



Martha S. Mavredes, CPA
Auditor of Public Accounts

Commonwealth of Virginia

Auditor of Public Accounts

P.O. Box 1295
Richmond, Virginia 23218

April 10, 2017

The Honorable J. Gregory Ashwell
Chief Judge
County of Fauquier General District Court
6 Court Street
Warrenton, VA 20186-3299

Audit Period: July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016
Court System: County of Fauquier
Judicial District: Twentieth

We are performing a statewide audit of the 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:

Request Tax Set-Off Refunds

The Clerk did not submit claims to the Virginia Department of Taxation (Taxation) for tax setoff of refunds for delinquent court costs and fines totaling \$25,346, resulting in a loss of revenue to the Commonwealth and Locality. A court must submit claims for set-off of tax refunds through Taxation's automated accounting system, the Integrated Revenue Management System. The Clerk should use the tax refund set-off process to maximize collections as required by the Code of Virginia.

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

AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

MSM:clj

cc: Erica Ashley Gatchell, Clerk
Paul F. DeLosh, Director of Judicial Services
Supreme Court of Virginia