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**IBERIA PARISH SHERIFF
(AS EX-OFFICIO PARISH TAX COLLECTOR)
New Iberia, Louisiana**

FINANCIAL REPORT

JUNE 30, 2000

Under provisions of state law, this report is a public document. A copy of the report has been submitted to the 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 1-24-01

IBERIA PARISH SHERIFF
(AS EX-OFFICIO PARISH TAX COLLECTOR)
NEW IBERIA, LOUISIANA

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000

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BROUSSARD, POCHE, LEWIS & BREAUX, L.L.P.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

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Lawrence A. Cramer, CPA* 1999
Michael P. Crochet, CPA* 1999

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The Honorable Sid Hebert
Iberia Parish Sheriff as
Ex-Officio Parish Tax Collector
New Iberia, Louisiana

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities and the statement of collections, distributions and unsettled balances of the Tax Collector Fund (agency fund) of Iberia Parish Sheriff as of and for the year ended June 30, 2000. The financial statements are the responsibility of Iberia Parish Sheriff as Ex-Officio Parish Tax Collector. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, the standards for financial and compliance audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. 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.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the assets and liabilities and the collections, distributions and unsettled balances of the Tax Collector Fund (agency fund) of Iberia Parish Sheriff as of June 30, 2000 and for the year then ended in conformity with the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated November 30, 2000 on our consideration of Iberia Parish Sheriff as Ex-Officio Parish Tax Collector's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants.

Broussard, Poché, Lewis & Breau, L.L.P.

New Iberia, Louisiana
November 30, 2000

IBERIA PARISH SHERIFF
NEW IBERIA, LOUISIANA
TAX COLLECTOR AGENCY FUND

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
June 30, 2000

ASSETS

Cash

\$ 353,653

LIABILITIES

Due to taxing bodies and others

\$ 353,653

See Notes to Financial Statements.

IBERIA PARISH SHERIFF
NEW IBERIA, LOUISIANA
TAX COLLECTOR AGENCY FUND

STATEMENT OF COLLECTIONS, DISTRIBUTIONS AND UNSETTLED BALANCES
Year Ended June 30, 2000

Unsettled balances at July 1, 1999		\$	377,403
Collections:			
Ad valorem taxes	\$14,848,412		
State revenue sharing	1,538,702		
Sporting licenses	165,696		
Interest on -			
Delinquent taxes	14,576		
Deposits of taxes, licenses	59,452		
Refunds and redemptions	22,261		
Tax notices	7,139		
Miscellaneous	<u>1,402</u>		
Total collections			<u>16,657,640</u>
Total			\$17,035,043
Distributions:			
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries	\$ 183,386		
Louisiana Tax Commission	4,497		
Atchafalaya Basin Levee District	69,947		
Forest Protection District	5,164		
Teche-Vermilion Freshwater District	215,394		
Iberia Parish -			
Council	5,290,730		
School Board	7,506,491		
Recreation District No. 8	25,784		
Sheriff	2,278,048		
Assessor	521,964		
Pension funds	441,417		
Refunds and redemptions	134,925		
Other	<u>3,643</u>		
Total distributions			<u>16,681,390</u>
Unsettled balances at June 30, 2000			<u>\$ 353,653</u>

See Notes to Financial Statements.

IBERIA PARISH SHERIFF
NEW IBERIA, LOUISIANA

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 1. 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 and is responsible for the collection and distribution of ad valorem property taxes, state revenue sharing funds, and angling, hunting and trapping licenses.

Louisiana Revised Statute 24:517(D) requires that the accounts of each tax collector be audited annually. Accordingly, the accompanying statement reflects financial activity of the Sheriff relating only to his responsibility as ex-officio tax collector. Amounts included in this report are also 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 to various taxing bodies and others. The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the cash basis of accounting, with collections recognized when received and distributions reflected when paid.

Note 2. Cash

State law authorizes the Sheriff to deposit tax collections in a bank domiciled in the parish where the funds are collected. At June 30, 2000, the Sheriff had cash totaling \$353,653, representing unsettled balances. Deposit balances at June 30, 2000 of \$481,946 were included in the total deposits for the Sheriff's Office and were therefore, secured in the same manner as the Sheriff's deposits. Collateral included federal deposit insurance, collateral held by the Sheriff's fiscal agent in the Sheriff's name and collateral held by the pledging financial institution's trust department in the Sheriff's name.

Note 3. State Revenue Sharing Funds

The revenue sharing funds provided by Act 37 of 1994 received during the year were allocated among the taxing bodies as follows:

Atchafalaya Basin Levee District	\$ 23,094
Teche - Vermilion Freshwater District	29,142
Recreation District No. 8	6,399
Iberia Parish:	
Council	652,493
School Board	580,707
Sheriff	210,906
Pension funds	<u>35,961</u>
Total	<u>\$ 1,538,702</u>

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 4. Unsettled Balances

The unsettled cash balance at June 30, 2000 of \$353,653 consists of the following:

Motor vehicle property taxes	\$ 70,034
Back taxes	3,254
Taxes paid under protest	115,118
Interest earned on taxes	70,522
Ad valorem taxes	<u>94,725</u>
Total	<u>\$ 353,653</u>



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

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The Honorable Sid Hebert
Iberia Parish Sheriff as
Ex-Officio Parish Tax Collector
New Iberia, Louisiana

We have audited the Tax Collector Fund (agency fund) financial statements of Iberia Parish Sheriff as of and for the year ended June 30, 2000, and have issued our report thereon dated November 30, 2000. Our report states that the statement of assets and liabilities and the statement of collections, distributions and unsettled balances have been prepared on the cash basis of accounting which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. 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 reasonable assurance about whether Iberia Parish Sheriff as Ex-Officio 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.

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Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered Iberia Parish Sheriff as Ex-Officio 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. However, we noted a certain matter involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be a reportable condition. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control over financial reporting that, in our judgment, could adversely affect Iberia Parish Sheriff as Ex-Officio Parish Tax Collector's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements. The reportable condition is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as item 2000-1.

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 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. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered material weaknesses. However, the reportable condition described above is considered a material weakness.

This report is intended for the information of management and the Legislative Auditor. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Broussard, Poche', Lewis + Breauy, L.L.P.

New Iberia, Louisiana
November 30, 2000

IBERIA PARISH SHERIFF
NEW IBERIA, LOUISIANA

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
Year Ended June 30, 2000

We have audited the financial statements of Iberia Parish Sheriff as Ex-Officio Parish Tax Collector as of and for the year ended June 30, 2000, and have issued our report thereon dated November 30, 2000. 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. Our audit of the financial statements as of June 30, 2000 resulted in an unqualified opinion.

Section I - Summary of Auditors' Reports

A. Report on Internal Control and Compliance Material to the Financial Statements

Internal Control

Material Weaknesses	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Reportable Conditions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> None reported

Compliance

Compliance Material to Financial Statements	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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Section II - Financial Statement Findings

2000-1 - Segregation of Duties

Finding: The Tax Collector does not have an adequate segregation of duties. A system of internal control procedures contemplates a segregation of duties so that no one individual handles a transaction from its inception to its completion. While we recognize the Tax Collector may not be large enough to permit such procedures, it is important that you be aware of this condition.

Recommendation: Keeping in mind the limited number of employees to which duties can be assigned, the Tax Collector should continue to monitor assignment of duties to assure as much segregation of duties and responsibility as possible.

IBERIA PARISH SHERIFF
NEW IBERIA, LOUISIANA

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS
Year Ended June 30, 2000

Section I - Internal Control and Compliance Material to the Financial Statements

1999 Finding No. 1999-1 Timeliness of Report

Recommendation: The Sheriff should close its books and prepare all information needed for the audit as soon as possible after the fiscal year ends in order to allow for sufficient time for the audit process.

Current Status: Information was made available to allow the timely completion of the audit.

1999 Finding No. 1999-2 Segregation of Duties

Recommendation: Keeping in mind the limited number of employees to which duties can be assigned, the Sheriff should continue to monitor assignment of duties to assure as much segregation of duties and responsibility as possible.

Current Status: This same finding is included in the current year audit as 2000-1. The Sheriff has provided as much segregation of duties as possible with the resources available.

Section II - Internal Control and Compliance Material to Federal Awards

Not applicable.

Section III - Management Letter

The prior year's report did not include a management letter.



SID HEBERT
SHERIFF
EX-OFFICIO
TAX COLLECTOR
IBERIA PARISH

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CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

JUNE 30, 2000

Louisiana Legislative Auditor

The Iberia Parish Sheriff as Ex-Officio Parish Tax Collector respectfully submits the following corrective action plan for the year ended June 30, 2000.

The findings from the June 30, 2000 Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs are discussed below. The findings are numbered consistently with the numbers assigned in the schedule.

Finding No. 2000-1

Recommendation: Keeping in mind the limited number of employees to which duties can be assigned, the Tax Collector should continue to monitor assignment of duties to assure as much segregation of duties and responsibilities as possible.

Action Taken: Management has considered this issue on numerous occasions and feels that it has sufficient controls in place to mitigate many of the threats associated with the lack of segregation of duties. Based on this, management does not feel it would be cost beneficial to hire the additional employees necessary to achieve additional segregation of duties.

If the Louisiana Legislative Auditor has questions regarding this plan, please call Sheriff Sid Hebert at (337) 639-3714.

Sincerely yours,

Sid Hebert, Sheriff
Ex-Officio Parish Tax Collector