REPORT OF THE AUDIT OF THE GARRARD COUNTY SHERIFF

For The Year Ended December 31, 2017



MIKE HARMON AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS www.auditor.ky.gov

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MIKE HARMON AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

The Honorable John Wilson, Garrard County Judge/Executive The Honorable Tim Davis, Garrard County Sheriff Members of the Garrard 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 Garrard County, Kentucky, for the year ended December 31, 2017, 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 Wilson, Garrard County Judge/Executive The Honorable Tim Davis, Garrard County Sheriff Members of the Garrard 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 Garrard 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 each fund of the Garrard County Sheriff, as of December 31, 2017, 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 Garrard County Sheriff for the year ended December 31, 2017, 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 September 20, 2019, on our consideration of the Garrard 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 Garrard 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:

- 2017-001 The Sheriff's Office Lacks Adequate Segregation Of Duties
- 2017-002 The Sheriff Did Not Deposit Receipts Daily
- 2017-003 The Sheriff's Office Lacks Adequate Internal Controls Over Payroll
- 2017-004 The Sheriff Failed To Properly Classify Employees As Hourly Or Salaried

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Harmon Auditor of Public Accounts

GARRARD COUNTY TIM DAVIS, SHERIFF <u>STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND EXCESS FEES - REGULATORY BASIS</u>

For The Year Ended December 31, 2017

Receipts

State - Kentucky Law Enforcement Foundation Program Fund (KLEFPF)		\$ 5,547	
State Fees For Services: Finance and Administration Cabinet Sheriff Security Service	\$	82,177 3,267	85,444
Circuit Court Clerk:			
Fines and Fees Collected		2,846	2,846
Fiscal Court			86,298
County Clerk - Delinquent Taxes			20,103
Commission On Taxes Collected			242,012
Fees Collected For Services:			
Auto Inspections		3,190	
School Security		34,000	
Serving Papers		34,278	
Carry Concealed Deadly Weapon Permits		8,940	80,408
Other:			
Hold Harmless		5,123	
Add-On Fees		30,635	
Fingerprints/Tax Bill Search		1,631	
Miscellaneous		131	37,520
Total Receipts			560,178
Disbursements			
Total Disbursements			 0

GARRARD COUNTY TIM DAVIS, SHERIFF STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND EXCESS FEES - REGULATORY BASIS For The Year Ended December 31, 2017 (Continued)

Net Receipts	\$ 560,178
Less: Statutory Maximum	83,059
Excess Fees	477,119
Less: Training Incentive Benefit	<u>3,039</u>
Excess Fees Due County for 2017	474,080
Payments to Fiscal Court - Monthly	474,080
Balance Due Fiscal Court at Completion of Audit	\$ 0

GARRARD COUNTY NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

December 31, 2017

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 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 2017 services
- Reimbursements for 2017 activities
- Tax commissions due from December tax collections
- Payments due other governmental entities for payroll
- Payments due vendors for goods or services provided in 2017

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).

D. Fee Pooling

The Garrard County Sheriff's office is required by the fiscal court to participate in a fee pooling system. Fee officials who are required to participate in fee pooling deposit all funds collected into their official operating account. The fee official is responsible for paying all amounts collected for others. Residual funds are then paid to the county treasurer on a monthly basis. Invoices are submitted to the county treasurer to document operating expenses. The fiscal court pays all operating expenses for the fee official.

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

The county official and employees have 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.

<u>Nonhazardous</u>

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 members contribute five percent of their annual creditable compensation and 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 Board based on an actuarial valuation. The employer contributes a set percentage of 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 18.68 percent for the first six months and 19.18 percent for the last six months.

Health Insurance Coverage

CERS also 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%

GARRARD COUNTY NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT December 31, 2017 (Continued)

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

Health Insurance Coverage (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.

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.

Note 3. Deposits

The Garrard County Sheriff maintained deposits of public funds with depository institutions insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) as required by KRS 66.480(1)(d). According to KRS 41.240, the depository institution should pledge or provide sufficient collateral which, together with FDIC insurance, equals or exceeds the amount of public funds on deposit at all times. In order to be valid against the FDIC 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.

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 Garrard County Sheriff does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk but rather follows the requirements of KRS 66.480(1)(d) and KRS 41.240. As of December 31, 2017, all deposits were covered by FDIC insurance or a properly executed collateral security agreement.

Note 4. Forfeiture Accounts

Under terms mandated by the United States Department of Justice and the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Garrard County Sheriff's office receives proceeds from the confiscation, surrender, or sale of real and personal property involved in drug related convictions. These funds are to be used exclusively for law enforcement activities and are not included in excess fees.

A. State Forfeiture Account

The balance in the account as of January 1, 2017 was \$8,261. During 2017 there were no receipts and disbursements totaling \$686. The balance as of December 31, 2017 was \$7,575.

B. Federal Forfeiture Account

The balance in the account as of January 1, 2017 was \$47,529. During 2017, receipts were \$4,280 and disbursements were \$22,609. The balance as of December 31, 2017 was \$29,200.

Note 5. Garrard County DARE Program Account

The Garrard County Sheriff's office maintains the Garrard County DARE Program Account. The balance in the account as January 1, 2017 was \$294. During 2017, receipts were \$6,729 and disbursements were \$3,227. The balance as of December 31, 2017 was \$3,796.

Note 6. Donation Account

The Garrard County Sheriff's office maintains an account for the receipt of donations. These funds may be used for the operation of the sheriff's office as established by KRS 61.310. The balance in this account on January 1, 2017 was \$1,308. During 2017, receipts were \$1,300 and disbursements were \$700. The balance as of December 31, 2017 was 1,908.

Note 7. Grant Account

The Garrard County Sheriff's office received a Homeland Security LEPT grant of \$5,640 in calendar year 2015. During 2016, the sheriff purchased law enforcement equipment totaling \$5,640. The balance in this account on January 1, 2017 was \$606. During 2017, receipts were \$80 and there were no disbursements. The balance in the account as of December 31, 2017, was \$686. The ending balance of \$686 consisted of accident report fees collected by the sheriff. Subsequent to December 31, 2017, the sheriff closed the account and the balance was transferred to the Garrard County Fiscal Court.

Note 8. County Police Force and Fee-Pooling Ordinance

On December 29, 2016, the Garrard County Fiscal Court passed a fee-pooling ordinance for the sheriff's office and created the Garrard County Police Force. The fee-pooling ordinance requires the sheriff's office to submit fees collected to the county treasurer on a monthly basis. Operating expenses of the sheriff's office will then be paid by the county treasurer in a manner similar to all other county expenses.

Note 9. On Behalf Payments

The Garrard County Sheriff's office is required by the fiscal court to participate in a fee pooling system. Since the sheriff is fee pooling, the fiscal court pays the sheriff's statutory maximum and training incentive as reflected on the sheriff's financial statement. For the year ended December 31, 2017, the fiscal court's contributions recognized by the sheriff included the amounts that were based on the statutory maximum as required by KRS 64.5275. The Garrard County Sheriff recognized receipts from the fiscal court and disbursements for the statutory maximum of \$83,059 and training incentive benefit of \$3,039 for the year ended December 31, 2017.

Note 10. Lease Agreement

The Garrard County Sheriff's office was committed to a lease agreement for a copier. The agreement was for the period May 15, 2015 through May 15, 2019. The Garrard County Fiscal Court passed a fee-pooling ordinance for the sheriff's office on December 29, 2016, and assumed the lease agreement.

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* THIS PAGE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY



MIKE HARMON AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

The Honorable John Wilson, Garrard County Judge/Executive The Honorable Tim Davis, Garrard County Sheriff Members of the Garrard 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 Garrard County Sheriff for the year ended December 31, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statement and have issued our report thereon dated September 20, 2019. The Garrard 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 Garrard County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statement, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Garrard County Sheriff's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Garrard 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 2017-001, 2017-002, 2017-003, and 2017-004 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 Garrard 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 determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Responses as items 2017-002, 2017-003, and 2017-004.

Views of Responsible Official and Planned Corrective Action

The Garrard 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 Garrard 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,

Mike Harmon Auditor of Public Accounts

September 20, 2019

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES

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GARRARD COUNTY TIM DAVIS, SHERIFF SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES

For The Year Ended December 31, 2017

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS:

2017-001 The Sheriff's Office Lacks Adequate Segregation Of Duties

The sheriff's office lacks adequate segregation of duties over receipts, disbursements, and monthly reconciliations. Internal control procedures indicates the sheriff's bookkeeper opens mail, collects payments from customers, prepares deposits, prepares checks for the sheriff's signature, posts transactions to the receipts and disbursements ledgers, prepares monthly and quarterly reports, and prepares monthly bank reconciliations.

The sheriff's office has a small staff size that limits the ability to adequately segregate the duties surrounding receipts, disbursements, and monthly bank reconciliations. The lack of adequate segregation of duties increases the risk that undetected errors could occur. Additionally, the lack of adequate segregation of duties could result in misappropriation of assets or inaccurate financial reporting to external agencies, such as the Department for Local Government.

The segregation of duties over various accounting functions such as opening mail, preparing deposits, recording receipts and disbursements, and preparing monthly reports and bank reconciliations, or the implementation of compensating controls is essential for providing protection from asset misappropriation or inaccurate financial reporting. Additionally, proper segregation of duties protects employees in the normal course of performing their daily responsibilities.

We recommend the sheriff separate the duties involved in receiving cash, preparing deposits, writing checks, posting to ledgers, preparing monthly bank reconciliations and comparing financial reports to ledgers. However, if an adequate segregation of duties is not feasible due to a limited budget, compensating controls could be designed more effectively and documented by the individual performing the procedure.

Sheriff's Response: Trying to get to the point of hiring another office staff full-time.

2017-002 The Sheriff Did Not Deposit Receipts Daily

This is a repeat finding documented in the prior year audit report as finding 2016-005. The sheriff did not deposit receipts daily in 2017. The sheriff has not established internal controls requiring a daily deposit of all funds received by his office. The sheriff's bookkeeper indicated that on most days receipts were minimal. The sheriff's office planned to prepare deposits on Mondays and Fridays unless daily receipts were considered significant. Eight deposits totaling \$179,813 were made during the month of November 2017, which is consistent with the policy described by the bookkeeper.

Failure to deposit receipts daily is an issue of non-compliance with the Department for Local Government requirements for handling public funds. Failure to deposit receipts daily also exposes the sheriff's office to the risk of misappropriation of funds or inaccurate financial reporting.

The Department for Local Government, under the authority of KRS 68.210, has established minimum requirements for all government officials that handle public funds in the *County Budget Preparation and State Local Finance Officer Policy Manual*. With regard to receipts, governmental officials handling public funds are required to make "[d]aily deposits intact into a federally insured banking institution." In addition, good internal controls dictate that receipts should be deposited intact on a daily basis.

We recommend the sheriff make deposits daily as required by the Department for Local Government.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS: (Continued)

2017-002 The Sheriff Did Not Deposit Receipts Daily (Continued)

Sheriff's Response: Will deposit daily especially in tax season, bi-weekly when not in tax season unless significant amounts are receipted we will deposit daily.

2017-003 The Sheriff's Office Lacks Adequate Internal Controls Over Payroll

This is a repeat finding documented in the prior year audit report as finding 2016-006. Garrard County Sheriff's employees are separated into two groups for payroll purposes. The Garrard County Sheriff's office prepares payroll for court security and administrative staff, including the sheriff. The personnel in each of these groups have various requirements for employment such as full-time, part-time, and salaried and our testing of payroll included an examination of these requirements and the documentation maintained by the sheriff to support payroll expenditures.

The Garrard County Sheriff does not have appropriate internal controls over the payroll process. During our testing of payroll, the following issues were noted:

- Garrard County Personnel Policy and Procedures manual requires a lunch period to be taken. Documentation of a lunch period was not annotated on the bookkeeper and school resource officer's timesheets.
- Bookkeeper and school resource officer timesheets were not mathematically correct.
- Bookkeeper and school resource officer incurred overtime during the period tested. Overtime incurred was not documented on the payroll summary report, which is used to issue payroll disbursements.
- One court security employee's timesheet was not signed by the employee or a supervisor.
- One employee's timesheet was not prepared.
- Payroll summary for administrative staff was not supported by accurate timesheets associated with the pay period tested.
- Leave balance reports are not accurate and properly maintained.

According to the sheriff, he was unaware of many of the U.S. Department of Labor requirements and Kentucky Revised Statutes (KRS) that govern payroll. Additionally, human error combined with the lack of internal controls have allowed these undocumented and uncorrected payroll issues.

The sheriff is not in compliance with federal and state labor regulations or the county's personnel policy and procedure manual. The lack of controls over payroll have allowed employees to be underpaid. Additionally, timesheets understated the hours for administrative employees.

KRS 337.320(1) states:

Every employer shall keep a record of:

- (a) The amount paid each pay period to each employee;
- (b) The hours worked each day and each week by each employee; and
- (c) Such other information as the commissioner requires.

Good internal controls dictate that timesheets be kept for payroll verification, as a record of leave time used, and to document employees are working at least the minimum number of hours to be eligible for full-time benefits such as retirement and health insurance.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS: (Continued)

2017-003 The Sheriff's Office Lacks Adequate Internal Controls Over Payroll (Continued)

The Garrard County Personnel Policy and Procedures manual states "[1]unch periods will be taken in the period between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., except in the case of emergency or necessity as determined by the County Official or Department Head."

KRS 337.355 states, in part, "[e]mployers, except those subject to the Federal Railway Labor Act, shall grant their employees a reasonable period for lunch, and such time shall be as close to the middle of the employee's scheduled work shift as possible. In no case shall an employee be required to take a lunch period sooner than three (3) hours after his work shift commences, nor more than five (5) hours from the time his work shift commences."

We recommend the Garrard County Sheriff strengthen internal controls over payroll by maintaining leave balances, requiring employees and supervisors to sign timesheets, ensuring timesheets reflect actual hours worked, requiring all employees to maintain timesheets, and requiring employees to document lunch periods on their timesheets. We further recommend the official ensure employees are in compliance with the U.S. Department of Labor, state law, and the Garrard County Personnel Policy and Procedures Manual.

Sheriff's Response: Verbal reprimands with employees on timesheets. Timesheets improved. Verbal reprimand with administrative assistant over payroll and time sheets. Adding tracking for sick & leave time to payroll software.

2017-004 The Sheriff Failed To Properly Classify Employees As Hourly Or Salaried

This is a repeat finding from prior year audit report as finding 2016-008. The Garrard County Sheriff's office paid its school resource officer and bookkeeper on a monthly basis. Payroll checks were issued around the 25th of each month. The auditor was not able to support paycheck amounts by comparing payroll summary report and timesheets. Both employees prepared a timesheet; however, timesheets included overtime which could not be verified by reviewing payroll summary reports.

According to the sheriff, a significant portion of the Garrard County Sheriffs' employees (school resource officer and bookkeeper) are being treated as salaried. The sheriff's bookkeeper and school resource officer payroll summaries were not supported by timesheets for each employee. Payroll summaries did not include a breakdown of hours worked or include overtime incurred.

KRS 337.320(1) states:

Every employer shall keep a record of:

- (a) The amount paid each pay period to each employee;
- (b) The hours worked each day and each week by each employee; and
- (c) Such other information as the commissioner requires.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS: (Continued)

2017-004 The Sheriff Failed To Properly Classify Employees As Hourly Or Salaried (Continued)

Good internal controls dictate that timesheets be kept for payroll verification, as a record of leave time used, and to document employees are working at least the minimum number of hours to be eligible for full-time benefits such as retirement and health insurance.

KRS 337.285(1) states, "[n]o employer shall employ any of his employees for a work week longer than forty (40) hours, unless such employee receives compensation for his employment in excess of forty (40) hours in a work week at a rate of not less than one and one-half (1-1/2) times the hourly wage rate at which he is employed."

OAG 79-448, discusses Section 3 of the Kentucky Constitution stating that Section 3 "is unequivocal on the point that public emolument to any person must be based on the consideration of public services. By the strongest implication this means 'public services actually rendered.' It does not mean 'public services to be rendered.'"

803 KAR 1:070 Section 3(3)(a) states that, "[t]o qualify for the administrative exemption, an employee's primary duty shall include the exercise of discretion and independent judgment with respect to matters of significance. The exercise of discretion and independent judgment shall involve the comparison and the evaluation of possible courses of conduct, and acting or making a decision after the various possibilities have been considered. The term 'matters of significance' refers to the level of importance or consequence of the work performed. 803 KAR 1:070 Section 3(3)(b) states, "[f]actors to consider if determining whether an employee exercises discretion and independent judgment with respect to matters of significance include, but are not limited to: whether the employee has authority to...commit the employer in matters that have significant financial impact; whether the employee has authority to negotiate and bind the company on significant matters[.]"

803 KAR 1:070 section 10 defines a salaried employee as one being paid on a "salary basis," meaning an employee regularly receives a predetermined amount of compensation each pay period on a weekly, or less frequent, basis. The predetermined amount cannot be reduced because of variations in the quality or quantity of the employee's work. Subject to certain exceptions, an exempt employee must receive the full salary for any week in which the employee performs any work, regardless of the number of days or hours worked. In addition, Section 11 states that in order to qualify for exemption, employees generally must be paid at not less than \$455 per week on a salary basis. If the employer makes deductions from an employee's predetermined salary, i.e., because of the operating requirements of the business, that employee is not paid on a "salary basis."

Per the IRS website, "[u]nder common-law rules, anyone who performs services for you is your employee if you can control what will be done and how it will be done. This is so even when you give the employee freedom of action. What matters is that you have the right to control the details of how the services are performed." The general rule is that an individual is an independent contractor if the payer has the right to control or direct only the result of the work, not 'what' will be done and 'how' it will be done.

We recommend the sheriff contact the county attorney and the U.S. Department of Labor to obtain an opinion if any employee under his supervision can be considered a salaried employee.

Sheriff's Response: To the best my knowledge all has been corrected with this issue.