JIMMY L. WARREN CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF SMYTH

REPORT ON AUDIT FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 1, 2009 THROUGH AUGUST 13, 2009



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Commonwealth of Hirginia

Walter J. Kucharski, Auditor

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

September 25, 2009

Dixie M. Seymour Interim Clerk of the Circuit Court County of Smyth

Board of Supervisors County of Smyth

We have audited the accompanying Statement of Assets and Liabilities of Jimmy L. Warren, former Clerk of the Circuit Court of the County of Smyth for the period April 1, 2009 through August 13, 2009. All records supporting the amounts presented in this financial statement are the responsibility of this Clerk. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statement based on our audit.

Our primary objectives were to test the accuracy of financial transactions recorded on the Court's financial management system; evaluate the Court's internal controls; and test its compliance with significant state laws, regulations, and policies. However, our audit was more limited than would be necessary to provide assurance on the internal controls or on overall compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and policies.

The purpose of the audit was to determine the accountability of the former Clerk at August 13, 2009, and to turn over the assets, accounts, and records of the office to Dixie M. Seymour, the newly appointed interim Clerk of the Circuit Court.

As described in Note 1, this financial statement has been prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. This basis of accounting is prescribed by the State Comptroller and approved by the Auditor of Public Accounts as it is deemed the appropriate method of reporting by Clerks of the Circuit Court.

In our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the assets and liabilities of the Clerk of the Circuit court of the County of Smyth as of August 13, 2009, on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Dixie M. Seymour, Interim Clerk of the Circuit Court Board of Supervisors September 25, 2009 Page Two

We acknowledge the cooperation extended to us during this engagement.

AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

WJK:alh

cc: The Honorable C. Randall Lowe, Chief Judge Mike Carter, Interim County Administrator Paul DeLosh, Director of Judicial Services Supreme Court of Virginia

COUNTY OF SMYTH

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS OF AUGUST 13, 2009

ASSETS

| Cash and Cash Equivalents Unreimbursed Expenses Due from County of Smyth Total | \$780,262.08 <u>7,000.80</u> <u>\$787,262.88</u> | |
|--|--|--|
| LIABILITIES | | |
| Due to the Commonwealth of Virginia | \$ 3,571.79 | |
| Due to the County of Smyth | 72,122.46 | |
| Collections for others | 175,991.13 | |
| Depository bonds | 165,039.78 | |
| Monies under control of the court | 370,537.72 | |
| | - | |
| | | |
| Total | <u>\$787,262.88</u> | |

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

COUNTY OF SMYTH

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

AS OF AUGUST 13, 2009

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Clerk of the Circuit Court is an elected constitutional officer who administers the County of Smyth's court of record. The Circuit Court is where individuals file documents requiring formal recording by law to include deeds, wills, marriage licenses and various other documents. The Circuit Court has exclusive original jurisdiction in all felony criminal cases, in civil chancery, and civil cases where the amount exceeds \$15,000. It also hears appeals from district courts.

Basis of Accounting

The financial statement is prepared using the cash basis of accounting, which records cash receipts when received and disbursements when made.

2. SURETY BOND

In accordance with Sections 2.2-1840 and 2.2-1841, <u>Code of Virginia</u>, the Clerk was bonded under a Public Officials Position Schedule Bond in the amount of \$500,000 with the Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland and through a self-insurance plan administered by the Virginia Department of Treasury's Division of Risk Management as sureties.