



Commonwealth of Virginia

Walter J. Kucharski, Auditor

**Auditor of Public Accounts
P.O. Box 1295
Richmond, Virginia 23218**

April 19, 2010

The Honorable Paul W. Cella
Chief Judge
County of Powhatan General District Court
3880-D Old Buckingham Road
Powhatan, VA 23139

The Honorable Valentine W. Southall, Jr.
Chief Judge
County of Powhatan Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court
P. O. Box 24
Amelia, VA 23002

Audit Period: July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009
Court System: County of Powhatan
Judicial District: Eleventh

We are performing a statewide audit of the Combined General District Courts. During our review of this court, we conducted certain audit procedures, as we deemed appropriate.

Management of this court is an important part of the court's accountability, since you are responsible for establishing and maintaining internal controls and complying with applicable laws and regulations. During our review, we noted certain matters that required management's attention and corrective action. These matters included:

During the audit period, the Supreme Court of Virginia had no formal guidance regarding approval of Clerk's leave submitted to the electronic leave reporting system. The Supreme Court of Virginia has since issued interim guidance regarding the implementation of internal controls over this process, and this court promptly implemented those controls.

The Honorable Paul W. Cella
The Honorable Valentine W. Southall, Jr.
April 19, 2010
Page Two

We acknowledge the cooperation extended to us by the Court during this engagement.

AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

WJK: tmv

cc: Gloria M. Blankenship, Clerk
Paul F. DeLosh, Director of Judicial Services
Supreme Court of Virginia