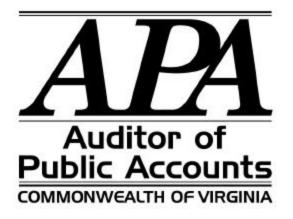
# JOHN J. KARCHA GENERAL RECEIVER OF THE CIRCUIT COURT of the COUNTY OF FAIRFAX

## REPORT ON AUDIT FOR THE PERIOD JULY 1, 2001 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2002



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October 11, 2002

The Honorable Michael P. McWeeny Chief Judge of the Circuit Court Fairfax, Virginia

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities arising from cash transactions of

## JOHN J. KARCHA GENERAL RECEIVER OF THE CIRCUIT COURT of the COUNTY OF FAIRFAX

as of June 30, 2002, and the related statement of cash receipts and disbursements for the period July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002. All records supporting these financial statements are the responsibility of the General Receiver. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, these financial statements have been prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the assets and liabilities arising from cash transactions of the General Receiver of the Circuit Court of the County of Fairfax as of June 30, 2002, and the cash receipts and disbursements for the period July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002, on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

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### MAJOR FINDINGS

We noted instances of noncompliance with state laws, regulations, and policies that seriously hamper the General Receiver's ability to properly fulfill his responsibilities to effectively manage the accounts entrusted to him. In addition, the failure to detect and correct these errors creates an environment with weak internal controls that could allow the improper disbursement of assets to occur without detection. Unless these findings are corrected in the near term, the Court should consider not only not assigning further money, but reassigning all trust fund accounts presently under the General Receiver's control to Fairfax County's Clerk of Circuit Court.

### Properly Record and Report Trust Funds

The General Receiver continues to improperly record, reconcile and report trust funds. During the audit period the General Receiver had approximately 21 accounts totaling nearly \$360,000. We found that the General Receiver had not reconciled his bank account to his manual ledgers or prepared a trial balance since June 2001. These errors carried forward to the General Receiver's Annual Trust Fund Report submitted to the Court. The report did not include trust fund monies totaling \$154,675, which made up nearly half of all the funds under the General Receiver's control.

The General Receiver should more diligently perform the accounting necessary to accurately keep record of the trust funds given him. He has a statutory responsibility for the recording and reporting of trust funds in accordance with Sections 8.02-582 and 585 of the <u>Code of Virginia</u>. The General Receiver should properly record interest and bond allocations in the individual accounts, reconcile his accounts monthly, and ensure the Annual Report accurately reflects all funds he is holding. Without proper accountability, the General Receiver risks improper disbursement of monies to the trust fund recipient in addition to improper reporting to the Court. We encourage the General Receiver to submit his amended Annual Report as discussed during our audit.

We discussed these comments with the General Receiver on October 10, 2002 and we acknowledge the cooperation extended to us during this engagement.

AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

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## COUNTY OF FAIRFAX GENERAL RECEIVER OF THE CIRCUIT COURT STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS OF HIME 20, 2002

AS OF JUNE 30, 2002	 Exhibit A
ASSETS	
Cash	\$ 360,772
Total assets	\$ 360,772
LIABILITIES	
General Receiver fees Trust funds	\$ 947 359,825
Total liabilities	\$ 360,772

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

### COUNTY OF FAIRFAX GENERAL RECEIVER OF CIRCUIT COURT STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2002

Exhibit A-1

Receipts	S
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Trust funds	\$ 206,282
Disbursements:	
Trust funds	-
General Receiver fees	-
Bond preminums	463
Total disbursements	463
Excess (Deficiency) of receipts over (under) disbursements	205,819
Trust fund balance at July 1, 2001	154,953
Trust fund balance at June 30, 2002	\$ 360,772

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

### **COUNTY OF FAIRFAX**

### GENERAL RECEIVER OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### AS OF JUNE 30, 2002

### 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### **Basis of Accounting**

The financial statements of the General Receiver of the Circuit Court of the County of Fairfax have been prepared using the cash basis of accounting. Under the cash basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when received in cash and disbursements are recorded when made.

### 2. SURETY BOND

The General Receiver was bonded under a Trust Fund Administrators Bond with the Firemen's Insurance Company of Newark, New Jersey, as surety.