

Commonwealth of Virginia

Auditor of Public Accounts

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

December 4, 2012

The Honorable Gino W. Williams Chief Judge County of Giles General District Court 55 East Main Street, Third Floor Christiansburg, VA 24073

The Honorable H. Lee Chitwood Chief Judge County of Giles Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court 45 Third Street, N.W., Suite 103 Pulaski, VA 24301

Audit Period: July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012

Court System: County of Giles Judicial District: Twenty-seventh

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:

Request Tax Set-Off Refunds

The Clerk did not request the Virginia Department of Taxation (TAX) hold tax set off refunds totaling \$795 for delinquent court costs and fines, resulting in a loss of revenue to the Commonwealth and locality. A court must request tax refunds through TAX's automated accounting system called the Integrated Revenue Management System. The Clerk should request tax set off refunds to maximize collections as required by the <u>Code of Virginia</u>.

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

AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

WJK: vlb

cc: The Honorable Bradley W. Finch, Judge

Yvette M. Pennington, Clerk

Paul F. DeLosh, Director of Judicial Services

Supreme Court of Virginia

www.apa.virginia.gov (804) 225-3350