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FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND
AUDITORS' REPORT

CALCASIEU PARISH TAX COLLECTOR
Lake Charles, Louisiana

Year ended June 30, 1999

Under provisions of state law, this report is a public document. A copy of the report has been submitted to the audited, or reviewed, entity and other appropriate public officials. The report is available for public inspection at the Baton Rouge office of the Legislative Auditor and, where appropriate, at the office of the parish clerk of court.

Release Date 1-19-2000

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Honorable Wayne F. McElveen
Calcasieu Parish Sheriff and
Ex-Officio Tax Collector
Lake Charles, Louisiana

We have audited the statement of collections, distributions and unsettled balances of the Calcasieu Parish Tax Collector, a component unit of the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff, as of and for the year ended June 30, 1999, as listed in the table of contents. This financial statement is the responsibility of the Calcasieu Parish Tax Collector's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note A, the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff is the ex-officio tax collector for the various taxing bodies within Calcasieu Parish, and the accompanying statement presents information only on his activities as parish tax collector. Further, the accompanying statement of collections, distributions, and unsettled balances has been prepared on a cash basis of accounting, without recognition of receivables and payables relating to tax collection activity. Accordingly, the accompanying statement is not intended to present the financial position and results of operations of the Calcasieu Parish Tax Collector in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statement referred to in the first paragraph presents fairly, in all material respects, the collections, distributions, and unsettled balances of the Calcasieu Parish Tax Collector, as of and for the year ended June 30, 1999 on the basis of accounting described in Note A.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued a report dated November 8, 1999 on our consideration of the Calcasieu Parish Tax Collector's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants.

Langley, Williams & Co., L.L.C.

November 8, 1999

CALCASIEU PARISH TAX COLLECTOR
Statement of Collections, Distributions,
and Unsettled Balances
For The Year Ended June 30, 1999

Unsettled balances at June 30, 1998	\$	744,673
Collections:		
Ad valorem taxes		82,073,163
Prior year ad valorem taxes		427,705
Angling, hunting, and trapping licenses		833,811
Interest on:		
Delinquent taxes		183,813
Protest taxes		1,759
Investments		281,814
State revenue sharing		3,771,415
Refunds and redemptions		660,623
Tax notices		73,437
Total collections		88,307,540
Distributions:		
Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries		836,304
LA Forestry Commission		15,162
LA Tax Commission		16,685
Calcasieu Parish:		
CP Police Jury		27,059,827
CP School Board		23,242,733
CP Drainage Districts		3,274,277
CP Waterworks Districts		905,198
CP Recreation Districts		3,856,096
CP Fire Protection Districts		330,269
CP Port, Harbor & Terminal Districts		1,527,767
CP Airport District		291,573
CP Sheriff		12,168,263
CP Assessor		1,111,854
Chennault Authority		4,060,875
City of Lake Charles		4,904,234
City of Sulphur		1,029,315
City of Westlake		79,369
Pension funds		2,175,527
Refunds and redemptions		660,623
Total distributions		87,545,951
Unsettled balances at June 30, 1999	\$	1,506,262

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

CALCASIEU PARISH TAX COLLECTOR

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 1999

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

As provided by Article V, Section 27 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, the sheriff is the ex-officio tax collector of the parish. He is responsible for the collection and distribution of ad valorem property taxes; state revenue sharing funds; angling, hunting, and trapping licenses; fines; costs; and bond forfeitures imposed by the state district court.

Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513(B) requires that the accounts of each tax collector be examined annually. Accordingly, the accompanying statement reflects financial activity of the sheriff related only to his responsibility as ex-officio tax collector. Amounts included in this report are included in the sheriff's annual general purpose financial statements.

The accounts of the tax collector are established to reflect the collections imposed by law, distributions pursuant to such law, and unsettled balances due various taxing bodies and others. The accompanying financial statement has been prepared on the cash basis of accounting, with collections recognized when received and distributions reflected when paid.

As the governing authority of the parish, the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury is the financial reporting entity for Calcasieu Parish for reporting purposes. The financial reporting entity consists of (a) the primary government (police jury), (b) organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable, and (c) other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 14 established criteria for determining which component units should be considered part of the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff for financial reporting purposes. The basic criterion of including a potential component unit within the reporting entity is financial accountability.

This criteria includes:

1. Appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body, and
 - a. The ability of the Sheriff to impose its will on that organization and/or
 - b. The potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to or impose specific financial burdens on the Sheriff.

CALCASIEU PARISH TAX COLLECTOR
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 1999

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

2. Organizations for which the Sheriff does not appoint a voting majority but are fiscally dependent on the Sheriff.
3. Organizations for which the reporting entity financial statements would be misleading if data of the organizations were not included because of the nature or significance of the relationship.

The Sheriff's financial statements would be misleading if data of the organization was not included and due to the nature and significance of the relationship, the Calcasieu Parish Tax Collector was determined to be a component unit of the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff, which is a component unit of the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury, the financial reporting entity. The accompanying financial statement presents information only on the funds maintained by the Calcasieu Parish Tax Collector and does not present information on the Sheriff, the general government services provided by that government unit, or the other governmental units that comprise the financial reporting entity.

NOTE B - CASH

Under state law, the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff and Tax Collector's deposits must be secured by federal deposit insurance and/or the pledge of securities owned by the financial institution as collateral. At June 30, 1999 the Calcasieu Parish Tax Collector had deposits totaling \$1,545,901. These deposits were covered by federal depository insurance and by collateral pledged in the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff and Tax Collector's name from the respective financial institutions.

CALCASIEU PARISH TAX COLLECTOR
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 1999

NOTE C - STATE REVENUE SHARING FUNDS

The revenue sharing funds provided by Act 1220 of 1995 were distributed as follows:

Calcasieu Parish:		
Police jury		\$ 1,554,557
Police jury (for district attorney)		160,264
School board		942,350
Sheriff:		
Law enforcement districts		381,428
Commissions		448,283
Assessor		73,721
Vinton port, harbor and terminal district		3,205
Lake Charles port, harbor and terminal district		89,748
Retirement Funds:		
Assessor		11,011
Clerks of Court		11,011
District Attorney		6,498
Municipal Employee		11,011
Parochial Employee		11,011
Registrar of Voters' Employee		1,250
Sheriff		22,022
Teachers		<u>44,045</u>
		<u>\$ 3,771,415</u>

NOTE D - TAXES PAID UNDER PROTEST

The unsettled balance at June 30, 1999 includes \$570,320 of taxes paid under protest in the amounts represented as follows:

<u>Taxpayer</u>	<u>Tax Year Under Protest</u>	<u>Unsettled Balance</u>
Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.	1997	\$ 50,968
BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.	1998	<u>519,352</u>
		<u>\$ 570,320</u>

These funds are being held pending resolution of the protest.

CALCASIEU PARISH TAX COLLECTOR

Notes to Financial Statements

For the Year Ended June 30, 1999

NOTE E - SERVICE AGREEMENT

The Sheriff as ex-officio tax collector of the Parish has service agreements with the City of Lake Charles and its subdivisions and the City of Sulphur and its subdivisions to collect ad valorem taxes and grass liens. In addition, effective November 9, 1997, the Sheriff signed an agreement with the City of Westlake to collect ad valorem taxes and grass liens for the City of Westlake and its subdivisions. These agreements are under the authority of Article VII, Section 14 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974. Fees charged to compensate for the increased costs of collecting these ad valorem taxes are paid annually and are included in the Sheriff's general fund.

NOTE F - PENSION FUNDS

The office of the Legislative Auditor annually prepares a statement showing amounts to be deducted from current year tax collections for contributions to Pension Funds. For the 1998 tax year this amount was \$2,057,666. In addition, each year a portion of the State Revenue Sharing is allocated for retirement contributions. For the 1998 tax year, this amount was \$117,861. Below is a breakdown of the total dollars that were disbursed to the various Pension Funds.

Assessors' Retirement Fund	\$ 204,160
Clerk's of Court Retirement and Relief Fund	204,160
District Attorney's Retirement System	112,130
Municipal Employee's Retirement System	204,160
Parochial Employee's Retirement System of Louisiana	204,160
Registrar of Voters Employee's Retirement System	21,798
Sheriff's Pension and Relief Fund	408,320
Teachers' Retirement System	<u>816,639</u>
	<u>\$ 2,175,527</u>



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REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Honorable Wayne F. McElveen
Calcasieu Parish Sheriff and
Ex-Officio Tax Collector
Lake Charles, LA 70601

We have audited the statement of collections, distributions and unsettled balances of the Calcasieu Parish Tax Collector, a component unit of the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff, as of and for the year ended June 30, 1999, and have issued our report thereon dated November 8, 1999. We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Compliance

As part of obtaining assurance about whether the Calcasieu Parish Tax Collector's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Calcasieu Parish Tax Collector's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that the misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

Honorable Wayne F. McElveen
Calcasieu Parish Sheriff and
Ex-Officio Tax Collector
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This report is intended for the information of management and other state and federal agencies and pass-through entities. However this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Randy R. Williams & Co., LLC

November 8, 1999

CALCASIEU PARISH TAX COLLECTOR
Audit Findings and Questioned Costs
For the Year Ended June 30, 1999

SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS

1. The auditors' report expresses an unqualified opinion on the financial statements of the Calcasieu Parish Tax Collector.
2. No reportable conditions disclosed during the audit of the financial statements in the report on compliance and internal control over financial reporting based on an audit of financial statements performed in accordance with Governmental Auditing Standards.
3. No instances of noncompliance were disclosed during the audit.
4. A separate management letter was not issued.

FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

There were no findings and questioned costs noted during the audits of the current year or prior year financial statements in accordance with Government Auditing Standards.