



Commonwealth of Virginia

Auditor of Public Accounts

Walter J. Kucharski
Auditor of Public Accounts

P.O. Box 1295
Richmond, Virginia 23218

January 18, 2012

Jerry Harris
Board Chairman
P.O. Box 237
Jonesville, VA 24263

County of Lee

Dear Mr. Harris:

We have reviewed the Commonwealth collections and remittances of the Treasurer, Commissioner of the Revenue, and Sheriff of the locality indicated for the year ended June 30, 2011. Our primary objectives were to determine that the officials have maintained accountability over Commonwealth collections, established internal controls, and complied with state laws and regulations.

The results of our tests found the Treasurer, Commissioner of the Revenue, and Sheriff complied, in all material respects, with state laws, regulations and other procedures relating to the receipt, disbursement, and custody of state funds, except as follows.

The Treasurer did not comply with state laws and regulations as described below.

Perform Monthly Reconciliations

The Treasurer did not perform timely and adequate monthly reconciliations of the accounting records to the Commonwealth Accounting and Reporting System (CARS) reports provided by the Department of Accounts. Timely monthly reconciliations are a significant internal control which is essential for determining the reliability of information.

The Treasurer should reconcile assessments, collections, and uncollected balances to CARS on a monthly basis as required by Section 58.1-3168 of the Code of Virginia and submit correction requests timely. Proper procedures will ensure complete and accurate recording of tax assessments and collections.

The Sheriff did not maintain sufficient internal control over state funds as described below.

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Promptly Deposit Sheriff Fees

The Sheriff did not deposit local fees with the County Treasurer promptly as required by Code of Virginia 15.2-1615. The Virginia Sheriffs' Accounting Manual suggests the Sheriff make these deposits daily, or when receipts total less than \$200 in a day, accumulate the daily receipts until they total \$200, but always deposit no less frequently than weekly. We noted the Sheriff held collections up to three weeks before depositing the money with the Treasurer. The Sheriff should deposit the local fees with the County Treasurer promptly.

We discussed these comments with the Treasurer on December 21, 2011 and the Sheriff on January 6, 2012 and we acknowledge the cooperation extended to us during this review.

Sincerely,

Auditor of Public Accounts

WJK: clj

cc: D. Dane Poe, County Administrator
Rita A. McCann, Treasurer
Chris Jones, Commissioner of the Revenue
Gary B. Parsons, Sheriff