

**REPORT OF THE AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS  
AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES ENGAGEMENT  
OF THE  
HOPKINS COUNTY SHERIFF**

**For The Period  
January 1, 2023 Through December 31, 2023**



**ALLISON BALL  
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**ALLISON BALL**  
**AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**

**SUMMARY OF PROCEDURES AND FINDINGS**

**AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES OF THE  
HOPKINS COUNTY SHERIFF**

For The Period January 1, 2023 Through December 31, 2023

The Hopkins County Sheriff applied for and received approval from the Auditor of Public Accounts (APA) to obtain an Agreed-Upon Procedures (AUP) engagement for calendar year 2023 in accordance with KRS 43.070(1)(c). AUP reports present the procedures performed and the results of those procedures, called findings. The summary below presents those findings for which an exception (an instance of noncompliance with the criteria) was identified during the AUP engagement.

During the AUP engagement of the Hopkins County Sheriff, the following exceptions were noted:

- The sheriff's fourth quarter financial statement receipts agreed to the receipts ledger. However, Kentucky Law Enforcement Foundation Program Fund disbursements on the sheriff's fourth quarter financial statement varied to the sheriff's disbursements ledger by \$59,796.
- The sheriff did perform monthly bank reconciliations. The December 31, 2023 bank reconciliations were accurate for all accounts except the Fee and Transfer Accounts. The Fee Account reconciliation was inaccurate due to erroneously including a duplicate deposit. The Transfer Account handles all credit card transactions and is a holding account. Outstanding liabilities, which should have reconciled the account to zero, were omitted from the Transfer Account reconciliation.
- The sheriff prepared an annual asset forfeiture report online; however, the sheriff did not maintain a copy or submit the report to the APA. Assets were traced to bank deposits, the receipt ledger, or the asset ledger. Amounts owed to the Commonwealth Attorney were remitted.

Findings related to procedures for which there were no exceptions identified, and official responses to exceptions are not included in the summary above, but can be found in the full report. A copy of this report is available on the Auditor of Public Accounts' website at [auditor.ky.gov](http://auditor.ky.gov).

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Ball  
Auditor of Public Accounts  
Frankfort, KY

August 28, 2024



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ALLISON BALL  
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Independent Accountant's Report  
On Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

The Honorable Jack Whitfield, Hopkins County Judge/Executive  
The Honorable Matt Sanderson, Hopkins County Sheriff  
Members of the Hopkins County Fiscal Court

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by the Hopkins County Sheriff, related to the sheriff's compliance with the Department for Local Government's *County Budget Preparation and State Local Finance Officer Policy Manual* regarding the accountability for receipts and disbursements, excess fees, recordkeeping, and leases, contracts, and liabilities for the period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. An agreed-upon procedures engagement involves the APA performing specific procedures that the sheriff has agreed to and acknowledged to be appropriate for the intended purpose of the engagement and reporting on findings based on the procedures performed. The Hopkins County Sheriff is responsible for compliance with these requirements. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of those parties specified in this report. Consequently, we make no representations regarding the sufficiency of the procedures enumerated below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose. The Hopkins County Sheriff has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of determining the sheriff's compliance with the Department for Local Government's *County Budget Preparation and State Local Finance Officer Policy Manual* regarding the accountability for receipts and disbursements, excess fees, recordkeeping, and leases, contracts, and liabilities. The purpose of the engagement is to assist users in determining whether the sheriff complied with the specified requirements. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

Our procedures and findings are as follows:

1. Compliance Procedure -

Determine if the sheriff has a fourth quarter financial statement, a receipts ledger, and a disbursements ledger.

Finding -

No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

2. Procedure -

Determine that the sheriff's fourth quarter financial statement agrees to the sheriff's receipts ledger and disbursements ledger. Variances in total receipts or total disbursements that exceed 1% of gross receipts or exceed \$20,000 will be reported.

Finding -

The sheriff's fourth quarter financial statement receipts agreed to the receipts ledger. However, Kentucky Law Enforcement Foundation Program Fund disbursements on the sheriff's fourth quarter financial statement varied to the sheriff's disbursements ledger by \$59,796.



The Honorable Jack Whitfield, Hopkins County Judge/Executive  
The Honorable Matt Sanderson, Hopkins County Sheriff  
Members of the Hopkins County Fiscal Court  
(Continued)

2. (Continued)

*Sheriff's Response: A formula was off on the spreadsheet that we were utilizing. It has now been corrected.*

3. Compliance Procedure -

Compare the sheriff's operating disbursements (fourth quarter or settlement amounts) to the budget approved by the fiscal court to determine if the sheriff overspent the budget. Overages that exceed 1% of gross receipts or exceed \$20,000 will be reported.

Finding -

No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

4. Compliance Procedure -

Determine if the sheriff provided a settlement of excess fees to fiscal court by March 15, 2024 and determine if excess fees were remitted at that time.

Finding -

No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

5. Procedure -

Obtain a list of accounts prepared by the sheriff that are applicable to the current calendar year.

Finding -

No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure. The sheriff maintains fee, drug, federal forfeiture, donation, seizure, and transfer accounts.

6. Compliance Procedure -

Determine if the sheriff reconciles all bank accounts monthly. Re-perform the bank reconciliations for all accounts as of December 31, 2023, to determine the reconciled ending balances and if bank reconciliations are accurate.

Finding -

The sheriff did perform monthly bank reconciliations. The December 31, 2023 bank reconciliations were accurate for all accounts except the Fee and Transfer Accounts. The Fee Account reconciliation was inaccurate due to erroneously including a duplicate deposit. The Transfer Account handles all credit card transactions and is a holding account. Outstanding liabilities, which should have reconciled the account to zero, were omitted from the Transfer Account reconciliation.

The Honorable Jack Whitfield, Hopkins County Judge/Executive  
 The Honorable Matt Sanderson, Hopkins County Sheriff  
 Members of the Hopkins County Fiscal Court  
 (Continued)

6. (Continued)

The balances of the sheriff's accounts are:

Account Name:	Reconciled Account Balance:
Fee Account-Odd	\$ 0
Drug Account	\$ 19,723
Federal Forfeiture Account	\$ 17,319
Donation Account	\$ 8,485
Seizure Account	\$ 23,342
Transfer Account	\$ 142,614
ERAD Seizure Account	\$ 0

*Sheriff's Response: The transfer account will be handled daily.*

7. Compliance Procedure -

Determine if receipts are properly accounted for by comparing batched receipts to daily check-out sheets, deposit tickets, receipts ledger, and bank statements for a randomly selected week.

Finding -

No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

8. Compliance Procedure -

Determine if the sheriff completed an annual asset forfeiture report. Determine if assets forfeited to the sheriff, are properly accounted for by tracing the asset to a bank deposit, receipts ledger, or asset ledger and determine if amounts due for the prosecuting attorney were remitted in accordance with KRS 218A.420.

Finding -

The sheriff prepared an annual asset forfeiture report online; however, the sheriff did not maintain a copy or submit the report to the APA. Assets were traced to bank deposits, the receipt ledger, or the asset ledger. Amounts owed to the Commonwealth Attorney were remitted.

*Sheriff's Response: This is new to us and we will make sure it is done in the future.*

9. Procedure -

Determine if tax commissions are properly accounted for by computing the sheriff's current calendar year tax commission. Compare amount recorded on the fourth quarter financial statement to the computation of tax commissions. Variances that exceed 1% of gross receipts or exceed \$20,000 will be reported.

Finding -

No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

The Honorable Jack Whitfield, Hopkins County Judge/Executive  
 The Honorable Matt Sanderson, Hopkins County Sheriff  
 Members of the Hopkins County Fiscal Court  
 (Continued)

10. Procedure -

Judgmentally select 15 operating disbursements from the sheriff's records and agree amounts paid to invoices or other supporting documentation and cancelled check. Determine if the disbursement is for official business. Inspect all credit card statements (if any) to determine if disbursements are for official business. Verify that any state advancement was repaid.

Finding -

No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

11. Procedure -

Determine excess fees due to the fiscal court by recalculating the difference between total receipts and total disbursements. Verify amounts paid to determine if additional excess fees are due to the fiscal court.

Finding -

Excess fees due to the fiscal court were recalculated and there are no additional excess fee due to the fiscal court.

Total Receipts	\$ 1,585,695
Total Disbursements	<u>183,993</u>
Excess Fees Due County for 2023	1,401,702
Payments to Fiscal Court	<u>1,401,702</u>
Balance Due Fiscal Court	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>

12. Compliance Procedure -

Verify the sheriff's maximum salary order for deputies was not overspent.

Finding -

Not applicable to fee pooling counties.

13. Compliance Procedure -

Determine whether payroll charges are properly supported by verifying that timesheets are completed, maintained, approved, and support hours paid by inspecting one pay period's timesheets for all employees. (Not applicable to fee pooling counties)

Finding -

Not applicable to fee pooling counties.



The Honorable Jack Whitfield, Hopkins County Judge/Executive  
The Honorable Matt Sanderson, Hopkins County Sheriff  
Members of the Hopkins County Fiscal Court  
(Continued)

14. Compliance Procedure -

Determine that the sheriff was paid the statutory salary as fixed by the Department for Local Government salary schedule.

Finding -

The sheriff was paid \$127,010. The statutorily required salary was \$127,010.

15. Procedure -

Scan lease agreements and service contracts and compare to actual payments. Determine if services received were appropriate, for official business, and properly authorized. Determine if liabilities requiring disclosure were properly disclosed on the fourth quarter financial statement.

Finding -

No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

16. Compliance Procedure -

Verify the sheriff is properly bonded for the period covered by the agreed upon procedures.

Finding -

No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

We were engaged by the Hopkins County Sheriff to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. We were not engaged to, and did not conduct an examination or review, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on compliance with specified requirements. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of the Hopkins County Sheriff and to meet our ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

The purpose of this report is to present the procedures performed and the results of those procedures and is not intended for any other purpose. This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Hopkins County Sheriff and the Hopkins County Fiscal Court, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than the specified parties.

Respectfully submitted,



Allison Ball  
Auditor of Public Accounts  
Frankfort, KY

August 28, 2024