



Staci A. Henshaw, CPA  
Auditor of Public Accounts

# Commonwealth of Virginia

*Auditor of Public Accounts*

P.O. Box 1295  
Richmond, Virginia 23218

March 31, 2026

The Honorable Tamara Ward  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
City of Hopewell

John Partin, Mayor  
City of Hopewell

Review Period: July 1, 2024, through December 31, 2025  
Court System: City of Hopewell

We have reviewed the financial operations for the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for the City of Hopewell, for the period noted above, pursuant to §30-134 of the Code of Virginia. Our primary objectives were to test the accuracy of financial transactions recorded on the Court's financial accounting system; evaluate the Clerk's internal controls; and test the Clerk's compliance with significant state laws, regulations, and policies related to financial operations.

The Clerk is responsible for establishing and maintaining internal controls and complying with applicable laws and regulations. Internal control is a process designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance regarding the reliability of financial information, effectiveness and efficiency of financial operations, and compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Deficiencies in internal controls could lead to noncompliance with laws and regulations, the loss of assets or revenues, or otherwise compromise the Clerk's fiscal accountability. It is our responsibility to perform procedures to the extent necessary to satisfy the objectives of this engagement.

Our procedures did not identify any matters involving internal control and its operation necessary to bring to the Clerk's attention.

Tamara Ward, Clerk of the Circuit Court  
John Partin, Mayor  
March 31, 2026  
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We acknowledge the cooperation extended to us by the Clerk and the Clerk's staff during this engagement.

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AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

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cc: The Honorable W. Edward Tomko III, Chief Judge  
Michael Rogers, Interim City Manager  
Robyn de Socio, Executive Secretary  
Compensation Board  
Paul DeLosh, Director of Judicial Services  
Supreme Court of Virginia