

Auditor of Public Accounts Mike Harmon

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

FRANKFORT, Ky. – State Auditor Mike Harmon today released the 2022 agreed-upon procedures engagement of Metcalfe County Clerk Shannon Fields. 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 Metcalfe County Clerk applied for and received approval from the Auditor of Public Accounts (APA) to obtain an AUP engagement for calendar year 2022 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 Metcalfe County Clerk, on receipts and disbursements, excess fees, recordkeeping, and leases, contracts, and liabilities for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

The following exception was identified during the AUP engagement:

• The county clerk did not perform formal monthly bank reconciliations on two bank accounts due to no activity. The county clerk signed the bank statements noting she reviewed them but did not document verification of balances with accounting records. The December 31, 2022 bank reconciliations were accurate.

County Clerk's Response: Spoke to an auditor during last audit asking how to handle bank accts with no activity, the response was to initial showing I had reviewed them.

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 auditor's website.

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