

Commonwealth of Hirginia

Walter J. Kucharski, Auditor

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

November 12, 2009

The Honorable John Gregory Mooney Chief Judge County of Craig General District Court P. O. Box 139 Covington, VA 24426

The Honorable Paul A. Tucker Chief Judge County of Craig Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court P. O. Box 858 Fincastle, VA 24090-0858

Audit Period: July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009

Court System: County of Craig Judicial District: Twenty-fifth

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:

Properly Approve the Reporting of Leave

The Judges do not approve the reporting of leave taken by the Clerk. Instead, the Clerk completes and approves her own leave report. Section 2102.3 of the <u>Human Resources Policy Manual</u> requires the supervising Judges to approve the reporting of the Clerk's leave. Supervisory review and approval is an essential internal control to ensure the accuracy and appropriateness of transactions. Allowing someone to prepare and approve their own leave without a supervisory review can result in both intentional and unintentional errors going undetected. We recommend the supervising Judges immediately begin reviewing and approving the reporting of the Clerk's leave.

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

AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

WJK:rsj

cc: The Honorable Louis K. Campbell, Judge Kelly A. Pritchett, Clerk Paul F. DeLosh, Director of Judicial Services Supreme Court of Virginia