



## Report Highlights

# District Attorney for the 42<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District

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### Why We Conducted This Audit

An initial investigation by the Mansfield Police Department revealed the theft of money orders intended for the 42<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District. This audit was conducted after receiving allegations of the theft from the Mansfield Police Department.

### What We Found

#### Theft of Money Orders

Ms. Melanie Barber may have violated state and federal law by negotiating \$136,004 of money orders made payable to, or intended for, the District Attorney for the 42<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District from 2004 to 2014. The money orders were collected by the District Attorney's office for worthless checks and diversion fees but negotiated by Ms. Barber at the DeSoto Parish Sheriff's Office and several local banks and retailers. In a statement to the Mansfield Police Department, Ms. Barber said she used the money for her own personal use.

View the full report, including management's response, at [www.la.la.gov](http://www.la.la.gov).