
Edgefield County Magistrate Court

Edgefield, South Carolina

Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Agreed-Upon
Procedures for the year ended June 30, 2017



June 19, 2018

Mr. Tommy Paradise, Town Administrator
Edgefield County
Edgefield, South Carolina

This report resulting from the application of agreed-upon procedures to the accounting records of the Edgefield County Magistrate Court System as of and for the year ended June 30, 2017, was issued by Brown CPA, LLC, Certified Public Accountants, under contract with the South Carolina Office of the State Auditor.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please let us know.

Respectfully submitted,

George L. Kennedy, III, CPA
State Auditor

GLKIII/sag

Contents

	<u>Page</u>
I. Independent Accountant’s Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures	1 – 4
II. County’s Response	Attachment A

BROWN CPA, LLC

Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

Mr. George L. Kennedy, III, CPA
State Auditor
State of South Carolina
Columbia, South Carolina

Mr. Tommy Paradise
Edgefield County Administrator
Edgefield, South Carolina

We have performed the procedures described below, which were agreed to by the South Carolina Office of State Auditor and Edgefield County Magistrate Court System, on the systems, processes, and behaviors related to court fines and fees of the Edgefield County Magistrate Court System for the period July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, in the areas addressed. Edgefield County and the Edgefield County Magistrate Court System are responsible for the systems, processes, and behaviors related to court fines and fees. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of the South Carolina Office of the State Auditor and Edgefield County and the Edgefield County Magistrate Court System. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which the agreed-upon procedures report has been requested or for any other purpose.

The procedures and the associated findings are as follows:

1. **Clerk of Court**

- We gained an understanding of the policies and procedures established by the Clerk of Court to determine timely reporting by the Clerk of Court's Office.
- We obtained the court dockets or equivalents from the Clerk of Court. We randomly selected twenty-five cases from the court dockets and recalculated the fine, fee, assessment and surcharge calculation to confirm that the fine, fee, assessment and surcharge were properly allocated in accordance with applicable State law and the South Carolina Court administration fee memoranda.
- We randomly inspected twenty-five court receipt transactions to confirm that the fee, fine, assessment and surcharge adhered to State law and the South Carolina Court administration fee memoranda and that the receipts were allocated in accordance with applicable State law.

We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

2. **County Treasurer**

- We gained an understanding of the policies and procedures established by the County treasurer to determine timely reporting by the County.
- We inspected all monthly court remittance forms or equivalents to confirm that the forms were completed in accordance with instructions and submitted timely in accordance with State law.
- We agreed the amounts reported on the monthly remittance forms or equivalents to the County's support.

www.browncpallc.com | P.O. Box 3288 | Irmo, SC 29063 | 803-315-3029

MEMBER:
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS



- We inspected the County’s support to confirm that the County properly classified fine, fee, assessment, and surcharge receipts.
- We inspected all State Treasurer’s Revenue Remittance Forms for the period July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 and agreed the amounts reported on the State Treasurer’s Revenue Remittance Forms to the court remittance forms or equivalents.
- We agreed amounts reported by the County on its supplemental schedule of fines and assessments, as reported in the annual financial statement audit, for the period July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, to the County’s general ledger.
- We inspected the County’s supplementary schedule of fines and assessments, as reported in the annual financial statement audit, to confirm that it contained all the elements required by State law.

We found the following findings as a result of the procedures.

Findings

A. It appears that the County mislabeled the column headings related to amounts remitted:

<u>As Presented:</u>	<u>Amounts Remitted to County Treasurer</u> \$345,206	<u>Amount Remitted to State Treasurer</u> \$397,445
<u>As Revised:</u>	<u>Amounts Remitted to County Treasurer</u> \$397,445	<u>Amount Remitted to State Treasurer</u> \$345,206

B. The actual amounts remitted to the State Treasurer do not agree with the supplemental schedule as follows:

<u>Actual Amount Remitted to State Treasurer</u> \$345,046	<u>Difference</u> \$160	<u>As Revised Above Amount Remitted to State Treasurer</u> \$345,206
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Management Response – See Attachment A

3. Victim Assistance

- We gained an understanding of the policies and procedures established by the County to confirm proper accounting for victim assistance funds.
- We made inquiries and confirmed that any funds retained by the County for victim assistance were deposited into a separate account.
- We randomly selected twenty five expenditures to confirm that the County expended victim assistance funds in accordance with State law and South Carolina Court administration fee memoranda.
- We inspected the County’s victim assistance financial activity on the supplemental schedule of fines and assessments, as reported in the annual financial statement audit, and confirmed that it was in compliance with applicable State law.

- We agreed the amounts reported by the County on its supplemental schedule of fines and assessments, as reported in the annual financial statement audit, applicable to Victim Assistance Fund, to the County’s general ledger or subsidiary ledgers.
- We inspected the County’s victim assistance account to confirm the Victim Assistance fund balance was retained as of July 1 from the previous fiscal year in accordance with State law.

We found the following finding as a result of the procedures.

Finding – The amounts as presented for Victim Assistance on the supplemental schedule does not agree with supporting documentation as follows:

<u>Per Supplemental Schedule</u>	
Assessments	\$29,796
Miscellaneous	169
General Fund Subsidy	<u>2,809</u>
Total Allocated to Victim Assistance	<u>\$32,774</u>
Difference between above and actual amounts collected	\$1,205
<u>Total Victim Assistance Assessments per State Treasurer Revenue Remittance Forms</u>	<u>\$33,979</u>

Management Response – See Attachment A

4. **Calculation of Over/(Under) Reported Amounts**

- We inspected copies of monthly State Treasurer Revenue Remittance Forms for the twelve month period ended June 30, 2017, which the County prepared and submitted to the South Carolina Office of the State Treasurer. We calculated the amount over/(under) reported by the County by category.

We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or a review, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on the systems, processes, and behaviors related to court fines and fees of the Court. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Governor, Chairmen of the House Ways and Means Committee, Senate Finance Committee, House Judiciary Committee, Senate Judiciary Committee, members of Edgefield County Council, Edgefield County Magistrate Court System, Edgefield County Clerk of Court, Edgefield County Finance Director, State Treasurer, State Office of Victim Assistance, the Chief Justice, and the South Carolina Office of the State Auditor, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

BROWN CPA, L.L.C.

Irmo, South Carolina
June 19, 2018

Attachment A

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

124 Courthouse Square
Edgefield, SC 29824
(803) 637-4000
FAX: (803) 637-4056
www.edgefieldcounty.sc.gov



MEMBERS

Dean Campbell, Chair
Arthur Biggs, Vice Chair
James Bibbs
Scott Cooper
Albert Talbert

June 19, 2018

Matt Brown, CPA
Brown CPA, LLC
P.O. Box 3288
Irmo, SC 29063

Re: Audit of Magistrate Court 2016-17 Fines & Fees

Dear Mr. Brown:

We have reviewed the findings reported herein related to the preparation of the Court Schedule of Fines, Assessments, and Surcharges included within our annual financial statement audit. We agree with the findings and will take the following corrective action.

1. During our next financial statement audit we will place additional emphasis in accurately balancing and reporting the financial activity of the courts and the victim assistance account and reporting that activity on the Schedule of Fines, Assessments, and Surcharges included within the audit report.
2. The general fund will transfer \$1,205 to the victim assistance to correct the accounting error identified and reported above.

I appreciate your help with this matter as we strive for excellence in financial reporting.

Sincerely yours

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tommy Paradise', is written over the 'Sincerely yours' text.

Thomas L. "Tommy" Paradise
County Administrator