



Martha S. Mavredes, CPA
Auditor of Public Accounts

Commonwealth of Virginia

Auditor of Public Accounts

P.O. Box 1295
Richmond, Virginia 23218

July 9, 2014

The Honorable Frank W. Somerville
Chief Judge
County of Albemarle Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court
P.O. Box 821 Courthouse, 109A W. Main
Orange, VA 22960

Audit Period: July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013
Court System: County of Albemarle
Judicial District: Sixteenth

We are performing a statewide audit of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations 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 Assess Court-Appointed Attorney Costs

The Clerk and her staff do not properly assess court-appointed attorney costs to defendants upon conviction. Attorneys appointed to represent defendants are paid by the Commonwealth and the Clerk assesses the costs to the defendants to reimburse the state. Our audit identified an error rate of 23 percent with regards to these assessments, including six accounts not assessed a total of \$1,950. The Clerk should work with her staff and the Office of the Executive Secretary Supreme Court of Virginia to ensure all costs are assessed to defendants as required by Section 19.2-163 of the Code of Virginia and the Chart of Allowances.

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

AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

MSM:alh

cc: The Honorable Edward DeJ. Berry, Judge
Jody A. Shelley, Clerk
Paul F. DeLosh, Director of Judicial Services
Supreme Court of Virginia