256	\$	948,504	\$	934,851	\$	(13,653)
Miscellaneous Revenue	Ą	8,000	Ţ	8,000	Ţ	20,023	Ţ	12,023
Total Revenues		563,256		956,504		954,874		(1,630)
				,		, -		( )/
Expenditures								
Current:								
General Government:								
Personnel Services		2,834,458		2,682,945		2,682,945		-
Operating Expenditures		752,382		779,741		779,741		-
Economic Environment:								
Personnel Services		78,013		62,553		62,553		-
Operating Expenditures		6,410		4,649		4,649		-
Capital Outlay		- (2, 674, 262)		91,303		91,303		-
(Total Expenditures)		(3,671,263)		(3,621,191)		(3,621,191)		
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues								
Over (Under) Expenditures		(3,108,007)		(2,664,687)		(2,666,317)		(1,630)
, p		(-,,,		( / / /		( / /		( / /
Other Financing Sources (Uses)								
Transfers in from Board of County								
Commissioners		3,108,007		3,172,766		3,174,396		1,630
Transfers (out) to Board of County								
Commissioners				(508,079)		(508,079)		
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)		3,108,007		2,664,687		2,666,317		1,630
Net Change in Fund Balances		-		-		-		-
Fund Balances, Beginning of Year		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		
Fund Balances, End of Year	\$		\$		\$		\$	

#### **Notes to Schedule**

The budget is prepared on a basis that does not differ materially from generally accepted accounting principles. Its preparation, adoption, and amendment is governed by Florida Statutes. The fund is the legal level of control.

	Court Fund							
		Budgeted Original	l Amo	ounts Final		Actual Amounts	Fin I	iance With al Budget Positive legative)
Revenues								-6
Intergovernmental Revenue	\$	16,828	\$	16,828	\$	16,824	\$	(4)
Charges for Services		939,987		939,987		941,632		1,645
Judgments and Fines		482,852		482,852		398,722		(84,130)
Miscellaneous Revenue				-		2,071		2,071
Total Revenues		1,439,667		1,439,667		1,359,249		(80,418)
Expenditures								
Current:								
Court-Related:								
Personnel Services		1,341,578		1,293,024		1,247,910		45,114
Operating Expenditures		98,089		146,643		42,600		104,043
(Total Expenditures)		(1,439,667)		(1,439,667)		(1,290,510)		149,157
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues								
Over (Under) Expenditures		-		-		68,739		68,739
Other Financing Sources (Uses)								
Reversion to State of Florida						(68,739)		(68,739)
Net Change in Fund Balances		-		-		-		-
Fund Balances, Beginning of Year								
Fund Balances, End of Year	\$	-	\$	-	\$		\$	

#### **Notes to Schedule**

Pursuant to Section 28.36, Florida Statutes, the budget is subject to the General Appropriations Act of the Florida Legislature, and is prepared on a basis that does not differ materially from generally accepted accounting principles. The fund is the legal level of control. All excess revenues over expenditures is required by Statute to be reverted to the Clerk of Court Trust Fund.

	Public Records Modernization Trust Fund							
		Budgeted	Amo			Actual	Fi	riance With nal Budget Positive
		Original		Final		Amounts	(	Negative)
Revenues								
Charges for Services	\$	302,125	\$	302,125	\$	434,057	\$	131,932
Miscellaneous Revenue				-		57		57
Total Revenues		302,125		302,125		434,114		131,989
Expenditures								
Current:								
Court-Related:								
Operating Expenditures		1,293,133		1,293,133		129,110		1,164,023
(Total Expenditures)		(1,293,133)		(1,293,133)		(129,110)		1,164,023
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues								
Over (Under) Expenditures		(991,008)		(991,008)		305,004		1,296,012
Other Financing Sources (Uses) Transfers in from Board of County								
Commissioners		_		_		20,477		20,477
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)			-	_	-	20,477	-	20,477
rotal other rimanoning obartees (oses)						20, 177		20,177
Net Change in Fund Balances		(991,008)		(991,008)		325,481		1,316,489
Fund Balances, Beginning of Year		991,008		991,008		991,008		
Fund Balances, End of Year	\$		\$	_	\$	1,316,489	\$	1,316,489

#### **Notes to Schedule**

The budget is prepared on a basis that does not differ materially from generally accepted accounting principles. Its preparation, adoption, and amendment is governed by Florida Statutes. The fund is the legal level of control.

	Child Support Fund							
		Budgeted	Amo	unts		Actual	Fir	iance With nal Budget Positive
		Original		Final	A	Amounts	1)	Negative)
Revenues								
Intergovernmental	\$	120,055	\$	120,055	\$	105,780	\$	(14,275)
Miscellaneous Revenue		418,178		418,178				(418,178)
Total Revenues		538,233		538,233		105,780		(432,453)
Expenditures								
Current:								
Court-Related:								
Personnel Services		116,631		116,631		96,537		20,094
Operating Expenditures		421,602		421,602		6,519		415,083
(Total Expenditures)		(538,233)		(538,233)		(103,056)		435,177
Net Change in Fund Balances		-		-		2,724		2,724
Fund Balances, Beginning of Year						418,178		418,178
Fund Balances, End of Year	\$		\$	-	\$	420,902	\$	420,902

#### **Notes to Schedule**

The budget is prepared on a basis that does not differ materially from generally accepted accounting principles. Its preparation, adoption, and amendment is governed by Florida Statutes. The fund is the legal level of control.

## NASSAU COUNTY CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION CUSTODIAL FUNDS SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

#### **Assets**

Cash Accounts Receivable Due from Other Governments	\$ 2,320,268 742,985 71
Total Assets	3,063,324
Liabilities	
Due to Board of County	
Commissioners  Due to Other Funds	59,035
Due to Other Funds  Due to Other Governments	235,130 1,102,212
Other Liabilities	 2,542
Total Liabilities	 1,398,919
Net Position, Held in a Custodial Capacity to be Disbursed	\$ 1,664,405

## NASSAU COUNTY CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION CUSTODIAL FUNDS SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

#### **Additions**

Fines and Forfeitures and Fees Collected	\$ 11,775,004
Tax Deeds and Fees Collected	830,003
Support and Fees Collected	52,215
Registry of the Court and Fees Collected	12,321,192
Recording Fees Collected	11,611,801
Bail Bonds and Fees Collected	 478,170
Total Additions	 37,068,385
Deductions	
Fines and Forfeitures and Fees Distributions	11,620,700
Tax Deeds and Fees Distributions	482,565
Support and Fees Distributions	52,215
Registry of the Court and Fees Distributions	12,028,119
Recording Fees Distributions	11,600,283
Bail Bonds and Fees Distributions	554,078
Total Deductions	 36,337,960
Change in Net Position	 730,425
Net Position, Beginning as Restated	933,980
Net Position, Ending	\$ 1,664,405



#### Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The accounting policies of the Nassau County, Florida, Clerk of the Circuit Court (the Clerk) conform to generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), as applicable to governments. The following is a summary of significant accounting principles and policies used in the preparation of these financial statements:

#### **Reporting Entity**

Nassau County, Florida (the County) is a political subdivision of the State of Florida. It is governed by an elected Board of County Commissioners (the Board).

The Clerk is an elected official of the County pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Florida, Article VIII, Section 1(d). The Clerk is a part of the primary government of the County. The Clerk is responsible for the administration and operation of the Clerk's office, and the Clerk's financial statements do not include the financial statements of the Board or the other Constitutional Officers of the County.

The Clerk funds his non-court operations as a Budget Officer and a Fee Officer pursuant to Florida Statutes, Chapters 28, 129, and 218, respectively. As a Budget Officer, the operations of the Clerk are funded by the County General Fund. The receipts from the County General Fund are recorded as other financing sources on the Clerk's general fund financial statements. Any excess of revenues and other financing sources received over expenditures of the general fund are remitted to the County General Fund at year-end. The court-related operations of the Clerk are funded from fees and charges authorized under Chapter 2013-44, Laws of Florida and are reported in the Court Fund. Such provisions may be amended at any time by further action from the Florida Legislature. At year-end, any excess of revenues over court-related expenditures of the Court fund are remitted to the State of Florida pursuant to Florida Statute 28.37.

#### **Basis of Presentation**

The Clerk of Courts' financial statements are special purpose financial statements that have been prepared solely for the purpose of complying with the *Rules of the Auditor General* of the State of Florida (the Rules). These special purpose financial statements are the fund financial statements required by generally accepted accounting principles. However, these fund financial statements do not constitute a complete presentation because, in conformity with the Rules, the Clerk of Courts has not presented the government-wide financial statements, reconciliations to the government-wide financial statements or management's discussion and analysis. Also, certain notes to the financial statements may supplement rather than duplicate the notes included in the County's county-wide financial statements.

The financial transactions of the Clerk are recorded in individual funds. Each fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues, and expenditures. These funds are segregated for the purpose of carrying on specific activities or attaining certain objectives in accordance with special regulations, restrictions, or limitations. GAAP sets forth minimum criteria (percentage of assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenditures of each fund category) for the determination of major funds. Major funds are reported separately in the basic financial statements of the Clerk.

#### Governmental Funds

#### Major Funds

- ► **General Fund**—The general fund is the general operating fund of the Clerk. It is used to account for all financial resources, except for those required to be accounted for in another fund.
- ► **Court Fund**—The court fund was established to account for court-related revenues and expenditures and is required to be reported separately from the Clerk's general fund activities.
- ▶ Public Records Modernization Trust Fund—This fund accounts for proceeds of specific revenues that are legally restricted for expenditures of the public records program.
- ► Child Support Fund—This fund accounts for proceeds of specific revenues that are restricted for expenditures of the child support program.

#### Non-Major Governmental Fund

▶ Jury Services Fund—This fund accounts for proceeds of specific revenues that are restricted for expenditures related to jury services.

#### ■ Fiduciary Funds

• Custodial Funds—Custodial Funds are used to account for assets held in a custodial capacity.

#### Measurement Focus/Basis of Accounting

All governmental funds are accounted for on a current financial resources measurement focus. This means that only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on their balance sheets. Their reported fund balance (net current assets) is considered a measure of "available spendable resources." Their operating statements present increases (revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets and, accordingly, are said to present a summary of sources and uses of "available spendable resources" during a period. Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

All governmental funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when they become measurable and available as net current assets. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectable within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considered revenues to be available if they are collected within 31 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related fund liability is incurred. However, principal and interest on long-term debt are recognized when due.

The Custodial Funds are accounted for using an economic resource measurement focus and accrual basis of accounting requiring a resource flow statement. Liabilities are recognized when an event occurs that compels the Clerk to disburse fiduciary resources, which is when a demand for resources has been made or when no further action, approval or condition is required to be taken or not by the beneficiary to release the assets.

#### **Budgetary Requirement**

Governmental fund revenues and expenditures accounted for in budgetary funds are controlled by a formal integrated budgetary accounting system in accordance with the Florida Statutes. An annual budget was adopted for the general fund, the public records fund, and child support. All budget amounts presented in the accompanying financial statements have been adjusted for legally authorized amendments of the annual budget for the year. A budget was adopted for the court fund and approved by the Legislative Budget Commission pursuant to Florida Statute 28.35. Budgets are prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting.

The Clerk's annual budgets are monitored at varying levels of classification detail. However, for purposes of budgetary control, expenditures cannot legally exceed the total annual budget appropriations at the individual fund level. All appropriations lapse at year-end.

#### **Capital Assets**

Tangible personal property is recorded as expenditures in the governmental fund at the time an asset is acquired. Assets acquired by the Clerk are capitalized at cost in the capital asset accounts of the County. The Clerk maintains custodial responsibility for the capital assets used by his office.

#### **Accrued Compensated Absences**

The Clerk maintains a policy of granting employees annual leave based upon the number of years of employment. At December 31 of each year, employees can carry over up to a maximum of 75 hours of paid annual leave. Any unused vacation leave accrued over the 75 hours at the end of the calendar year will be forfeited. Any exception would require the Clerk's or designee's approval.

In addition, sick leave is accumulated at the rate of 3.75 hours per pay period for a maximum of 400 hours as of December 31 of each year. Any hours over 400 will be paid out each year. There will be no payment in lieu of unused sick leave at the time of separation effective July 1, 2010, and thereafter. The Clerk reserves the right to use a combination of overtime pay and/or compensatory time for compensating overtime worked.

#### **Unearned Revenue**

In accordance with requirements of the Clerk of Court Operations Corporation (CCOC), the Clerk reports unearned revenue for court related fines and fees collected in September of 2021, which are to be used as advance funding for the Clerk's Court operations in the following fiscal year.

#### **Workers' Compensation and Group Health Insurance**

For the Clerk's non-court employees, the Board provided workers' compensation and group health insurance coverages. The premiums for such coverages were paid by the Board and recorded on its records and, consequently, are not recorded on the Clerk's records. For the Clerk's Court employees, the Clerk provides workers' compensation and group health insurance coverages. The premiums for such coverages were paid by the Clerk and recorded on his records.

#### **Risk Management**

The Clerk is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees and the public; or damage to property of others. The Clerk participates in the risk management program through the Board, which uses commercial insurance to cover the following types of risk:

- Workers' Compensation
- Automobile Liability
- Public Officials' Liability

- Personal Property Damage
- General Liability

Workers' compensation coverage is provided under a retrospectively rated policy. Premiums are accrued based on the ultimate cost to-date of the Board's experience for this type of risk.

#### **Fund Balance Reporting**

The Clerk has implemented the provisions of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) issued Statement No. 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions (GASB 54), as required. The purpose of GASB 54 is to improve the consistency and usefulness of fund balance information to the financial statement user. The statement establishes fund balance classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the organization is bound to honor constraints on the specific purpose for which amounts in the funds can be spent. Fund balance is reported in five components – non-spendable, restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned:

- Non-Spendable—This component of fund balance consists of amounts that cannot be spent because: (a) they are not expected to be converted to cash, or (b) they are legally or contractually required to remain intact. Examples of this classification are prepaid items, inventories, and principal (corpus) of an endowment fund. The Clerk does not have any non-spendable funds.
- Restricted—This component of fund balances consists of amounts that are constrained either: (a) externally by third parties (creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments), or (b) by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- **Committed**—This component of fund balance consists of amounts that can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action (e.g., policy, ordinance, or resolution) of the Clerk's governing authority.
- Assigned—This component of fund balance consists of amounts that are constrained by a less-thanformal action of the Clerk's governing authority, or by an individual or body to whom the governing authority has delegated this responsibility. The Clerk has not delegated the responsibility to assign fund balances to any individual or body.
- Unassigned—This classification is used for: (a) negative unrestricted fund balances in any governmental fund, or (b) fund balances within the general fund that are not restricted, committed or assigned.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the Clerk's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources (committed, assigned, and unassigned) as they are needed. When unrestricted resources (committed, assigned, and unassigned) are available for use, it is the Clerk's policy to use committed resources first, then assigned, and then unassigned as needed.

#### **Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported and disclosed in the accompanying financial statements and notes. Actual results could differ from estimates.

#### Note 2 - Cash and Investments

At September 30, 2021, the carrying amount of the Clerk's deposits was \$4,772,825 and the bank balance was \$5,474,459. The Clerk also held \$6,150 in change funds at September 30, 2021. Deposits in banks and thrift institutions are collateralized as public funds through a state procedure provided for in Chapter 280, Florida Statutes. Financial institutions qualifying as public depositories are required to pledge eligible collateral having a market value equal to or greater than the average daily or monthly balance of all public deposits times the depository's collateral pledging level. The Public Deposit Security Trust Fund has a procedure to allocate and recover losses in the event of a default or insolvency. When public deposits are made in accordance with Chapter 280, Florida Statutes, no public depositor shall be liable for any loss thereof. All of the cash funds of the Clerk are deposited in accordance with Florida Statutes 280 and 218.415, and Nassau County Resolution 95-144.

#### **Investments**

The Clerk's investment practices are governed by Chapters 28.33 and 218.415, Florida Statutes. The Clerk is authorized to invest in certificates of deposit, money market certificates, obligations of the U.S. Treasury and the Local Government Surplus Funds Trust Fund (the State Board of Administration). There were no investments as of September 30, 2021.

#### Note 3 - Employee Retirement Plan

#### General Information about the Florida Retirement System (FRS)

The FRS was created in Chapter 121, Florida Statutes, to provide a defined benefit pension plan for participating public employees. The FRS was amended in 1998 to add the Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) under the defined benefit plan and amended in 2000 to provide a defined contribution plan alternative to the defined benefit plan for FRS members effective July 1, 2002. This integrated defined contribution pension plan is the FRS Investment Plan. Chapter 112, Florida Statutes, established the Retiree Health Insurance Subsidy (HIS) Program, a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan, to assist retired members of any state-administered retirement system in paying the costs of health insurance.

Essentially all regular employees of the Clerk are eligible to enroll as members of the state-administered FRS. Provisions relating to FRS are established by Chapters 121 and 122, Florida Statutes; Chapter 112 Part IV, Florida Statutes; Chapter 238, Florida Statutes; and FRS Rules, Chapter 60S, *Florida Administrative Code*; wherein eligibility, contributions, and benefits are defined and described in detail. Such provisions may be amended at any time by further action from the Florida Legislature. The FRS is a single retirement system administered by the Florida Department of Management Services, Division of Retirement, and consists of two cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined-benefit plans and other non-integrated programs. An annual comprehensive financial report of the FRS, which includes its financial statements, required supplementary information, actuarial report, and other relevant information, is available from the Florida Department of Management Services' web site (<a href="https://www.dms.myflorida.com">www.dms.myflorida.com</a>).

#### **FRS Pension Plan**

<u>Plan Description</u>. The FRS Pension Plan (Plan) is a cost-sharing multiple-employer qualified defined benefit pension plan, with a DROP available for eligible employees. The general classes of membership applicable to the Clerk are as follows:

- Regular Class—Members of the FRS who do not qualify for membership in the other classes.
- Elected County Officer Class—Members who hold specified elective offices in local government.
- Senior Management Service Class—Members in senior management level positions.

Employees enrolled in the Plan prior to July 1, 2011, vest at six years of creditable service and employees enrolled in the Plan on or after July 1, 2011, vest at eight years of creditable service. All vested members enrolled prior to July 1, 2011, are eligible for normal retirement benefits at age 62 or at any age after 30 years of service, except for members classified as special risk who are eligible for normal retirement benefits at age 55 or at any age after 25 years of service. All members enrolled in the Plan on or after July 1, 2011, once vested, are eligible for normal retirement benefits at age 65 or any time after 33 years of creditable service, except for members classified as special risk who are eligible for normal retirement benefits at age 60 or at any age after 30 years of service. Members of the Plan may include up to four years of credit for military service toward creditable service. The Plan also includes an early retirement provision; however, there is a benefit reduction for each year a member retires before his or her normal retirement date. The Plan provides retirement, disability, death benefits, and annual cost-of-living adjustments to eligible participants.

DROP, subject to provisions of Section 121.091, Florida Statutes, permits employees eligible for normal retirement under the Plan to defer receipt of monthly benefit payments while continuing employment with an FRS employer. An employee may participate in DROP for a period not to exceed 60 months after electing to participate, except that certain instructional personnel may participate for up to 96 months. During the period of DROP participation, deferred monthly benefits are held in the FRS Trust Fund and accrue interest. The net pension liability does not include amounts for DROP participants, as these members are considered retired and are not accruing additional pension benefits.

<u>Benefits Provided</u>. Benefits under the Plan are computed on the basis of age and/or years of service, average final compensation, and service credit. Credit for each year of service is expressed as a percentage of the average final compensation. For members initially enrolled before July 1, 2011, the average final compensation is the average of the five highest fiscal years' earnings; for members initially enrolled on or after July 1, 2011, the average final compensation is the average of the eight highest fiscal years' earnings. The total percentage value of the benefit received is determined by calculating the total value of all service, which is based on the retirement class to which the member belonged when the service credit was earned. The following chart shows the percentage value for each year of service credit earned:

Class, Initial Enrollment, and Retirement Age/Years of Service	Percent Value
Regular Class Members Initially Enrolled Before July 1, 2011:	
Retirement up to age 62 or up to 30 years of service	1.60
Retirement at age 63 or with 31 years of service	1.63
Retirement at age 64 or with 32 years of service	1.65
Retirement at age 65 or with 33 or more years of service	1.68
Regular Class Members Initially Enrolled on or After July 1, 2011:	
Retirement up to age 65 or up to 33 years of service	1.60
Retirement at age 66 or with 34 years of service	1.63
Retirement at age 67 or with 35 years of service	1.65
Retirement at age 68 or with 36 or more years of service	1.68
Elected County Officers	3.00
Senior Management Service Class	2.00

As provided in Section 121.101, Florida Statutes, if the member is initially enrolled in the FRS before July 1, 2011, and all service credit was accrued before July 1, 2011, the annual cost-of-living adjustment is 3% per year. If the member is initially enrolled before July 1, 2011, and has service credit on or after July 1, 2011, there is an individually calculated cost-of-living adjustment. The annual cost-of-living adjustment is a proportion of 3% determined by dividing the sum of the pre-July 2011 service credit by the total service credit at retirement multiplied by 3%. Plan members initially enrolled on or after July 1, 2011, will not have a cost-of-living adjustment after retirement.

<u>Contributions</u>. The Florida Legislature establishes contribution rates for participating employers and employees. Contribution rates during the 2020-2021 fiscal year were as follows:

	Year Ended	June 30, 2021	Year Ended June 30, 202				
	Percent of	Gross Salary	Percent of	Gross Salary			
Class	<u>Employee</u>	Employer (2)	<u>Employee</u>	Employer (2)			
FRS, Regular	3.00	8.28	3.00	9.10			
FRS, Elected County Officers	3.00	47.46	3.00	49.70			
FRS, Senior Management							
Service	3.00	25.57	3.00	27.29			
DROP – Applicable to							
Members from All of							
the Above Classes	0.00	15.32	0.00	16.68			
FRS, Reemployed Retiree	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)			

Notes: (1) Contribution rates are dependent upon retirement class in which reemployed.

(2) These rates include the normal cost and unfunded actuarial liability contributions but do not include the contribution for Retiree Health Insurance Subsidy of 1.66% and the fee of 0.06% for administration of the FRS Investment Plan and provision of education tools for both plans.

The Clerk's contributions (employer) to the FRS Plan totaled \$386,694 for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021. This excludes the HIS defined benefit pension plan contributions.

<u>Pension Liabilities and Pension Expense</u>. At September 30, 2021, the Clerk's proportionate share of the FRS net pension liability was \$698,133. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2021, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2021.

Further details of the FRS Plan net pension liability, annual pension expense, actuarial assumptions, sensitivity analysis, and the other required disclosures can be found in the County-wide annual financial report.

#### **HIS Pension Plan**

<u>Plan Description</u>. The HIS Pension Plan (HIS Plan) is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan established and administered in accordance with Section 112.363, Florida Statutes. The Florida Legislature established and amended the contribution requirements and benefit terms of the HIS program. The benefit is a monthly payment to assist retirees of state-administered retirement systems in Florida in paying their health insurance costs.

<u>Benefits Provided</u>. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021, eligible retirees and beneficiaries received a monthly HIS payment equal to the number of years of service credited at retirement multiplied by \$5. The minimum payment is \$30 and the maximum payment is \$150 per month, pursuant to Section 112.363, Florida Statutes. To be eligible to receive a HIS Plan benefit, a retiree under one of the state-administered retirement systems must provide proof of health insurance coverage, which may include Medicare.

<u>Contributions</u>. The HIS Plan is funded by required contributions from FRS participating employers as set by the Florida Legislature. Employer contributions are a percentage of gross compensation for all active FRS members. For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2020 and 2019, the contribution rates were 1.66% and 1.66% of payroll, respectively, pursuant to Section 112.363, Florida Statutes. The Clerk contributed 100% of its statutorily required contributions for the current and preceding three years. HIS Plan contributions are deposited in a separate Trust Fund from which payments are authorized. HIS Plan benefits are not guaranteed and are subject to annual legislative appropriation. In the event the legislative appropriation or available funds fail to provide full subsidy benefits to all participants, benefits may be reduced or canceled.

The Clerk's contributions to the HIS Plan totaled \$50,502 for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021.

<u>Pension Liabilities and Pension Expense.</u> At September 30, 2021, the Clerk's proportionate share of the HIS net pension liability was \$954,651. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2021, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2021. The Clerk's proportionate share of the net pension liability was based on the Clerk's 2019-20 fiscal year contributions of all participating members.

Further details of the HIS Plan net pension liability, annual pension expense, actuarial assumptions, sensitivity analysis, and the other required disclosures can be found in the County-wide annual financial report.

#### **FRS - Defined Contribution Pension Plan**

The Clerk contributes to the FRS Investment Plan (Investment Plan), a defined contribution pension plan, for its eligible employees electing to participate in the Investment Plan. The Investment Plan is administered by the SBA, and is reported in the SBA's annual financial statements and in the State of Florida Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. Service retirement benefits are based upon the value of the member's account upon retirement.

As provided in Section 121.4501, Florida Statutes, eligible FRS members may elect to participate in the Investment Plan in lieu of the FRS defined benefit plan. Clerk employees participating in DROP are not eligible to participate in the Investment Plan. Employer and employee contributions, including amounts contributed to individual member's accounts, are defined by law, but the ultimate benefit depends in part on the performance of investment funds. Benefit terms, including contribution requirements, for the Investment Plan are established and may be amended by the Florida Legislature. The Investment Plan is funded with the same employer and employee contribution rates that are based on salary and membership class (Regular Class, Elected County Officers, etc.) as the FRS defined benefit plan. These blended rates include the applicable rates for the unfunded actuarial accrued liability of the FRS defined benefit plan, the 1.66% HIS contribution rate, and the 0.06% administrative fee. Contributions are directed to individual member accounts, and the individual members allocate contributions and account balances among various approved investment choices. Allocations to the investment members' accounts during the 2020-21 fiscal year were as follows:

	Percent of Gross Sala					
Class	<b>Employee</b>	<b>Employer</b>				
FRS, Regular	3.00	3.30				
FRS, Elected County Officers	3.00	8.34				
FRS, Senior Management						
Service	3.00	4.67				

For all membership classes, employees are immediately vested in their own contributions and are vested after one year of service for employer contributions and investment earnings. If an accumulated benefit obligation for service credit originally earned under the FRS Pension Plan is transferred to the Investment Plan, the member must have the years of service required for FRS Pension Plan vesting (including the service credit represented by the transferred funds) to be vested for these funds and the earnings on the funds. Non-vested employer contributions are placed in a suspense account for up to five years. If the employee returns to FRS-covered employment within the five year period, the employee will regain control over their account. If the employee does not return within the five year period, the employee will forfeit the accumulated account balance. Costs of administering the Investment Plan, including the FRS Financial Guidance Program, are funded through an employer contribution of 0.06% of payroll and by forfeited benefits of Investment Plan members. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021, the information for the amount of forfeitures was unavailable from the SBA; however, management believes that these amounts, if any, would be immaterial to the Clerk.

After termination and applying to receive benefits, the member may rollover vested funds to another qualified plan, structure a periodic payment under the Investment Plan, receive a lump-sum distribution, leave the funds invested for future distribution, or any combination of these options. Disability coverage is provided; the member may either transfer the account balance to the FRS Pension Plan when approved for disability retirement to receive guaranteed lifetime monthly benefits under the FRS Pension Plan, or remain in the Investment Plan and rely upon that account balance for retirement income.

The Clerk's Investment Plan pension expense totaled \$61,138 for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021.

#### **Note 4 - Other Postemployment Benefits**

The County offers certain postemployment health care benefits that are considered part of an Other Postemployment Benefit (OPEB) plan for financial accounting purposes. The OPEB is a single-employer benefit plan administered by the County. Retirees are charged whatever the insurance company charges for the type of coverage elected. However, the premiums charged by the insurance company are based on a blending of the experience among younger active employees and older retired employees.

Retirees and their dependents (except for life insurance) are permitted to remain covered under the County's respective medical and insurance plans as long as they pay a full premium applicable to coverage elected, subject to the direct subsidy in the following table. This conforms to the minimum required of Florida governmental employers per Chapter 112.08, Florida Statutes.

Percent of Direct Subsidy up to "Subsidy Base Maximum"

Years of Service With Nassau County	Hired Before 10/1/05	Hired on or After 10/1/05
At Least 6	100%	0%
15 Years	100%	50%
20 Years	100%	65%
25 Years	100%	80%
30 or More Years	100%	100%

Currently, the Clerk has 65 active employees and three retired employees who are considered participants in the plan for purposes of computing the OPEB obligation. The Clerk's portion of the OPEB obligation at September 30, 2021, totaled \$1,722,011. This liability will be included in long-term liabilities in the County-wide financial statements. Details of the annual cost, the accrued obligation, and the other required disclosures can be found in the County-wide annual financial report.

#### Note 5 - Long-Term Liabilities

The long-term liabilities presented below are not reported in the financial statements of the Clerk since they are not payable from available resources at September 30, 2021.

The Clerk's long-term debt is recorded in the statement of net position as part of the basic financial statements of the County.

A summary of the changes in long-term liabilities is as follows:

		Balance					Balance
	(	October 1,				Se	ptember 30,
		2020	 Additions	_(	Deletions)		2021
Liability for Compensated Absences	\$	100,865	\$ 215,472	\$	(206,661)	\$	109,676
Other Postemployment Benefits		2,372,299	-		(650,288)		1,722,011
Net Pension Liabilities:							
FRS Plan		4,192,096	-		(3,493,963)		698,133
HIS Plan		1,024,888	 <u> </u>		(70,237)		954,65 <u>1</u>
Total Long-Term Debt	\$	7,690,148	\$ 215,472	\$	(4,421,149)	\$	3,484,471

See Note 3 for more information on the Net Pension Liabilities related to the FRS and HIS Pension Plans.

See Note 4 for a description of the County's policies on OPEB.

#### Note 6 – <u>Interfund Receivables and Payables</u>

Interfund receivables and payables at September 30, 2021, are as follows:

	from	Oue Other Inds	 Due to Other Funds
General Fund	\$	121,858	\$ -
Special Revenue Funds			
Court Fund		117,005	34,798
Public Records			
Modernization Fund		36,560	-
Child Support Fund		-	3,711
Jury Services		-	1,784
Custodial Funds			
Civil Trust Fund		-	52,849
Recording Trust Fund		-	118,111
Criminal Trust Fund		-	3,590
Special Trust Fund		-	60,094
<b>Domestic Relations Fund</b>			 486
Total	<u>\$</u>	275,423	\$ 275,423

#### **Note 7 - Change in Accounting Principle**

During the year ended September 30, 2021, the Clerk adopted new accounting guidance by implementing the provisions of GASB Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*, which established criteria for identifying and reporting fiduciary activities. In accordance with GASB Statement No. 84, liabilities in custodial funds are recognized when an event that has occurred that compels the government to disburse the resources held in a fiduciary capacity. If further action, authorization, or condition is required to compel the Clerk to disburse the funds at year-end, the amounts are reported as net position. GASB Statement No. 84 requires that changes adopted to conform to the provisions of the statement be applied retroactively. The Clerk has restated the beginning net position in the statement of fiduciary net position as a result of the change in recognition of liabilities as follows:

Net Position, October 1, 2020, As Previously Reported	\$ -
Change in Accounting Principle - GASB 84	 933,980
Net Position, October 1, 2020, As Restated	\$ 933,980



#### **CUSTODIAL FUNDS**

**Civil Trust**—This fund accounts for the receipt and disbursement of filing fees, service charges, and bonds relating to civil actions.

**Recording Trust**—This fund accounts for the receipt and disbursement of fees and service charges for official records.

**Criminal Trust**—This fund accounts for the receipt and disbursement of criminal fines and fees.

**Special Trust**—This fund accounts for the receipt and disbursement of traffic and misdemeanor fines, court costs, fees, and service charges.

**Jury and Witness**—This fund accounts for the receipt and expenditure of funds pertaining to the Juror Services department.

**Domestic Relations**—This fund accounts for the collection and disbursement of court-ordered child support payments and fees.

**Registry of the Court**—This fund accounts for the collection and disbursement of deposits required by court legal actions.

**Bail Bonds**—Accounts for funds received from defendants of criminal and traffic arrests required to assure that the defendant will meet the requirement to appear in court. Disposition of these bond funds is made as ordered by the court.

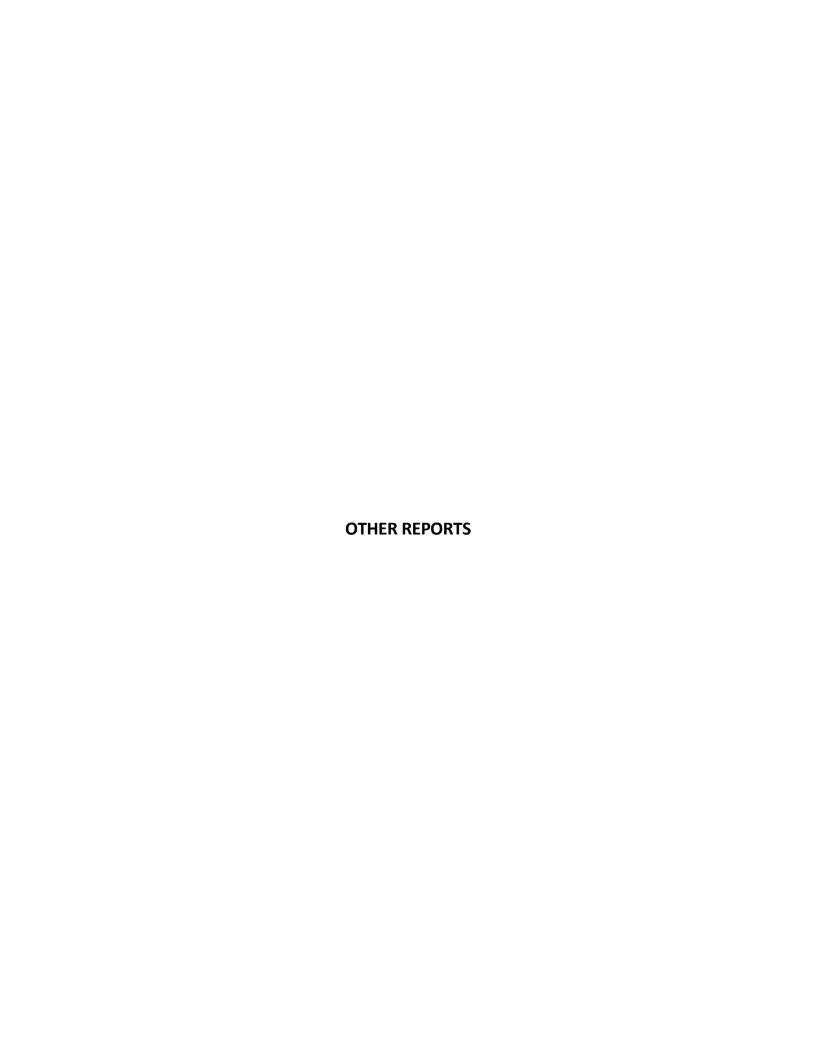
## NASSAU COUNTY CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT COMBINING STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION ALL CUSTODIAL FUNDS SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

Assets	Civil Trust	Recording Trust	Criminal Trust	Special Trust	Jury and Witness	Domestic Relations	Registry of the Court	Bail Bonds	Total
Cash	\$ 560,253	\$ 1,015,289	\$ 41,465	\$ 171,603	\$ -	\$ 671	\$ 488,061	\$ 42,926	\$ 2,320,268
Accounts Receivable	-	742,884	-	101	-	-	-	-	742,985
Due from Other Governments				_		71		-	71
Total Assets	560,253	1,758,173	41,465	171,704		742	488,061	42,926	3,063,324
Liabilities									
Due to Board of County									
Commissioners	-	29,122	658	29,255	-	-	-	-	59,035
Due to Other Funds	52,849	118,111	3,590	60,094	-	486	-	-	235,130
Due to Other Governments	27,296	1,029,337	1,761	43,562	-	256	-	-	1,102,212
Other Liabilities	796	476	517	753					2,542
Total Liabilities	80,941	1,177,046	6,526	133,664	_	742	_		1,398,919
Not Position Hold in a Cost - Hal									
Net Position, Held in a Custodial  Capacity to be Disbursed	\$ 479,312	\$ 581,127	\$ 34,939	\$ 38,040	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 488,061	\$ 42,926	\$ 1,664,405
capacity to be bisbuised	7 7/3,312	<del>γ 301,127</del>	7 37,333	7 30,040	7	7	7 700,001	7 72,320	7 1,007,703

#### NASSAU COUNTY CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT **COMBINING STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION ALL CUSTODIAL FUNDS** FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

							Registry		
	Civil	Recording	Criminal	Special	Jury and	Domestic	of the	Bail	
	Trust	Trust	Trust	Trust	Witness	Relations	Court	Bonds	Total
Additions									
Fines and Forfeitures and Fees Collected	\$ 5,944,038	\$ -	\$ 566,113	\$ 5,261,538	\$ 3,315	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,775,00

	Trust	Trust	Trust	Trust	Witness	Relations	Court	Bonds	Total
Additions									
Fines and Forfeitures and Fees Collected	\$ 5,944,038	\$ -	\$ 566,113	\$ 5,261,538	\$ 3,315	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,775,004
Tax Deeds and Fees Collected	-	830,003	-	-	-	-	-	-	830,003
Support and Fees Collected	-	-	-	-	-	52,215	-	-	52,215
Registry of the Court and Fees Collected	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,321,192	-	12,321,192
Recording Fees Collected	-	11,611,801	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,611,801
Bail Bonds and Fees Collected					_			478,170	478,170
Total Additions	5,944,038	12,441,804	566,113	5,261,538	3,315	52,215	12,321,192	478,170	37,068,385
Deductions									
Fines and Forfeitures and Fees Distributions	5,799,224	_	553,115	5,265,046	3,315	-	_	-	11,620,700
Tax Deeds and Fees Distributions	-	482,565	-	-	-	-	-	-	482,565
Support and Fees Distributions	-	-	_	-	-	52,215	-	-	52,215
Registry of the Court and Fees Distributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,028,119	-	12,028,119
Recording Fees Distributions	-	11,600,283							11,600,283
Bail Bonds and Fees Distributions		_			,			554,078	554,078
Total Deductions	5,799,224	12,082,848	553,115	5,265,046	3,315	52,215	12,028,119	554,078	36,337,960
Change in Net Position	144,814	358,956	12,998	(3,508)	-	-	293,073	(75,908)	730,425
Net Position, Beginning of Year, as Restated	334,498	222,171	21,941	41,548			194,988	118,834	933,980
Net Position, End of Year	\$ 479,312	\$ 581,127	\$ 34,939	\$ 38,040	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 488,061	\$ 42,926	\$ 1,664,405



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

The Honorable John A. Crawford Nassau County Clerk of the Circuit Court Nassau County, Florida

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Nassau County, Florida, Clerk of the Circuit Court (the Clerk), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Clerk's financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated February 15, 2022.

#### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Clerk'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 Clerk's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Clerk'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 combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Clerk's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

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

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The Honorable John A. Crawford Nassau County Clerk of the Circuit Court Nassau County, Florida

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

#### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Clerk's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, non-compliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of non-compliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

#### **Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Clerk'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 Clerk's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

February 15, 2022 Gainesville, Florida

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## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 218.415 – INVESTMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS

The Honorable John A. Crawford Nassau County Clerk of the Circuit Court Nassau County, Florida

We have examined Nassau County, Florida, Clerk of the Circuit Court (the Clerk) compliance with the requirements of Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2021, as required by Section 10.556(10)(a), *Rules of the Auditor General*. Management is responsible for the Clerk's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Clerk's compliance based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Clerk complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referenced above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the Clerk complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks of material non-compliance, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the Clerk's compliance with specified requirements.

In our opinion, the Clerk complied, in all material respects, with the requirements of Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, *Local Government Investment Policies*, for the year ended September 30, 2021.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, the Clerk, its management, and the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

February 15, 2022 Gainesville, Florida

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## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH SECTIONS 28.35 AND 28.36, FLORIDA STATUTES

The Honorable John A. Crawford Nassau County Clerk of the Circuit Court Nassau County, Florida

We have examined Nassau County, Florida, Clerk of the Circuit Court (the Clerk) compliance with the requirements of Sections 28.35, Florida Statutes, *Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation*, and 28.36, Florida Statutes, *Budget Procedure*, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2021, as required by Section 10.556(10)(c), *Rules of the Auditor General*. Management is responsible for the Clerk's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Clerk's compliance based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Clerk complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referenced above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the Clerk complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks of material non-compliance, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the Clerk's compliance with specified requirements.

In our opinion, the Clerk complied, in all material respects, with the requirements of Section 28.35, Florida Statutes, *Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation*, and Section 28.36, Florida Statutes, *Budget Procedure*, for the year ended September 30, 2021.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, the Clerk, its management, and the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

February 15, 2022 Gainesville, Florida

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## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 61.181, FLORIDA STATUTES

The Honorable John A. Crawford Nassau County Clerk of the Circuit Court Nassau County, Florida

We have examined Nassau County, Florida, Clerk of the Circuit Court (the Clerk) compliance with the requirements of Section 61.181, Florida Statutes, *Depository for Alimony Transactions, Support, Maintenance, and Support Payments; Fees* as of and for the year ended September 30, 2021, as required by Section 10.556(10)(d), *Rules of the Auditor General*. Management is responsible for the Clerk's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Clerk's compliance based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Clerk complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referenced above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the Clerk complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks of material non-compliance, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the Clerk's compliance with specified requirements.

In our opinion, the Clerk complied, in all material respects, with the requirements Section 61.181, Florida Statutes, *Depository for Alimony Transactions, Support, Maintenance, and Support Payments; Fees,* for the year ended September 30, 2021.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, the Clerk, its management, and the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

February 15, 2022 Gainesville, Florida

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#### MANAGEMENT LETTER

The Honorable John A. Crawford Nassau County Clerk of the Circuit Court Nassau County, Florida

#### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the financial statements of each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Nassau County, Florida, Clerk of the Circuit Court (the Clerk) as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021, and have issued our report thereon dated February 15, 2022.

#### **Auditor's Responsibility**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Florida Auditor General*.

#### **Other Reporting Requirements**

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*; and Independent Accountant's Reports on our examinations conducted in accordance with *AICPA Professional Standards*, AT-C Section 315, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*. Disclosures in those reports, which are dated February 15, 2022, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

#### **Prior Audit Findings**

Section 10.554(1)(i)1., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address significant findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report. There were no such recommendations made in the preceding annual financial report.

#### Official Title and Legal Authority

Section 10.554(1)(i)4., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that the name or official title and legal authority for the primary government and each component unit of the reporting entity be disclosed in this management letter, unless disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. The Clerk was established by the Constitution of the State of Florida, Article VIII, Section 1(d). There were no component units related to the Clerk.

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The Honorable John A. Crawford Nassau County Clerk of the Circuit Court Nassau County, Florida

#### **MANAGEMENT LETTER**

#### **Financial Management**

Section 10.554(1)(i)2., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we communicate any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.

#### **Additional Matters**

Section 10.554(1)(i)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires us to communicate non-compliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the determination of financial statements that is less than material but which warrants that attention of those charged with governance. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such findings.

#### **Purpose of this Letter**

Our management letter is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, Federal and other granting agencies, the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, the Clerk and applicable management, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank you and your staff for the cooperation and courtesies extended to us during the course of our audit. Please let us know if you have any questions or comments concerning this letter, our accompanying reports, or other matters.

February 15, 2022 Gainesville, Florida

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