

## Commonwealth of Virginia

## Auditor of Public Accounts

P.O. Box 1295 Richmond, Virginia 23218

December 1, 2023

The Honorable Robin L. Robb
Chief Judge
County of Arlington Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Audit Period: July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023

Court System: County of Arlington

Judicial District: Seventeenth

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 the following matter requiring management's attention and corrective action.

## **Properly Bill and Collect Court Costs**

Repeat: No

The Clerk and her staff did not properly bill and collect court costs. In nine of 31 cases tested (29%), the Clerk did not charge defendants a total of \$1,277 in court costs. The Clerk and her staff should correct the specific cases noted during the audit, seek additional training in the billing and collection of court costs, and establish a system of review to minimize the likelihood of billing errors going undetected. In all cases, the Clerk should bill and collect court costs in accordance with Code of Virginia.

The Clerk has taken corrective action to remediate the internal control findings that we reported in the previous audit.

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We acknowledge the cooperation extended to us by the Clerk and her staff during this engagement.

Staci A. Henshaw
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

LJH: clj

cc: The Honorable W. Michael Chick, Jr., Judge Ronikka Lartey, Clerk Paul F. DeLosh, Director of Judicial Services Supreme Court of Virginia