



Auditor of Public Accounts
Mike Harmon

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Michael Goins
Michael.Goins@ky.gov
502.564.5841
502.209.2867

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

FRANKFORT, Ky. – State Auditor Mike Harmon today released the 2018 agreed-upon procedures engagement of former Laurel County Clerk Dean Johnson. 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 former Laurel County Clerk applied for and received approval from the Auditor of Public Accounts (APA) to obtain an AUP engagement for calendar year 2018 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 former Laurel County Clerk, on receipts and disbursements, excess fees, recordkeeping, and leases, contracts, and liabilities for the period January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

The following exceptions were identified during the AUP engagement:

- **The December 31, 2018 bank reconciliations for the fee, payroll, and library archives account were accurate. No bank reconciliations were performed for the former county clerk's escrow account.**

Former county clerk's response: No response.

- **According the former county clerk's fourth quarter financial report, excess fees due to the fiscal court were calculated at \$396,303; however, the bank balance reflected \$406,348, resulting in a variance of \$10,045. No additional excess fees are due to the fiscal court.**

Former county clerk's response: No response.

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.

