



Auditor of Public Accounts
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Harmon Releases Agreed-Upon Procedures Engagement of Nelson County Sheriff's Office

FRANKFORT, Ky. – State Auditor Mike Harmon today released the 2021 agreed-upon procedures engagement of Nelson County Sheriff Ramon Pineiroa. State law requires the auditor to annually audit the accounts of each county sheriff. In compliance with this law, the auditor issues two sheriff's reports each year: one reporting on the audit of the sheriff's tax account, and the other reporting on the audit of the fee account used to operate the office.

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 Nelson County Sheriff applied for and received approval from the Auditor of Public Accounts (APA) to obtain an AUP engagement for calendar year 2021 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 Nelson County Sheriff, on receipts and disbursements, excess fees, recordkeeping, and leases, contracts, and liabilities for the period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

The following exceptions were identified during the AUP engagement:

- **The sheriff's operating disbursements were compared to the sheriff's approved budget and the sheriff overspent his operating budget in the amount of \$115,456. However, per the sheriff, this was due to an unbudgeted disbursement made to correct a deposit error in the amount of \$155,448.**

County Sheriff's Response: Commission deposit was accidentally deposited into the wrong account; had to write check in order to fix the issue.

- **Excess fees due to the fiscal court were recalculated and there are \$594 additional excess fee due to the fiscal court.**

County Sheriff's Response: No response.

- **Payroll charges were not properly supported by timesheets. Approved timesheets were maintained by the sheriff.**

County Sheriff's Response: No response.

- **The sheriff's agreements and contract payments agreed to cost schedules and the services received were appropriate, for official business, and properly authorized. Liabilities requiring disclosure were not disclosed properly on the fourth quarter financial statement.**

County Sheriff's Response: No response.

The sheriff's responsibilities include collecting property taxes, providing law enforcement and performing services for the county fiscal court and courts of justice. The sheriff's office is funded through statutory commissions and fees collected in conjunction with these duties.

The agreed-upon procedures report can be found on the [auditor's website](#).

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