



Commonwealth of Virginia

Auditor of Public Accounts

Staci A. Henshaw, CPA
Auditor of Public Accounts

P.O. Box 1295
Richmond, Virginia 23218

September 24, 2025

Brenda Powell
Commissioner of the Revenue

Fred Clark
Sheriff

Ruth Ann Oakes
Treasurer

Locality: County of Halifax

We have reviewed the Commonwealth collections and remittances of the Commissioner of the Revenue, Sheriff, and Treasurer of the County of Halifax for the year ended June 30, 2025. 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. It is our responsibility to perform procedures to the extent necessary to satisfy the objectives of this engagement. Our procedures included the review and evaluation of the officials' responses to an internal control questionnaire and testing the receipt, disbursement, recording, and reconciliation of Commonwealth revenues to ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations. We limited our work to the collection of Commonwealth revenues. Local governments hire certified public accountants to audit all other financial activities of the locality, and these firms issue separate reports on the results of their audits.

The Treasurer did not maintain sufficient internal control over state funds or comply with state laws and regulations as described below.

Promptly Remit Sheriff's Fees

Repeat: Yes (First issued in 2024)

The Treasurer did not promptly remit Sheriff's fees to the Commonwealth. We noted delays of up to eleven months for collections totaling \$1,859. Section 2.2 806(B) of the Code of Virginia requires the Treasurer to remit Sheriff's fees weekly or twice each week when collections exceed \$5,000. The Treasurer should promptly remit Sheriff's fees as required by the Code of Virginia.

Brenda Powell, Commissioner of the Revenue
Fred Clark, Sheriff
Ruth Ann Oakes, Treasurer
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We discussed this finding with the Treasurer on September 2, 2025. We acknowledge the cooperation extended to us during this review.

The Sheriff has taken corrective action to remediate the findings that we communicated in our previous report.

Staci A. Henshaw
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

LJH/clj

cc: W. Bryant Claiborne, Board Chair
Tomeka Morgan, County Administrator
Matthew McLearn, Managing Director
Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates