

## Auditor of Public Accounts Mike Harmon

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## Harmon Releases Agreed-Upon Procedures Engagement of Henderson County Clerk's Fee Account

**FRANKFORT, Ky.** – State Auditor Mike Harmon today released the 2019 agreed-upon procedures engagement of Henderson County Clerk Renesa Abner. State law requires the auditor to conduct annual audits of county clerks and sheriffs.

In 2018 the Kentucky General Assembly, following a recommendation by the State Auditor, passed legislation that allows county sheriffs and clerks that met certain criteria to apply for an Agreed-Upon Procedures (AUP) engagement in lieu of an audit of their fee account. The intent of the change, which became effective in July 2018, was to reduce audit costs for sheriffs and clerks that have a history of clean audits, while still maintaining an appropriate level of accountability.

The Henderson County Clerk applied for and received approval from the Auditor of Public Accounts (APA) to obtain an AUP engagement for calendar year 2019 in accordance with KRS 43.070(1)(c). AUP reports present the procedures performed and the results of those procedures, called findings. Auditors performed the procedures, which were agreed to by the Henderson County Clerk, on receipts and disbursements, excess fees, recordkeeping, and leases, contracts, and liabilities for the period January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019.

The following exception was identified during the AUP engagement:

• The county clerk's operating disbursements were compared to the county clerk's approved budget and the county clerk over spent her operating budget. The operating budget was overspent by \$5,169.

County Clerk's Response: This occurred in the NSF line. It is impossible to predict the amount of bad checks we will receive.

• Excess fees due to the fiscal court were recalculated and there are \$6 of excess fees due to the fiscal court.

County Clerk's Response: Due to an outage, we overpaid fiscal court by \$6 in 2018. The correction showed as an under payment of \$6 in 2019.

The county clerk's responsibilities include collecting certain taxes, issuing licenses, maintaining county records and providing other services. The clerk's office is funded through statutory fees collected in conjunction with these duties.

The agreed-upon procedures report can be found on the <u>auditor's website</u>.

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