



Auditor of Public Accounts Allison Ball

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Joy Pidgorodetska Markland
Joy.Markland@ky.gov
502.352.5216
502.209.2867

Ball Releases Agreed-Upon Procedures Engagement of Webster County Clerk's Fee Account

FRANKFORT, Ky. – State Auditor Allison Ball today released the 2023 agreed-upon procedures engagement of Webster County Clerk Valerie Newell. 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 Webster County Clerk applied for and received approval from the Auditor of Public Accounts (APA) to obtain an 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. Auditors performed the procedures, which were agreed to by the Webster County Clerk, on receipts and disbursements, excess fees, recordkeeping, leases, contracts, and liabilities for the period January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023.

The following exception was identified during the AUP engagement:

- The county clerk's fourth quarter financial statement could not be agreed to the county clerk's receipts and disbursement ledgers since the county clerk failed to maintain cumulative totals on the receipts and disbursements ledgers.

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](#).

###

The Auditor of Public Accounts ensures that public resources are protected, accurately valued, properly accounted for, and effectively employed to raise the quality of life of Kentuckians.

Call 1-800-KY-ALERT or visit our website to report suspected waste and abuse.

