# REPORT OF THE AUDIT OF THE GARRARD COUNTY SHERIFF

For The Year Ended December 31, 2020



# 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, 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.

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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 the Garrard 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 Garrard 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 August 3, 2021, 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.

The Honorable John Wilson, Garrard County Judge/Executive The Honorable Tim Davis, Garrard County Sheriff Members of the Garrard County Fiscal Court

# Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards* (Continued)

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 Garrard County Sheriff Materially Misstated His Quarterly Report
- 2020-002 The Garrard County Sheriff Did Not Deposit Receipts Daily
- 2020-003 The Garrard County Sheriff Failed To Properly Classify Employees As Hourly Or Salaried
- 2020-004 The Garrard County Sheriff's Office Does Not Have Adequate Internal Controls Over Payroll

2020-005 The Garrard County Sheriff's Office Does Not Have Adequate Segregation Of Duties

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Harmon Auditor of Public Accounts

August 3, 2021

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

# For The Year Ended December 31, 2020

**Receipts** 

State - Kentucky Law Enforcement Foundation Program Fund (KLEFF	PF)		\$ 5,031
State Fees For Services: Finance and Administration Cabinet	\$	74,062	
Sheriff Security Service	-	8,666	82,728
Fiscal Court			287,678
County Clerk - Delinquent Taxes			25,191
Commission On Taxes Collected			286,988
Fees Collected For Services:			
Auto Inspections		3,395	
Accident and Police Reports		1,184	
Serving Papers		32,938	
Carry Concealed Deadly Weapon Permits		6,250	
Warrant Service		675	44,442
Other:			
Add-On Fees		27,906	
Miscellaneous		101	
Hold Harmless		4,728	
School Security		34,000	
Traffic School Fees		2,495	69,230

**Total Receipts** 

801,288

# GARRARD COUNTY TIM DAVIS, SHERIFF STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND EXCESS FEES - REGULATORY BASIS For The Year Ended December 31, 2020 (Continued)

# **Disbursements**

Operating Disbursements:				
Personnel Services-				
Deputies' Salaries	\$ 168,311			
KLEFPF	4,000			
Employee Benefits-				
Employer's Share Social Security	20,440			
Employer's Share Retirement	 51			
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Total Disbursements		\$	192,80	12
Net Receipts			608,48	6
Less: Statutory Maximum			90,56	2
Excess Fees			517.00	4
			517,92	
Less: Training Incentive Benefit			4,31	3
Excess Fees Due County for 2020			513,61	1
Payments to Fiscal Court - Monthly			513,61	
Balance Due Fiscal Court at Completion of Audit		\$		0

#### GARRARD 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 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

# 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. In accordance the County Fee Pooling Ordinance, the sheriff shall certify payroll to the county treasurer and the county shall reimburse the sheriff such payrolls.

# 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.

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 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.

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

# Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)

A. <u>Health Insurance Coverage - Tier 1</u>

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%

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.

GARRARD 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)

#### 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.

#### 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 Pension Amounts by Employer and the Schedules of Employer Allocations and the related actuarial tables are available online at <a href="https://kyret.ky.gov">https://kyret.ky.gov</a>. 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 Garrard 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.

#### Note 3. Deposits (Continued)

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 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. Forfeiture Accounts

Under terms mandated by the United States Department of Justice and the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Garrard County Sheriff's office received 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. <u>State Forfeiture Account</u>

The balance in the account as of January 1, 2020 was \$2,785. During 2020, there were no receipts or disbursements. The balance in the account as of December 31, 2020 was \$2,785.

#### B. Federal Forfeiture Account

The balance in the account as of January 1, 2020 was \$1,003. During 2020, there were no receipts or disbursements. The balance in the account as of December 31, 2020 was \$1,003

#### 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 of January 1, 2020 was \$2,104. During 2020, receipts were \$2,125 and disbursements were \$1,735. The balance in the account as of December 31, 2020 was \$2,494.

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, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statement and have issued our report thereon dated August 3, 2021. 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) 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 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 2020-001, 2020-002, 2020-003, 2020-004, and 2020-005 to be material weaknesses.

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# **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 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 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 2020-001, 2020-002, 2020-003, and 2020-004.

# 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

August 3, 2021

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, 2020

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS:

#### 2020-001 The Garrard County Sheriff Materially Misstated His Quarterly Report

This is a repeat finding and was included in the prior year audit report as finding 2019-003. The Garrard County Sheriff maintained a bank account for payroll expenditures. This is in accordance with the County's Fee Pooling Ordinance. The sheriff deposited \$287,678 funds from the county and disbursed these funds for payroll expenditures. These funds were not recorded on the sheriff's fourth quarter report, which serves as his financial statement, requiring material audit adjustments.

The sheriff did not have controls in place to ensure that his financial statement was materially accurate. A misstatement could result in an increased risk of uncorrected errors, theft, loss, or misappropriated assets.

KRS 134.192(11) requires a complete statement of all funds received by his or her office for official services, showing separately the total incomes received by his or her office for services rendered, exclusive of his or her commissions for collecting taxes, and the total funds received as commissions for collecting state, county, and school taxes, and a complete statement of all expenditures of his or her office.

We recommend the Garrard County Sheriff post all receipts and disbursements on his quarterly reports.

Sheriff's Response: Will have discussion with Judge Executive and County Treasurer to find out the problem and solution since we are fee pooled.

#### 2020-002 The Garrard County Sheriff Did Not Deposit Receipts Daily

This is a repeat finding and was included in the prior year audit report as finding 2019-002. The sheriff did not deposit receipts daily in 2020. The sheriff has not established internal controls requiring a daily deposit of all funds received by his office. The sheriff's bookkeeper indicated that she is batching receipts daily, however, if daily collections were minimal she would include multiple batched days into one deposit. The sheriff's office had planned to prepare deposits twice weekly unless daily receipts were considered significant.

Failure to deposit receipts daily is an issue of noncompliance 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 regards to receipts, governmental officials handling public funds are required to make "Daily deposits 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 under the authority granted by KRS 68.210.

Sheriff's Response: The office will do our best to comply. We do daily deposit during tax season.

# 2020-003 The Garrard County Sheriff Failed To Properly Classify Employees As Hourly Or Salaried

This is a repeat finding and was included in the prior year audit report as finding 2019-004. The Garrard County Sheriff's office paid its school resource officer and bookkeeper on a monthly basis. Payroll checks were issued around the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. We were not able to support paycheck amounts by comparing payroll summary reports and timesheets. Both employees prepared a timesheet.

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.

KRS 337.320(1) states, "[e]very 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 executive director 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.

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 "[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. (b)...Factors 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 waive or deviate from established policies and procedures without prior approval; 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."

# 2020-003 The Garrard County Sheriff Failed To Properly Classify Employees As Hourly Or Salaried (Continued)

Per the IRS website "Under 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/or 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 my knowledge all employees are assigned an hourly wage, paid accordingly. We check and follow auditor's office recommendations. Check with Co. Atty.

# 2020-004 The Garrard County Sheriff's Office Does Not Have Adequate Internal Controls Over Payroll

This is a repeat finding and was included in the prior year audit report as finding 2019-005. 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:

- County Personnel Policy requires a lunch period to be taken. Documentation of a lunch period was not annotated on two timesheets.
- Bookkeeper timesheets were not footed correctly.
- Two timesheets were not signed by a supervisor.
- Payroll summary for administrative staff was not supported by accurate timesheets associated with pay period tested.

Due to the lack of internal controls the payroll issues above were undocumented and uncorrected. The sheriff is not in compliance with federal and state labor regulations or the county's personnel policy and procedure manual.

KRS 337.320(1) states, "[e]very 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 executive director 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.

2020-004 The Garrard County Sheriff's Office Does Not Have Adequate Internal Controls Over Payroll (Continued)

The Garrard County Personnel Policy and Procedures manual states, "Lunch 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."

The United States Department of Labor - Wage and Hour Division defines Kentucky's "Minimum Length of Meal Period Required under State Law for Adult Employees in Private Sector" as "Reasonable off-duty period, ordinarily ½ hour but shorter period permitted under special conditions, between 3rd and 5th hour of work. Not counted as time worked. Coffee breaks and snack time not to be included in meal period."

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 requiring employees and supervisors to sign timesheets, ensure timesheets reflect actual hours worked, and require employees to document lunch periods on timecards. 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: Met with [name redacted] and [name redacted] to make sure they fill out time sheets correctly and sign and supervisor.

#### 2020-005 The Garrard County Sheriff's Office Does Not Have Adequate Segregation Of Duties

This is a repeat finding and was included in the prior year audit report as finding 2019-001. The sheriff's office does not have segregation of duties over receipt, disbursements, and monthly reconciliations. Internal control procedures indicate the sheriff's bookkeeper opens mail, collects payments from customers, prepares deposits, prepares/signs checks, posts transactions to the receipts and disbursements ledgers, prepares monthly and quarterly reports, and prepares monthly bank reconciliations. According to the sheriff, the lack of segregation of duties as part of his daily office functions is due to lack of funding.

The sheriff does not have segregation of duties as part of the internal control procedures for his office. The lack of 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.

Good internal controls dictate the same employee should not handle, record, and reconcile receipts. Further, the same employee should not be responsible for preparing, recording, and reconciling disbursements. The segregation of duties over various accounting functions such as opening mail, preparing deposits, recording receipts and disbursements, and preparing monthly reports, or the implementation of compensating controls is essential for providing protection from asset misappropriation and inaccurate financial reporting.

# 2020-005 The Garrard County Sheriff's Office Does Not Have Adequate Segregation Of Duties (Continued)

Additionally, proper segregation of duties protects employees in the normal course of performing their daily responsibilities. If this is not feasible due to budgetary constraints, cross checking procedures could be implemented and documented by the individual performing the procedure.

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 the ledgers. However, if an adequate segregation of duties is not feasible, compensating controls should be implemented and documented by the individual performing the procedure.

Sheriff's Response: Will work with Judge Executive and Fiscal Court about funding and approval for more staff.