Diane M. Matousek Clerk of Circuit Court Volusia County, Florida



Annual Financial Report Year Ended September 30, 2006

Clerk of the Circuit Court County of Volusia, Florida

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Year Ended September 30, 2006

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FINANCIAL SECTION

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

The Honorable Clerk of the Circuit Court County of Volusia, Florida

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, County of Volusia, Florida (the "Clerk"), a component unit of the County of Volusia, Florida, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2006, which collectively comprise the Clerk's basic financial statements, listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Clerk's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America 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 statements are free of material misstatements. 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 the 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 opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Clerk, as of September 30, 2006, and the respective changes in financial position, where applicable, thereof and the respective budgetary comparison for the general fund and special revenue fund for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated November 14, 2006 on our consideration of the Clerk's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audit.

The management's discussion and analysis on pages 2 through 7 is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

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Moren Storten Louden, P.A.

Certified Public Accountants

Orlando, Florida November 14, 2006



As management of the Clerk of the Circuit Court in Volusia County, Florida (the "Clerk"), we offer readers of the financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Clerk for the year ended September 30, 2006.

Financial Highlights

The assets of the Clerk exceeded its liabilities at the end of the fiscal year by \$9,376,033 (net assets). Of this amount, \$1,608,199 was invested in capital assets, \$8,495,944 was restricted and \$728,110 was obligated to meet the ongoing obligations for accrued compensated absences. The Clerk's total net assets increased by \$2,714,055 for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2006. As of the close of the fiscal year, the Clerk's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$8,495,944. This is an increase of \$3,034,500 over the prior year.

Overview of the Financial Statements

The Clerk's basic financial statements are composed of the following: government-wide financial statements, fund financial statements and notes to the financial statements.

Government-wide Financial Statements:

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Clerk's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business. The statement of net assets presents information on all of the Clerk's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net assets. The statement of activities presents information showing how the Clerk's net assets changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net assets are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs. Thus, expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will not result in changes to cash flows until future periods.

The governmental activities of the Clerk include a wide range of recordkeeping, financial management, and information management services related to the court system and the public records of Volusia County.

Overview of the Financial Statements - Continued

Functions of the Clerk as relates to the Circuit and County Courts:

- Maintains custody and control of all court files.
- Attends each session of court.
- Files indictments, pleadings and verdicts.
- Summons jurors, witnesses and defendants.
- Prepares the appellate record.
- Conducts mortgage foreclosure sales.
- Assists victims of abuse in completing the paperwork necessary to seek injunctions for protection.
- Assists plaintiffs in completing the paperwork necessary to file for a simplified divorce.
- Assists plaintiffs in completing the paperwork necessary to file a small claims lawsuit.
- Administers oaths.
- Compiles and reports statistical and financial data.

Functions of the Clerk as relates to General Government functions of County Recorder:

- Records and indexes deeds, mortgages and real estate transactions.
- Processes tax deed applications and conducts tax deed sales.
- Records public defender liens and all judgments rendered by the court.
- Maintains public land records.
- Processes marriage licenses and passports.
- Performs marriage ceremonies.

Fund Financial Statements:

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Clerk, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the Clerk can be divided into two categories, governmental funds and fiduciary funds.

Overview of the Financial Statements - Continued

Governmental Funds:

Governmental funds are used to account for the same functions reported as government activities in the government-wide financial statements. But, unlike the government-wide financial statements, the governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources. The focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of government-wide financial statements. Both the governmental fund statement of net assets and the governmental fund statement of activities provide a reconciliation to facilitate a comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

The Clerk maintains two individual governmental funds, the General Fund and the Public Records Modernization Trust Fund. Both are considered to be major funds. Information for these funds is presented separately in the governmental fund statement of assets and in the governmental fund statement of activities. The Clerk adopts annual appropriated budgets for its General Fund and Public Records Modernization Trust Fund. The annual budgets serve as the foundation for the Clerk's financial planning and control. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided for both funds to demonstrate compliance with the budget.

Fiduciary Funds:

Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of the State of Florida, the County of Volusia and other parties outside the Clerk. The fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the programs of the Clerk.

The fiduciary funds financial statement can be found on page 11 of this report.

Notes to the Financial Statements:

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found on page 12 of this report.

Government-wide Financial Analysis

Net assets may serve over time as a useful indicator of financial position. In the case of the Clerk, assets exceeded liabilities by \$9,376,033 at the end of the fiscal year.

	2006	2005
Current and other assets	\$ 13,996,682	\$ 9,890,239
Capital assets	1,608,199	1,849,661
Total assets	15,604,881	11,739,900
Long-term liabilities	728,110	649,127
Other liabilities	5,500,738	4,428,795
Total liabilities	6,228,848	5,077,922
Net Assets:		
Invested in capital assets	1,608,199	1,849,661
Restricted	8,495,944	5,461,444
Unrestricted	(728,110)	(649,127)
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$ 9,376,033	\$ 6,661,978

CLERK'S NET ASSETS - Governmental Activities

CLERK'S CHANGES IN NET ASSETS - Governmental Activities

	2006	2005
Revenues		
Operating grants	\$ 524,967	\$ 450,643
Subsidy from County Council	1,599,166	1,451,802
Subsidy from Clerk of Court		
Conference	867,326	-
Charges for services	19,560,440	18,671,437
Interest	534,407	203,845
Miscellaneous revenues	39,891	28,593
Total revenues	23,126,197	20,806,320
Expenditures		
General government	4,902,220	4,557,598
Court operations	10,940,514	10,952,993
Total expenditures	15,842,734	15,510,591
Increase in net assets before	7,283,463	5,295,729
transfers		
Transfers	(4,569,408)	(2,383,557)
Increase in net assets	2,714,055	2,912,172
Net assets – October 1	6,661,978	3,749,806
Net assets – September 30	\$ 9,376,033	\$ 6,661,978

Government-wide Financial Analysis - Continued

The funds restricted for the Public Records Modernization Trust Fund accounted for \$8,495,944 of the net assets. The Clerk collects an additional service charge on certain recorded documents for this fund pursuant to Florida Statute 28.24 (12) (d) and (e). The fund must be used exclusively for equipment and maintenance of equipment, personnel training, and technical assistance in modernizing the public records system of the Clerk.

The Clerk's investment in capital assets was \$1,608,199 at the end of the fiscal year. This amount reflects the Clerk's investment in office and computer equipment, which are used to provide services to the citizens of Volusia County. Consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. The Clerk purchased \$447,779 of office and computer equipment during the fiscal year.

There is a deficit in the unrestricted net assets category of \$728,110. This amount represents accrued compensated absences of the Clerk which are not due within one year. It is the Clerk's policy to grant all full-time and provisional employees annual leave based upon the number of years of employment with the Clerk. Unused annual leave accrued is payable upon termination, retirement or through an attendance incentive plan. The amount of the deficit represents the amount that was accrued sick leave and vacation leave for employees who are currently employed by the Clerk. These amounts are expected to be paid out over a number of years for accrued leave will cause operating deficits in future periods.

As a fee officer, the Clerk is required under Florida Statute 218.36 to submit to the County of Volusia, all excess fees from general government operations by October 31st after the close of the fiscal year. The excess fee calculation is based upon the fund financial statements; therefore, the Clerk does not have the opportunity to accumulate net assets in the general fund to pay the accrued compensated absences.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The General Fund is the chief operating fund of the Clerk. There were substantial differences between the original budget and final amended budget. The primary reason for these differences was the change in fee structure brought about by State constitutional amendments to Article V relating to the court system.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights - Continued

The Clerk is required to adopt a separate budget for court-related revenues and expenditures, which is approved by the Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation. The actual court-related revenues were \$400,539 less than the approved budget. The expenditures and budgeted reserve were \$830,759 less than the approved budget. The main reason why the actual revenues from court-related functions were significantly lower than projected was that case filings were lower than expected. This resulted in lower revenues for filing fees and court costs. The Clerk was able to keep expenditures under the budgeted amounts by making changes in spending decisions related to the operational needs of the Clerk's office.

For the general government portion of the budget, the recording fees were higher than expected. Therefore, this portion of the budget was amended, as necessary, to reflect the increased fee revenues and the resulting changes in spending decisions related to capital assets and other operational needs of the Clerk's office.

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets

Various factors were considered in preparing the budget for the 2007 fiscal year. The Clerk currently enjoys a favorable economic environment and local indicators point to continued stability. The strength of the housing and time-share condominium industries in Volusia County coupled with low mortgage interest rates is the largest factor contributing to stable revenues in the general government operations of the Clerk.

The court operations are expected to continue operating at a deficit in the 2007 fiscal year. The Clerk is retaining all court-related fines, fees, service charges and costs. The projected revenue deficit has been approved by the Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation and certified by the Department of Revenue. The projected deficit will be funded from the Department of Revenue Clerks of the Court Trust Fund.

Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Clerk of the Circuit Court's finances for all those with an interest in the Clerk's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional information should be addressed to: Director of Fiscal Operations, Clerk of the Circuit Court, P.O. Box 6043, DeLand, Florida 32721-6043.

Clerk of the Circuit Court County of Volusia, Florida STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS AND GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET September 30, 2006

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Total	Adjustments (Note 2)	Statement of Net Assets
ASSETS				•	b 10 00 (F ()
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,838,820	\$ 8,495,944	\$ 13,334,764	\$ -	\$ 13,334,764
Accounts receivable	9,141	-	9,141	-	9,141
Due from County Council	3,718	-	3,718	-	3,718
Due from other governments	642,725	-	642,725	-	642,725
Prepaids and other assets	6,334	-	6,334	-	6,334
Capital assets, net	-	-	-	1,608,199	1,608,199
Total Assets	\$ 5,500,738	\$ 8,495,944	\$ 13,996,682	1,608,199	15,604,881
LIABILITIES					
Accounts payable	\$ 34,183	\$ -	\$ 34,183	-	34,183
Accrued liabilities	427,456	-	427,456	-	427,456
Accrued compensated absences:					
Current portion	325,402	-	325,402	-	325,402
Long-term portion	-	-	-	728,110	728,110
Due to County Council	4,081,069	-	4,081,069	-	4,081,069
Due to other governments	561,067	-	561,067	-	561,067
Deposits	71,561	-	71,561		71,561
Total Liabilities	5,500,738		5,500,738	728,110	6,228,848
FUND BALANCES / NET ASSETS Fund balances: Reserved for public record					
modernization	-	8,495,944	8,495,944	8,495,944	-
Unreserved	-				-
Total fund balances	-	8,495,944	8,495,944	8,495,944	
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$ 5,500,738	\$ 8,495,944	\$ 13,996,682		
Net assets: Invested in capital assets Restricted Unrestricted (deficit)				1,608,199 8,495,944 (728,110)	1,608,199 8,495,944 (728,110)
Total Net Assets				\$ 9,376,033	\$ 9,376,033

Clerk of the Circuit Court County of Volusia, Florida STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES For the Year Ended September 30, 2006

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Total	Adjustments (Note 2)	Statement of Activities
Revenues					
General government:					
Operating grants	\$ 524,967	\$ -	\$ 524,967	\$-	\$ 524,967
Subsidy from County Council	1,599,166	-	1,599,166	-	1,599,166
Charges for services	6,444,865	2,787,584	9,232,449	-	9,232,449
Interest	85,666	246,916	332,582	-	332,582
Miscellaneous revenues	8,180	-	8,180	-	8,180
Court operations:					
Subsidy from Clerk of Court Conference	867,326	-	867,326	-	867,326
Charges for services	10,327,991	-	10,327,991	-	10,327,991
Interest	201,825	-	201,825	-	201,825
Miscellaneous revenues	31,711	-	31,711	-	31,711
Total Revenues	20,091,697	3,034,500	23,126,197		23,126,197
Expenditures / Expenses General government:					
Programs and operations	4,133,996	-	4,133,996	78,983	4,212,979
Depreciation	-	-	-	689,241	689,241
Capital outlay	447,779	-	447,779	(447,779)	-
Court operations:					
Programs and operations	10,940,514	-	10,940,514	-	10,940,514
Total Expenditures / Expenses	15,522,289	-	15,522,289	320,445	15,842,734
Excess (deficiency) of revenues					
over expenditures	4,569,408	3,034,500	7,603,908	(320,445)	7,283,463
Other Financing Sources / Uses					
Transfers - County Council	(4,081,069)	-	(4,081,069)	-	(4,081,069)
Transfers - Clerk of Court Conference	(488,339)	. –	(488,339)	-	(488,339)
Total Other Financing Sources/Uses	(4,569,408)		(4,569,408)	-	(4,569,408)
Excess of revenues over		2 02 4 500	2 024 500	(2.024.500)	
expenditures and transfers out	-	3,034,500	3,034,500	(3,034,500)	-
Change in net assets	-	-	-	2,714,055	2,714,055
Fund Balances / Net Assets					
Beginning of the year		5,461,444	5,461,444	1,200,534	6,661,978
End of the year	<u> </u>	\$ 8,495,944	\$ 8,495,944	\$ 880,089	\$ 9,376,033

Clerk of the Circuit Court County of Volusia, Florida STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL -GENERAL FOND AND SPECIAL REVENUE FUND For the Year Ended September 30, 2006

	Budgeted	Actual	
	Original	Final	Amounts
GENERAL FUND			
Revenues			
General government:			
Operating grants	\$ 483,316	\$ 483,316	\$ 524,967
Subsidy from County Council	1,599,166	1,599,166	1,599,166
Charges for services	4,954,500	6,015,500	6,444,865
Interest	124,771	124,771	85,666
Miscellaneous revenues	4,892	4,892	8,180
Court operations:			
Subsidy from Clerk of Court Conference	719,889	867,326	867,326
Charges for services	10,931,238	10,931,238	10,327,991
Interest			201,825
Miscellaneous revenues	30,828	30,828	31,711
Total Revenues	18,848,600	20,057,037	20,091,697
Even and House / Even and a			
Expenditures / Expenses General government:			
Programs and operations	3,859,261	4,319,261	4,133,996
Capital outlay	5,057,201	601,000	447,779
Court operations:		001,000	117,775
Programs and operations	11,623,836	11,771,273	10,940,514
Total Expenditures / Expenses	15,483,097	16,691,534	15,522,289
		i	
Net change in fund balance	3,365,503	3,365,503	4,569,408
Transfers - County Council	(3,307,384)	(3,307,384)	(4,081,069)
Transfers - Clerk of Court Conference			(488,339)
Budgeted Reserve - Court Operations	(58,119)	(58,119)	-
Fund Balance at Beginning of Year		-	
Fund Balance at End of Year	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	\$
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND			
Revenues	\$ 2,460,000	\$ 2,460,000	\$ 2,787,584
Charges for services		\$ 2,460,000 40,000	\$ 2,787,384 246,916
Interest Total Bevernage	40,000 2,500,000	2,500,000	3,034,500
Total Revenues	2,500,000	2,300,000	5,054,500
Expenditures			
General government:			
Programs and operations	175,000	175,000	-
Capital outlay	500,000	500,000	
Total Expenditures	675,000	675,000	
Net change in fund balance	1.825,000	1,825,000	3,034,500
-	5,461,444	5,461,444	
Fund Balance at End of Year	\$ 7,286,444	\$ 7,286,444	\$ 8,495,944
Net change in fund balance Fund Balance at Beginning of Year Fund Balance at End of Year			3,034,500 5,461,444 \$ 8,495,944

Clerk of the Circuit Court County of Volusia, Florida STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS -AGENCY FUNDS September 30, 2006

ASSETS Cash and cash equivalents Accounts receivable Total Assets	\$ 10,999,445
LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable	714,762
Due to County Council	464,563
Due to other governments	2,780,877
Deposits	7,077,347
Total Liabilities	11,037,549
NET ASSETS	\$

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. The Reporting Entity

The County of Volusia, Florida, implemented a County Home Rule Charter on January 1, 1971, as provided by Section 125.60 of the Laws of Florida. The County operates under an elected County Council (7 members) and provides services to its more than 494,000 residents in many areas, including law enforcement, community enrichment and development, and human services.

Section 503 of the Charter specifically excludes the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court (the "Clerk") and its related activities, as it is a separate governmental unit governed by the Constitution and Laws of Florida. The Clerk's annual financial report does not include the financial statements of the County Council Charter government (the "County of Volusia, Florida") representing the County Council, Supervisor of Elections, Sheriff and Property Appraiser.

As described above, the Clerk is a legally separate entity from the County of Volusia, Florida. However, in applying the criteria set forth in Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement Number 14, *The Reporting Entity*, it would be misleading to exclude the Clerk from the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report ("CAFR") of the County of Volusia, Florida, because of their interrelationship. Therefore, the Clerk, for financial reporting purposes, is considered a component unit of the County of Volusia, Florida. The financial statements of the Clerk are included in the County of Volusia, Florida's CAFR under a discrete presentation format.

B. Government-wide and Fund Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements report information on all of the non-fiduciary activities of the Clerk. Fund financial statements are presented for the Clerk's general and special revenue funds. Both of these funds are considered to be major funds. The Clerk does not engage in any business-type activities. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund balance, revenues and expenditures. Government resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds, based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. Separate financial statements are provided for fiduciary funds, even though they are excluded from the government-wide financial statements.

C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned, and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – Continued

C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation – Cont.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the Clerk considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, expenditures related to compensated absences are recorded only when payment is due.

Governmental Funds Types

General Fund – The General Fund is the general operating fund of the Clerk. It is used to account for all financial resources, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Special Revenue Fund – The Special Revenue Fund is used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally or administratively restricted to expenditures for specified purposes. The Clerk has one Special Revenue Fund: the Public Records Modernization Trust Fund.

Fiduciary Fund Type

Agency Funds –Agency funds are used to account for assets held by the Clerk in a trustee capacity or as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governments and/or funds. The Clerk has 7 agency funds. A separate financial statement is provided for agency funds. They are excluded from the government-wide financial statements. The agency funds are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations. The Clerk's agency funds are: Documentary Stamps and Intangible Tax, Foreclosures and Other Court Deposits, Fines and Forfeitures, Uniform Support, Court Registry, Juror and Witness Payroll Advance, and Tax Deed Sales.

D. Capital Assets

Capital assets purchased in the General Fund and Public Records Modernization Trust Fund are recorded as expenditures at the time of purchase. Such assets are comprised entirely of equipment and are capitalized at cost or estimated historical cost. Donated assets are recorded at fair market value at time of donation. Land and buildings used in the Clerk's operations are included in the County of Volusia, Florida's CAFR. Depreciation has been provided on fixed assets using the straight-line method over the estimated useful life of five years for office furniture, fixtures and equipment.

NOTE 1 -- SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES -- Continued

E. Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

The Clerk follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

- (1) Section 218.35 of the Florida Statutes requires the Clerk, as a fee officer, to establish an annual budget reflecting resources available and functions for which funds are to be expended.
- (2) The proposed budget is to be filed with the Clerk of the County Council by September 1st proceeding the fiscal year of the budget.
- (3) The Clerk must submit a budget for court-related revenues and expenditures (for functions elaborated in Section 28.35(4) of the Florida Statutes) by August 1st to the Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation in accordance with Section 28.36 of the Florida Statutes. The proposed budget may include a contingency reserve not to exceed 10% of the total budget. The corporation must then certify to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chief Financial Officer, and the Department of Revenue by October 15th of each year, the amount of the proposed budget certified for each Clerk.
- (4) The Clerk can amend the general government budget (recorded in the General Fund), as deemed necessary, during the year. Budgetary control is at the total revenue and expenditure level.
- (5) The Clerk must request approval from the Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation in order to amend the court-related budget. Budgetary control is at the total revenue and expenditure level.
- (6) The Clerk must remit to the General Fund of the County of Volusia, Florida, the excess revenues over expenditures for general government operations in the Clerk's General Fund. This must be done by December 31st after the close of the fiscal year in accordance with Section 218.36 of the Florida Statutes.
- (7) The Clerk must remit to the State of Florida General Revenue Fund the cumulative excess of all court-related revenues over the amounts needed to meet the approved budgeted expenditures. This must be done by January 1st after the close of the fiscal year in accordance with Section 28.37 of the Florida Statutes.
- (8) Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year for the Clerk's General Fund and Special Revenue Fund. Appropriations lapse at the close of the fiscal year.

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – Continued

E. Budgets and Budgetary Accounting - Continued

(9) The budgets for the Clerk's General and Special Revenue Fund are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles.

F. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, checking accounts and money market accounts.

G. Compensated Absences

It is the Clerk's policy to grant all full-time and provisional employees annual leave based upon the number of years of employment with the Clerk. Annual leave may be accrued up to a maximum of 270 hours. Unused annual leave accrued is payable upon termination or retirement.

Sick leave is accumulated at the rate of one working day per calendar month of continuous employment. After 6 years of service, employees are entitled to 50% of unused accrued sick leave upon termination up to 480 hours.

A liability for unused accrued annual leave and sick leave is reported in the General Fund for the estimated current portion of these compensated absences.

H. Grants

Revenues received or used from grants for governmental funds are recognized as current revenues when they become susceptible to accrual, that is both measurable and available (modified accrual basis).

A federal audit report issued by the Administration for Children and Families to the Florida Department of Revenue contains certain findings relating to costs submitted for reimbursement. To address this finding, the federal agency determined that the results of a time study would be used to retrospectively determine if additional amounts are owed to the Clerks or if repayment must be made to the federal office. The Clerk participated in the study and prepared revised reimbursement invoices for the period from July 1, 1998 to June 30, 2005. The recasting resulted in an estimated expenditure and related liability of \$369,266 being recorded in the fiscal year ended September 30, 2005. During 2006, the estimated liability was paid. The results of the time study have not yet been accepted by the federal agency.

NOTE 2 – RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENT-WIDE AND FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A. Statement of Net Assets

The ending governmental fund balances were \$8,495,944. The total net assets were \$9,376,033. The difference of \$880,089 is primarily due to the long-term economic focus of the statement of net assets versus the current financial resources focus of the governmental fund balance sheets.

Ending fund balances	\$ 8,495,944
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and are not reported in the funds	1,608,199
Long-term portion of accrued compensated absences are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore,	
not reported in the funds	(728,110)
Total net assets	<u>\$ 9,376,033</u>

B. Statement of Activities

"Total Expenditures" for governmental funds differs from "Total Expenses" for governmental activities. Adjustments were made to include depreciation expense, eliminate capital outlay expenditures and record the increase in long-term compensated absences on the statement of activities. When capital assets that are to be used in governmental activities are purchased, the resources expended for those assets are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. In the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. These items resulted in a net difference between "excess revenues over expenditures and transfers out" and "change in net assets" of \$320,445.

Excess revenues over expenditures and transfers out	\$3,034,500
Depreciation expense	(673,623)
Net disposals of capital assets	(15,618)
Increase in long-term compensated absences	(78,983)
Capital outlay expenditures and contributed capital	447,779
Change in net assets	<u>\$2.714,055</u>

NOTE 3 – CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Deposits

Deposits consist of demand accounts (interest and non-interest bearing). All deposits are entirely insured by federal depository insurance or by the multiple financial institution collateral pool pursuant to the Florida Security for Public Deposits Act.

Investments

Florida Statutes authorize the Clerk to invest in the Local Government Surplus Funds Trust Fund; obligations of the U.S. Government; U.S. Government Instrumentalities; interest-bearing time deposits and savings accounts in banks and savings and loans, provided such deposits are collateralized as described above, mutual funds investing in U.S. Government securities; and repurchase agreements. During the current fiscal year, the Clerk held no such investments.

Interest Rate Risk – Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in market interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. Generally, the longer the maturity of an investment, the greater the sensitivity of its value to changes in market interest rates. The Clerk had no interest rate risk as of September 30, 2006.

Custodial Credit Risk – Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, the government will not be able to recover its deposits. The Clerk's investment policy does not specifically address custodial credit risk. The entire amount of the bank balance of deposits is covered by federal depository insurance or collateral with the State of Florida under the Florida Security for Public Deposits Act. The Act established guidelines for qualification and participation by banks and savings associations, procedures for the administration of the collateral requirements. Under the Act, Clerk deposits in qualified depositories are totally insured.

NOTE 4 – CAPITAL ASSETS

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets during the fiscal year:

	Balance October 1, 2005	Additions	Deletions	Balance September 30, 2006
Equipment	\$ 5,526,888	\$ 447,779	\$ 439,401	\$ 5,535,266
Less accumulated depreciation	3,677,227	673,623	423,783	3,927,067
Total capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	\$ 1,849,661	\$ (225,844)	\$ 15,618	\$ 1,608,199

NOTE 5 – CHANGES IN LONG-TERM DEBT

The following is a summary of changes in long-term debt during the fiscal year:

	Balance October 1, 2005	Additions	Deletions	Balance September 30, 2006
Accrued compensated absences	\$ 962,482	\$ 91,030	\$ -	\$ 1,053,512
Less current portion				325,402
Long-term portion				\$ 728,110

NOTE 6 – RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The Clerk's employees participate in the Florida Retirement System ("FRS"), a defined benefit, cost-sharing, multiple-employer public employee retirement system, administered by the Florida Department of Administration. The FRS provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Florida Statutes Chapter 121, as may be amended from time to time by the State Legislature, provides the methodology for determining contribution rates for the various membership classes of the FRS. The FRS issues a publicly-available financial report that includes financial statements, 10-year historical trend information and other required supplementary information. That report may be obtained by writing to the Department of Administration, Division of Retirement, Cedars Executive Center, Building C, 2639 North Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1560.

Funding Policy – The FRS has four classes of membership, which are applicable to the Clerk, with descriptions and contribution rates in effect during the period ended September 30, 2006 as follows (contribution rates are in agreement with the actuarially determined rates):

	Period		
	10/1/05	7/1/06	
	to 6/30/06	to 9/30/06	
<u>Regular Class</u> – Members not qualifying for other classes.	7.83%	9.85%	
<u>Senior Management Service Class</u> – Members of senior management who do not elect the optional annuity retirement program.	10.45%	13.12%	
<u>Elected State Officer (includes County Officials)</u> – Members duly elected by popular vote in a general election.	15.23%	16.53%	
<u>Deferred Retirement Option Program ("DROP")</u> Members who meet the criteria are allowed to defer the receipt of benefits, allowing them to accumulate and earn interest within the FRS Trust Fund, while the member continues their			
employment.	9.33%	10.91%	

The contribution rate as a percentage of current-year covered payroll is 8.59%. For the years ending September 30, 2006, 2005 and 2004, total contributions were \$827,496, \$720,241, and \$677,784, respectively. The Clerk made 100% of its required contributions each year.

NOTE 7 – TRANSACTIONS WITH PRIMARY GOVERNMENT

During the current year, the Clerk recorded fees from services provided to the County of Volusia in the amount \$40,727. This amount has been included in the charges for services in the statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance – budget and actual in the general fund.

NOTE 8 – COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Intergovernmental Grants

Amounts received or receivable from grantors are subject to audit and adjustment by grantor agencies, principally federal and state governments. Any disallowed claims, including amounts already collected, may constitute a liability of the applicable funds. The amount, if any, of expenditures, which may be disallowed by the grantor, cannot be determined at this time.

NOTE 9 – RESERVED FUND BALANCES, RESTRICTED AND UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS

Special Revenue Fund – Reserved Fund Balance

Reserves of fund balances of governmental funds represent portions of fund balance that are not available to be appropriated for expenditures or which have been segregated for specific future uses. The fund balance reserved in governmental funds at September 30, 2006, is stated on the face of the balance sheet for governmental funds.

Restricted Net Assets – Governmental Activities

The balance of restricted net assets in the governmental funds represents funds for public records modernization purposes and are restricted by enabling legislation.

Unrestricted Net Assets – Deficit

Unrestricted net assets - deficit represents accrued compensated absences of the Clerk, which are not due within one year. The excess fee calculation is based upon the fund financial statements and does not permit the Clerk to accumulate net assets in the general fund to pay long-term accrued compensated absences of the Clerk's governmental activities.



REPORT OF INDEPENDENT CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

The Honorable Clerk of the Circuit Court County of Volusia, Florida

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, County of Volusia, Florida (the "Clerk"), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2006, and issued our report thereon dated November 14, 2006. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Clerk'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 reportable 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 caused by error or fraud 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.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Clerk's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, 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*.

This report is intended solely for the information of the Clerk and management, and the State of Florida Office of the Auditor General and federal and state grantor agencies and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Morry Stephen Lowelm, P.A.

Certified Public Accountants

Orlando, Florida November 14, 2006 **COMPLIANCE SECTION**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT LETTER

The Honorable Clerk of the Circuit Court County of Volusia, Florida

We have audited the financial statements of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, County of Volusia, Florida (the "Clerk"), as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2006, and have issued our report thereon dated November 14, 2006.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. We have also issued our Report of Independent Certified Public Accountants on Compliance and Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. Disclosures in that report, which is dated November 14, 2006, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

The Rules of the Auditor General (Section 10.554 (1) (h) 1.) require that we address in the management letter, if not already addressed in the auditor's reports on compliance and internal controls, whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address significant findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report. The prior-year findings were resolved to our satisfaction.

As required by the Rules of the Auditor General (Section 10.554 (1) (h) 2.), the scope of our audit included a review of the provisions of Section 218.415., Florida Statutes, regarding the investment of public funds. In connection with our audit, we determined that the Clerk complied with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes.

The Rules of Auditor General (Section 10.554 (1) (h) 4.) require disclosure in the management letter of the following matters, if not already addressed in the auditor's reports on compliance and internal controls: (1) violations of laws, rules, regulations, and contractual provisions that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred; (2) improper or illegal expenditures; (3) improper or inadequate accounting procedures (e.g., the omission of required disclosures from the financial statements); (4) failures to properly record financial transactions; and (5) other inaccuracies, shortages, defalcations, and instances of fraud discovered by, or that come to the attention of, the auditor. Our audit disclosed no matters required to be reported.

The Rules of the Auditor General (Section 10.554 (1) (h) 7.) require that the management letter include a statement as to whether or not the Clerk complied with: a) the budget certified by the Florida Clerks of Courts Operations Corporation pursuant to Section 28.35, Florida Statutes, and b) the performance standards developed and certified pursuant to Section 28.35, Florida Statutes. The results of our audit disclosed no items requiring disclosure related to compliance with the budget certification standard above. Our testing of the compliance with the performance standards revealed the following:

The Honorable Clerk of the Circuit Court County of Volusia, Florida

Condition:

The Clerk is required to report timeliness rates for case filing and docketing. Our tests of the Clerk's Timeliness Quarterly Report Form revealed variances between actual and reported timeliness rate percentages for criminal circuit, criminal county and traffic categories. It appears that FACC Advisory Bulletin dated May 19, 2005 covering timeliness was followed except for accurate summarization of results on the reporting form.

Management Response:

The reporting of the 2006 quarterly timeliness results in the cited reporting categories will be revised for 2006 and resubmitted. We will strive to report correct timeliness results on all future reports.

No other instances of noncompliance were noted during our testing.

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This management letter is intended solely for the information of the Clerk and management, and the State of Florida Office of the Auditor General and federal and state grantor agencies and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Mooren Stuphen Lorden, P.A.

Certified Public Accountants

Orlando, Florida November 14, 2006



REPORT OF INDEPENDENT CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH OMB CIRCULAR A-133

The Honorable Clerk of the Circuit Court County of Volusia, Florida

Compliance

We have audited the compliance of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, County of Volusia, Florida (the "Clerk"), with the types of compliance requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement that are applicable to its major federal program for the year ended September 30, 2006. The Clerk's major federal program is identified in the summary of auditors' results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. Compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants applicable to its major federal program is the responsibility of the Clerk's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Clerk's compliance based on our audit.

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States*, *Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the Clerk's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our audit does not provide a legal determination on the Clerk's compliance with those requirements.

In our opinion, the Clerk complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referred to above that are applicable to its major federal program for the year ended September 30, 2006.

Internal Control Over Compliance

The management of the Clerk is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants applicable to federal programs. In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Clerk's internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133.

Our consideration of the internal control over compliance would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a reportable 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 noncompliance with applicable requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants caused by error or fraud that would be material in relation to a major federal program 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 compliance and its operation that we consider to be a material weakness.

The Honorable Clerk of the Circuit Court County of Volusia, Florida

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

We have audited the compliance of the Clerk with the types of compliance requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement that are applicable to its major federal program for the year ended September 30, 2006. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis, as required by OMB Circular A-133, and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

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This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Clerk, management, the federal awarding agency and the State of Florida Office of the Auditor General and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Moone Stephen Locelin, P.A.

Certified Public Accountants

Orlando, Florida November 14, 2006

Clerk of the Circuit Court County of Volusia, Florida SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS For the Year Ended September 30, 2006

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Section I–Summary of Auditor's Results		
Financial Statements		
Type of auditor's report issued: Unqualified		
Internal control over financial reporting:		
 Material weakness(es) identified? 	Yes	X No
 Reportable condition(s) identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses? 	Yes	X None reported
Noncompliance material to financial statements noted.	Yes	X No
Federal Awards		
Internal control over major programs:		
 Material weakness(es) identified? 	Yes	X No
 Reportable condition(s) identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses? 	Yes	X None reported
Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major program	s: Unqualified	
Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with Section 510(a) of Circular A-133.	Yes	X No
Identification of major programs:		
CFDA Numbers	Name of Federal Program	or Cluster
93.563	HHS Child Support Enforceme	ent Title IV-D
Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs:	\$ 300,000	
Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?	X Yes	No
Section II–Financial Statement Findings None	· · · ·	
Section III–Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs None		

Clerk of the Circuit Court County of Volusia, Florida SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS For the Year Ended September 30, 2006

Agency/Program	CFDA #	<u>Grant #</u>	Federal Expenditures	
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Pass Through: Florida Department of Revenue: Child Support Enforcement Title IV-D	93.563	CC-364	\$	524,967
TOTAL EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS			\$	524,967

NOTE 1

Grant revenue and expenditures are recorded in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Grant revenues are recognized only when allowable program costs have been incurred. This revenue recognition criteria for grants is applied to all funds. In addition, grant revenues are recognized in governmental funds when the availability criteria has been met.