

**REPORT OF THE AUDIT OF THE
GREEN COUNTY
SHERIFF**

**For The Year Ended
December 31, 2020**



**MIKE HARMON
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MIKE HARMON
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

The Honorable John H. Frank, Green County Judge/Executive
The Honorable Robby Beard, Green County Sheriff
Members of the Green County Fiscal Court

Independent Auditor's Report

Report on the Financial Statement

We have audited the accompanying Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Excess Fees - Regulatory Basis of the Sheriff of Green County, Kentucky, for the year ended December 31, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statement.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statement

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of this financial statement in accordance with accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the laws of Kentucky to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting and budget laws. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of a financial statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statement based on our audit. 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 the *Audit Guide for County Fee Officials* issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, 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 statement 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 statement.

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



The Honorable John H. Frank, Green County Judge/Executive
 The Honorable Robby Beard, Green County Sheriff
 Members of the Green County Fiscal Court

Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in Note 1 of the financial statement, the financial statement is prepared by the Green County Sheriff on the basis of the accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the laws of Kentucky to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The effects on the financial statement of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material.

Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles paragraph, the financial statement referred to above does not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Green County Sheriff, as of December 31, 2020, or changes in financial position or cash flows thereof for the year then ended.

Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the receipts, disbursements, and excess fees of the Green County Sheriff for the year ended December 31, 2020, in accordance with the basis of accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the Commonwealth of Kentucky as described in Note 1.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 19, 2021, on our consideration of the Green County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Green County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Based on the results of our audit, we have presented the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Responses, included herein, which discusses the following report comments:

- 2020-001 The Green County Sheriff's Fourth Quarter Report Was Inaccurate
- 2020-002 The Green County Sheriff's Office Does Not Have Adequate Segregation Of Duties Over Financial Reporting, Disbursements, And Payroll

Respectfully submitted,



Mike Harmon
 Auditor of Public Accounts

October 19, 2021

GREEN COUNTY
ROBBY BEARD, SHERIFF
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND EXCESS FEES - REGULATORY BASIS

For The Year Ended December 31, 2020

Receipts

State - Kentucky Law Enforcement Foundation Program Fund (KLEFPF)	\$	13,842
State Fees For Services:		
AOC Court Security Payments	\$	78,242
Sheriff Security Service		<u>1,723</u>
		79,965
Circuit Court Clerk:		
Fines and Fees Collected		363
Fiscal Court		144,509
County Clerk - Delinquent Taxes		11,372
Commission On Taxes Collected		171,230
Fees Collected For Services:		
Auto Inspections		95
Accident and Police Reports		80
Serving Papers		14,501
Carry Concealed Deadly Weapon Permits		2,600
Transporting Patients		<u>8,618</u>
		25,894
Other:		
Add-On Fees		13,829
Miscellaneous		<u>4,258</u>
		18,087
Interest Earned		256
Borrowed Money:		
State Advancement		<u>35,000</u>
Total Receipts		500,518

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

GREEN COUNTY
 ROBBY BEARD, SHERIFF
 STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND EXCESS FEES - REGULATORY BASIS
 For The Year Ended December 31, 2020
 (Continued)

Disbursements

Operating Disbursements:

Personnel Services-			
Deputies' Gross Salaries	\$	88,658	
Clerk Gross Salaries		24,960	
Court Security Gross Salaries		78,786	
KLEFPF Gross Salaries		11,092	
Employee Benefits-			
Employer's Share Social Security		22,495	
Employer's Share Retirement - KLEFPF		2,669	
Contracted Services-			
Vehicle Maintenance and Repairs		7,255	
Materials and Supplies-			
Office Materials and Supplies		22,774	
Other Charges-			
Postage		2,701	
Fiscal Court Ordinance		2,190	
Miscellaneous		11,786	\$ 275,366
		<u>11,786</u>	
Debt Service:			
State Advancement			<u>35,000</u>
Total Disbursements			<u>\$ 310,366</u>
Net Receipts			190,152
Less: Statutory Maximum			<u>90,562</u>
Excess Fees Due County for 2020			99,590
Payments to Fiscal Court -			
April 14, 2021		42,000	
April 15, 2021		50,056	
August 26, 2021		6,263	98,319
		<u>6,263</u>	<u>98,319</u>
Balance Due Fiscal Court at Completion of Audit*			<u>\$ 1,271</u>

* - The sheriff presented a check to the fiscal court for excess fees on October 19, 2021.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

GREEN COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

December 31, 2020

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Fund Accounting

A fee official uses a fund to report on the results of operations. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities.

A fee official uses a fund for fees to account for activities for which the government desires periodic determination of the excess of receipts over disbursements to facilitate management control, accountability, and compliance with laws.

B. Basis of Accounting

KRS 64.820 directs the fiscal court to collect any amount, including excess fees, due from the sheriff as determined by the audit. KRS 134.192 requires the sheriff to settle excess fees with the fiscal court at the time he files his annual settlement with the fiscal court on or before September 1 of each year. KRS 64.830 requires an outgoing sheriff to settle excess fees with the fiscal court of his county by March 15 immediately following the expiration of his term of office.

The financial statement has been prepared on a regulatory basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. This basis demonstrates compliance with the laws of Kentucky and is a special purpose framework. Under this regulatory basis of accounting, receipts and disbursements are generally recognized when cash is received or disbursed, with the exception of accrual of the following items (not all-inclusive) at December 31 that may be included in the excess fees calculation:

- Interest receivable
- Collection on accounts due from others for 2020 services
- Reimbursements for 2020 activities
- Tax commissions due from December tax collections
- Payments due other governmental entities for payroll
- Payments due vendors for goods or services provided in 2020

The measurement focus of a fee official is upon excess fees. Remittance of excess fees is due to the county treasurer in the subsequent year.

C. Cash and Investments

KRS 66.480 authorizes the sheriff's office to invest in obligations of the United States and of its agencies and instrumentalities, obligations and contracts for future delivery or purchase of obligations backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, obligations of any corporation of the United States government, bonds or certificates of indebtedness of this state, and certificates of deposit issued by or other interest-bearing accounts of any bank or savings and loan institution which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or which are collateralized, to the extent uninsured, by any obligation permitted by KRS 41.240(4).

Note 2. Employee Retirement System and Other Post-Employment Benefits

The sheriff's office has elected to participate, pursuant to KRS 78.530, in the County Employees Retirement System (CERS), which is administered by the Board of Trustees of the Kentucky Retirement Systems (KRS). This is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer, defined benefit pension plan, which covers all eligible full-time employees and provides for retirement, disability, and death benefits to plan members. Benefit contributions and provisions are established by statute.

GREEN COUNTY
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
 December 31, 2020
 (Continued)

Note 2. Employee Retirement System and Other Post-Employment Benefits (Continued)

The sheriff's contribution for retirement on KLEFPF salaries for calendar year 2018 was \$2,417, calendar year 2019 was \$2,706, and calendar year 2020 was \$2,669.

Nonhazardous covered employees are required to contribute five percent of their salary to the plan. Nonhazardous covered employees who begin participation on or after September 1, 2008, are required to contribute six percent of their salary to be allocated as follows: five percent will go to the member's account and one percent will go to the KRS insurance fund.

In accordance with Senate Bill 2, signed by the Governor on April 4, 2013, plan members who began participating on or after January 1, 2014, were required to contribute to the Cash Balance Plan. The Cash Balance Plan is known as a hybrid plan because it has characteristics of both a defined benefit plan and a defined contribution plan. Members in the plan contribute a set percentage of their salary each month to their own accounts. Nonhazardous covered employees contribute five percent of their annual creditable compensation. Nonhazardous members also contribute one percent to the health insurance fund which is not credited to the member's account and is not refundable. The employer contribution rate is set annually by the KRS Board of Directors based on an actuarial valuation. The employer contributes a set percentage of the member's salary. Each month, when employer contributions are received, an employer pay credit is deposited to the member's account. A member's account is credited with a four percent employer pay credit. The employer pay credit represents a portion of the employer contribution.

Benefits fully vest on reaching five years of service for nonhazardous employees. Aspects of benefits for nonhazardous employees include retirement after 27 years of service or age 65. Nonhazardous employees who begin participation on or after September 1, 2008, must meet the rule of 87 (member's age plus years of service credit must equal 87, and the member must be a minimum of 57 years of age) or the member is age 65, with a minimum of 60 months service credit.

The county's contribution rate for nonhazardous employees was 24.06 percent for the year.

Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)

A. Health Insurance Coverage - Tier 1

CERS provides post-retirement health care coverage as follows:

For members participating prior to July 1, 2003, years of service and respective percentages of the maximum contribution are as follows:

Years of Service	% Paid by Insurance Fund	% Paid by Member through Payroll Deduction
20 or more	100%	0%
15-19	75%	25%
10-14	50%	50%
4-9	25%	75%
Less than 4	0%	100%

GREEN COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
December 31, 2020
(Continued)

Note 2. Employee Retirement System and Other Post-Employment Benefits (Continued)

Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) (Continued)

A. Health Insurance Coverage - Tier 1 (Continued)

As a result of House Bill 290 (2004 General Assembly), medical insurance benefits are calculated differently for members who began participation on or after July 1, 2003. Once members reach a minimum vesting period of ten years, non-hazardous employees whose participation began on or after July 1, 2003, earn ten dollars per month for insurance benefits at retirement for every year of earned service without regard to a maximum dollar amount. This dollar amount is subject to adjustment annually based on the retiree cost of living adjustment, which is updated annually due to changes in the Consumer Price Index.

Benefits are covered under KRS 161.714 with exception of COLA and retiree health benefits after July 2003.

B. Health Insurance Coverage - Tier 2 and Tier 3 - Nonhazardous

Once members reach a minimum vesting period of 15 years, earn ten dollars per month for insurance benefits at retirement for every year of earned service without regard to a maximum dollar amount. This dollar amount is subject to adjustment annually by 1.5 percent. This was established for Tier 2 members during the 2008 Special Legislative Session by House Bill 1. During the 2013 Legislative Session, Senate Bill 2 was enacted, creating Tier 3 benefits for members.

The monthly insurance benefit has been increased annually as a 1.5 percent cost of living adjustment (COLA) since July 2003 when the law changed. The annual increase is cumulative and continues to accrue after the member's retirement.

Tier 2 member benefits are covered by KRS 161.714 with exception of COLA and retiree health benefits after July 2003. Tier 3 members are not covered by the same provisions.

C. Cost of Living Adjustments - Tier 1

The 1996 General Assembly enacted an automatic cost of living adjustment (COLA) provision for all recipients of KRS benefits. During the 2008 Special Session, the General Assembly determined that each July beginning in 2009, retirees who have been receiving a retirement allowance for at least 12 months will receive an automatic COLA of 1.5 percent. The COLA is not a guaranteed benefit. If a retiree has been receiving a benefit for less than 12 months, and a COLA is provided, it will be prorated based on the number of months the recipient has been receiving a benefit.

D. Cost of Living Adjustments - Tier 2 and Tier 3

No COLA is given unless authorized by the legislature with specific criteria. To this point, no COLA has been authorized by the legislature for Tier 2 or Tier 3 members.

E. Death Benefit

If a retired member is receiving a monthly benefit based on at least 48 months of service credit, KRS will pay a \$5,000 death benefit payment to the beneficiary designated by the member specifically for this benefit. Members with multiple accounts are entitled to only one death benefit.

GREEN COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
December 31, 2020
(Continued)

Note 2. Employee Retirement System and Other Post-Employment Benefits (Continued)

KRS Annual Financial Report and Proportionate Share Audit Report

KRS issues a publicly available annual financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information on CERS. This report may be obtained by writing the Kentucky Retirement Systems, 1260 Louisville Road, Frankfort, KY 40601-6124, or by telephone at (502) 564-4646.

KRS also issues proportionate share audit reports for both total pension liability and other post-employment benefits for CERS determined by actuarial valuation as well as each participating county's proportionate share. Both the Schedules of Employer Allocations and Pension Amounts by Employer and the Schedules of Employer Allocations and OPEB Amounts by Employer reports and the related actuarial tables are available online at <https://kyret.ky.gov>. The complete actuarial valuation report, including all actuarial assumptions and methods, is also available on the website or can be obtained as described in the paragraph above.

Note 3. Deposits

The Green County Sheriff maintained deposits of public funds with federally insured banking institutions as required by the Department for Local Government's (DLG) *County Budget Preparation and State Local Finance Officer Policy Manual*. The DLG Manual strongly recommends perfected pledges of securities covering all public funds except direct federal obligations and funds protected by federal insurance. In order to be perfected in the event of failure or insolvency of the depository institution, this pledge or provision of collateral should be evidenced by an agreement between the sheriff and the depository institution, signed by both parties, that is (a) in writing, (b) approved by the board of directors of the depository institution or its loan committee, which approval must be reflected in the minutes of the board or committee, and (c) an official record of the depository institution. These requirements were met.

Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a depository institution failure, the sheriff's deposits may not be returned. The Green County Sheriff does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk, but rather follows the requirements of the DLG *County Budget Preparation and State Local Finance Officer Policy Manual*. As of December 31, 2020, all deposits were covered by FDIC insurance or a properly executed collateral security agreement.

Note 4. Short-term Debt

A. Direct Borrowing – State Advancement

During calendar year 2020, the sheriff's office borrowed \$35,000 under the state advancement program to defray necessary official expenses and to apply to the payment of the salaries of the sheriff or the sheriff's deputies and assistants from County Fees Systems Branch, Division of Local Government Services, Kentucky Finance and Administration Cabinet (Cabinet) under KRS 64.140(1). Principal was due on or before January 15, 2021, at zero percent interest. In the event of default, the cabinet may obtain payment from the sheriff, his sureties, and the sheriff in his official capacity. The balance of the state advancement was paid in full from the 2020 fee account as of December 31, 2020.

GREEN COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
December 31, 2020
(Continued)

Note 4. Short-term Debt (Continued)

B. Changes in Short-term Debt

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reductions</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Direct Borrowing	\$ _____	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	\$ _____
Total Short-term Debt	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 35,000</u>	<u>\$ 35,000</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>

Note 5. Lease Agreement

The Green County Sheriff's office was committed to a lease agreement for a copier. The agreement requires an annual payment of \$968 for 60 months to be completed on December 11, 2024. The total remaining balance of the agreement was \$2,903 as of December 31, 2020.

Note 6. Drug Enforcement Account

The Green County Sheriff's Office maintains a drug enforcement account. This account is funded by proceeds from the confiscation, surrender, or sale of real and personal property involved in drug related convictions. Drug enforcement funds are to be used for drug enforcement expenses of the office and are kept separate from the sheriff's fee account. As of January 1, 2020, the balance of the account was \$19,315. The account earned interest in the amount of \$29 and there were no disbursements. The balance was \$19,344 as of December 31, 2020.

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ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND
ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL
STATEMENT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

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MIKE HARMON
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

The Honorable John H. Frank, Green County Judge/Executive
The Honorable Robby Beard, Green County Sheriff
Members of the Green County Fiscal Court

Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And
On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial
Statement Performed In Accordance With *Government Auditing Standards*

Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Excess Fees - Regulatory Basis of the Green County Sheriff for the year ended December 31, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statement and have issued our report thereon dated October 19, 2021. The Green County Sheriff's financial statement is prepared on a regulatory basis of accounting, which demonstrates compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting and budget laws, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statement, we considered the Green County Sheriff'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 opinion on the financial statement, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Green County Sheriff's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Green County Sheriff's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Responses, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. *A material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statement will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. We consider the deficiencies described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Responses as items 2020-001 and 2020-002 to be material weaknesses.



Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And
On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial
Statement Performed In Accordance With *Government Auditing Standards*
(Continued)

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Green County Sheriff's financial statement is 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 financial statement. 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 an instance of noncompliance or other matter that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Responses as item 2020-001.

Views of Responsible Official and Planned Corrective Action

The Green County Sheriff's views and planned corrective action for the findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Responses. The Green County Sheriff's responses were not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statement and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Harmon", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mike Harmon
Auditor of Public Accounts

October 19, 2021

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES

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GREEN COUNTY
ROBBY BEARD, SHERIFF
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES

For The Year Ended December 31, 2020

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS:

2020-001 The Green County Sheriff's Fourth Quarter Report Was Inaccurate

The Green County Sheriff's fourth quarter report was not accurate. Receipts and disbursements were not categorized properly and all receipts were not included. The following deficiencies were noted:

- Reclassifications were necessary to correct the receipts on the fourth quarter report totaling \$114,179. Payments from the fiscal court of \$94,454 were included in miscellaneous, add-on fees of \$13,829 were included in commission on taxes collected, payments from the state of \$5,584 were misclassified, and payments from circuit court clerk of \$312 were misclassified.
- Reclassifications were necessary to correct the disbursements on the fourth quarter report totaling \$92,494. Employee withholdings of \$67,330 were recorded as employee benefits instead being included with salaries. Employer's share social security of \$22,495 and employer's share retirement – KLEFPF of \$2,669 were also recorded as employee benefits.
- Receipts were not included on fourth quarter report totaling \$51,326. Payments from the fiscal court for reimbursement under the CARES Act of \$50,056, payment from the state for KLEFPF in December 2020 of \$1,258, and interest earned of \$12 in December 2020 were not recorded.

The reclassifications and errors resulted from a lack of oversight over the financial recording process and preparation of the fourth quarter report. Although the fourth quarter report was signed by the sheriff, it was inaccurate. Also, no documented review of comparing the fourth quarter report to the receipts and disbursements ledgers was noted. The lack of oversight could result in the undetected misappropriation of assets or inaccurate financial reporting to external agencies such as Department for Local Government (DLG) and the fiscal court.

Good internal controls dictate that oversight over all aspects of the financial reporting process be implemented to ensure accuracy. Strong internal controls over financial reporting are vital in ensuring the financial reports of the sheriff's office accurately reflect the financial activity of the sheriff's office. These controls should include an individual independent of the accounting function reviewing the financial reports and comparing amounts reported to the amounts on the ledgers.

KRS 68.210 gives the state local finance officer the authority to prescribe a uniform system of accounts. The *County Budget Preparation and State Local Finance Officer Policy Manual* requires officials to submit quarterly reports to the DLG by the 30th day following the close of each quarter. The manual provides the required format for the quarterly report including recommended categories for receipts and disbursements.

We recommend the sheriff's office implement stronger internal controls over the financial reporting process to ensure amounts reported on the quarterly reports are accurate. Internal controls such as a thorough review of quarterly reports by someone independent of the accounting function can help detect misstatements and errors that have occurred. This review should include tracing transactions posted to the receipts and disbursements ledgers to actual bank statement transactions. It should also include agreeing book balances between the quarterly reports and bank reconciliations, agreeing bank balances per the bank statements to the quarterly reports and bank reconciliations, checking for mathematical accuracy, and verification of bank reconciliation amounts. Ledgers should also be reviewed to verify transactions have been recorded to the correct account codes. Once the ledgers and reconciliations are deemed accurate, the reviewer should document that fact and submit the review to the sheriff for approval. By implementing these procedures, the sheriff can strengthen its internal control system, and help ensure accurate financial reporting.

Sheriff's Response: The official did not provide a response.

GREEN COUNTY
ROBBY BEARD, SHERIFF
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES
For The Year Ended December 31, 2020
(Continued)

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS: (Continued)

2020-002 The Green County Sheriff's Office Does Not Have Adequate Segregation Of Duties Over Financial Reporting, Disbursements, And Payroll

The Green County Sheriff's office does not have adequate segregation of duties over financial reporting, disbursements, and payroll. The sheriff's bookkeepers collect receipts, prepare deposits, prepare daily checkout sheets, prepare and sign checks, and prepare payroll. In addition, they post to the receipts and disbursements ledgers, prepare quarterly reports and monthly reports, and reconcile the monthly bank statements. No reviews of the quarterly reports, receipts ledger, and disbursements ledger were documented by the other bookkeeper or the sheriff. The sheriff has instituted review processes over disbursements and payroll such as documented reviews of invoices and time sheets by the other bookkeeper or the sheriff; however, reviews of invoices and time sheets of court security are not regularly documented by the other bookkeeper or the sheriff.

The lack of segregation of duties occurred because the sheriff failed to segregate incompatible duties. The sheriff stated he cannot hire additional employees to allow segregation of duties due to budget limitations. A lack of oversight could result in undetected misappropriation of assets or inaccurate financial reporting to external agencies such as the Department for Local Government.

Adequate segregation of duties over financial reporting, disbursements, and payroll would prevent the same person from having a significant role in multiple accounting functions, such as preparing deposits, preparing payroll, preparing and signing checks, posting to the receipts and disbursements ledgers, preparing monthly and quarterly reports, and preparing monthly bank reconciliations. The sheriff can implement compensating controls when duties cannot be segregated.

We recommend the sheriff's office segregate duties over financial reporting, disbursements, and payroll. If segregation of duties is not feasible due to lack of staff, then compensating controls could be implemented which includes an employee not currently performing any of those functions providing oversight over these areas. Any oversight should be documented.

Sheriff's Response: Lack of help.