

**SOUTH CAROLINA JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT**  
**COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA**  
**STATE AUDITOR'S REPORT**  
**JUNE 30, 1997**

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## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

July 10, 1998

The Honorable David M. Beasley, Governor  
and  
The Honorable Ernest A. Finney, Jr., Chief Justice  
South Carolina Judicial Department  
Columbia, South Carolina

We have performed the procedures described below, which were agreed to by the management of the South Carolina Judicial Department, solely to assist you in evaluating the performance of the Department for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1997, in the areas addressed. This engagement to apply agreed-upon procedures was performed in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The sufficiency of the procedures is solely the responsibility of the specified users of the report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose. The procedures and the associated findings are as follows:

1. We tested selected recorded receipts to determine if these receipts were properly described and classified in the accounting records; collection and retention or remittance were supported by law; and accounting procedures and internal accounting controls over the reporting of the tested receipt transactions were adequate to provide proper control over these transactions. The items selected for testing were chosen randomly. The total of the selected items was six percent of the aggregate amount of all recorded receipts. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.
2. We tested selected recorded non-payroll disbursements to determine if these disbursements were properly described and classified in the accounting records; were bona fide disbursements of the Department; and were paid in conformity with State laws and regulations and if accounting procedures and internal accounting controls over the reporting of the tested disbursement transactions were adequate to provide proper control over these transactions. The items selected for testing were chosen randomly. The total of the selected items was less than one percent of the aggregate amount of all recorded non-payroll disbursements. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

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3. We tested selected recorded payroll disbursements to determine if the tested payroll and fringe benefits were properly described, classified, and distributed in the accounting records; persons on the payroll were bona fide employees; and payroll transactions including employee payroll deductions were properly authorized by the employees and were in accordance with existing legal requirements and if accounting procedures and internal accounting controls over the reporting of the tested payroll transactions were adequate to provide proper control over these transactions. The items selected for testing were chosen randomly. The total of the selected items was less than one percent of the aggregate amount of all recorded payroll disbursements. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.
4. We tested selected recorded journal entries and 100% of recorded appropriation transfers to determine if these transactions were properly described and classified in the accounting records; the accounting procedures and internal accounting controls over the reporting of these transactions were adequate to provide proper control over these transactions; and they agreed with the supporting documentation, were adequately documented and explained, were properly approved, and were mathematically correct. The items selected for testing were chosen randomly. The total of the selected journal entries was 16 percent of the aggregate amount of all such recorded transactions. The journal entries selected for testing were chosen randomly. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.
5. We tested selected entries and monthly totals in the subsidiary records of the Department to determine if the amounts were mathematically accurate; the numerical sequences of selected document series were complete; the selected monthly totals were accurately posted to the general ledger; and the accounting procedures and internal accounting controls over the tested transactions were adequate to provide proper control over the books of original entry and the general ledger. The items selected for testing were chosen randomly. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.
6. We obtained all monthly reconciliations prepared by the Department for the year ended June 30, 1997, and tested selected reconciliations of balances in the Department's accounting records to those in the State's accounting system (STARS) as reflected on the Comptroller General's reports to determine if they were accurate and complete. For the selected reconciliations, we recalculated the amounts, agreed the applicable amounts to the Department's general ledger, agreed the applicable amounts to the STARS reports, determined that reconciling differences were adequately explained and properly resolved, and determined that necessary adjusting entries were made in the Department's accounting records or STARS. The reconciliations selected for testing were chosen randomly. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.
7. We tested the Department's compliance with all applicable financial provisions of the South Carolina Code of Laws, Appropriation Act, and other laws, rules, and regulations for fiscal year 1997 by performing the applicable tests and procedures listed on the State Auditor's Office's Appropriation Act 1997 work program. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

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8. We obtained copies of the accompanying schedules of expenditures - budget and actual for the year ended June 30, 1997, and notes thereto prepared by the Department and agreed the amounts by line-item appropriation within budgetary fund category thereon to the accounting records of the Department. We checked the schedules and notes for mathematical accuracy. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.
9. We obtained copies of all closing packages as of and for the year ended ended June 30, 1997, prepared by the Department and submitted to the State Comptroller General and reviewed them to determine if they were prepared in accordance with the Comptroller General's GAAP Closing Procedures Manual requirements; if the amounts were reasonable; and if they agreed with the supporting workpapers and accounting records. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.
10. We obtained a copy of the schedule of federal financial assistance for the year ended June 30, 1997, prepared by the Department and submitted to the State Auditor and reviewed it to determine if it was prepared in accordance with the State Auditor's letter of instructions; if the amounts were reasonable; and if they agreed with the supporting workpapers and accounting records. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

We were not engaged to, and did not, perform an audit, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion on the specified areas, accounts, or items and on the effectiveness of the internal control structure over financial reporting described in paragraph one and procedures one through ten of this report. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. Had we performed additional procedures or had we conducted an audit or review of the Department's financial statements or any part thereof, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the use of the specified users and should not be used by those who have not agreed to the procedures and taken responsibility for the sufficiency of the procedures for their purposes. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Edgar A. Vaughn, Jr., CPA  
State Auditor

**SOUTH CAROLINA JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT**  
 Schedule of Expenditures -  
 Budget and Actual - Budgetary General Fund  
For the Year Ended June 30, 1997

	<u>Legal Basis Budget</u>	<u>Actual on Budgetary Basis</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>Expenditures:</b>			
Personal Services	\$21,724,395	\$21,556,454	\$ 167,941
Employer Contributions	8,571,831	7,766,465	805,366
Other Operating Expenses	3,825,937	3,405,808	420,129
Debt Service - IPP Note	659,366	659,366	-
<i>Special Items:</i>			
Reactivated Judges			
Differential	100,000	73,104	26,896
Computer Automation	803,591	707,082	96,509
Judicial Commitment	420,171	405,600	14,571
Administrative Fund	180,000	-	180,000
Travel - Partial Restoration of Fiscal Year 1996 Veto	173,998	59,827	114,171
Alternative Dispute Resolution	100,000	43,840	56,160
Judges Equipment	96,400	37,945	58,455
New Judges/Equipment	<u>231,605</u>	<u>175,990</u>	<u>55,615</u>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<u>\$36,887,294</u>	<u>\$34,891,481</u>	<u>\$1,995,813</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.

**SOUTH CAROLINA JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT**  
 Schedule of Expenditures -  
 Budget and Actual - Other Budgeted Funds  
For the Year Ended June 30, 1997

	<u>Legal Basis Budget</u>	<u>Actual on Budgetary Basis</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>Expenditures:</b>			
Personal Services	\$ 84,323	\$ 5,520	\$ 78,803
Employer Contributions	18,971	1,085	17,886
Other Operating Expenses	164,329	72,104	92,225
Debt Service - IPP Note			
<i>Special Items:</i>			
Reactivated Judges			
Differential	-	-	-
Computer Automation	-	-	-
Judicial Commitment	-	-	-
Administrative Fund	-	-	-
Travel - Partial Restoration of Fiscal Year 1996 Veto	-	-	-
Alternative Dispute Resolution	-	-	-
Judges Equipment	-	-	-
New Judges/Equipment	-	-	-
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b><u>\$267,623</u></b>	<b><u>\$78,709</u></b>	<b><u>\$188,914</u></b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.

**SOUTH CAROLINA JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT**  
 Schedule of Expenditures -  
 Budget and Actual - Total Budgeted Funds  
For the Year Ended June 30, 1997

	<u>Legal Basis Budget</u>	<u>Actual on Budgetary Basis</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>Expenditures:</b>			
Personal Services	\$21,808,718	\$21,561,974	\$ 246,744
Employer Contributions	8,590,802	7,767,550	823,252
Other Operating Expenses	3,990,266	3,477,912	512,354
Debt Service - IPP Note	659,366	659,366	-
<i>Special Items:</i>			
Reactivated Judges			
Differential	100,000	73,104	26,896
Computer Automation	803,591	707,082	96,509
Judicial Commitment	420,171	405,600	14,571
Administrative Fund	180,000	-	180,000
Travel - Partial Restoration of Fiscal Year 1996 Veto	173,998	59,827	114,171
Alternative Dispute Resolution	100,000	43,840	56,160
Judges Equipment	96,400	37,945	58,455
New Judges/Equipment	<u>231,605</u>	<u>175,990</u>	<u>55,615</u>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<u>\$37,154,917</u>	<u>\$34,970,190</u>	<u>\$2,184,727</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.

# SOUTH CAROLINA JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

Notes to Schedules

June 30, 1997

## NOTE 1 - BUDGET POLICY

The South Carolina Judicial Department is granted an annual appropriation for operating purposes by the General Assembly. The appropriation as enacted becomes the legal operating budget for the Department. The Appropriation Act authorizes expenditures from funds appropriated from the General Fund of the State and authorizes expenditures of total funds. The Total Funds column in the Appropriation Act for each individual budgetary unit authorizes expenditures from all budgeted resources. A revenues budget is not adopted for individual budgetary units. The General Assembly enacts the budget through passage of line-item appropriations by program within budgetary unit within budgetary fund category, State General Fund or other budgeted funds. Budgetary control is maintained at the line-item level of the budgetary entity. Agencies may process disbursement vouchers in the State's budgetary accounting system only if enough cash and appropriation authorization exist.

Transfers of funds may be approved by the State Budget and Control Board under its authority or by the agency as set forth in 1997 Appropriation Act Proviso 72.9. as follows: Agencies are authorized to transfer appropriations within programs and within the agency with notification to the Board's Division of Budget and Analyses and to the State Comptroller General. No such transfer may exceed 20 percent of the program budget. Transfers from personal services accounts or from other operating accounts may be restricted to any level set by the Board.

During the fiscal year-end closeout period in July, agencies may continue to charge vendor, interagency, and interfund payments for the fiscal year to that fiscal year's appropriations. Any unexpended State General Fund monies as of June 30 automatically lapse to the General Fund of the State on July 31 unless authorization is received from the General Assembly to carry over the funds to the ensuing fiscal year. State law does not require the use of encumbrance accounting.

State law does not precisely define the budgetary basis of accounting. The current Appropriation Act states that the General Assembly intends to appropriate all State funds and to authorize and/or appropriate the use of all other monies to operate State government for the current fiscal year. The State's annual budget is prepared primarily on the modified accrual basis of accounting with several exceptions, principally the cash disbursements basis for payroll expenditures.

The schedules of expenditures - budget and actual present actual expenditures on the budgetary basis of accounting compared to the legally adopted and modified budget on a line-item expenditure basis. The level of legal control for each agency for each fiscal year is reported in a publication of the State Comptroller General's Office titled A Detailed Report of Appropriations and Expenditures.

# SOUTH CAROLINA JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

Notes to Schedules

June 30, 1997

## NOTE 2 - STATE APPROPRIATIONS

The following is a reconciliation of the 1997 Appropriation Act as originally enacted by the General Assembly to amounts available for the Department's budgetary general fund expenditures as reported on Schedule 1 for the year ended June 30, 1997.

Original Appropriation	\$34,487,559
State Budget and Control Board Allocations for Employee Base Pay Increases and Related Employee Benefits (Proviso 17C.19.)	669,866
Supplemental Appropriations from 1996 Surplus General Fund Revenues:	
From Part V of the 1997 Appropriation Act for:	
Alternative Dispute Resolution	100,000
Judges Equipment	96,400
From Part VI of the 1997 Appropriation Act for:	
New Judges/Equipment	<u>231,605</u>
Revised Appropriation - Legal Basis	35,585,430
Plus: 1996 Appropriation Brought Forward	<u>1,301,864</u>
Legal Basis Appropriation Available for 1997 Expenditures	<u>\$36,887,294</u>

Proviso 72.44. of the 1996-97 Appropriation Act authorizes each agency to bring forward unspent State General Fund appropriations from the prior year into the current fiscal year up to a maximum of 10 percent of its original appropriation less any appropriation reductions for the current fiscal year. Agencies that have separate General Fund carry-forward authority must exclude the amount brought forward by such separate authority from their bases for purposes of calculating the 10 percent carry-fowards. Pursuant to this Proviso, the Department brought forward \$501,864 from the prior fiscal year. Part III of the 1997 Appropriation Act authorized separate carry-forward of supplemental appropriations in fiscal year 1996 for Travel - Partial Restoration of Fiscal Year 1996 Veto. Pursuant to this Part, the Department brought forward \$800,000. In total, the Department brought forward \$1,301,864.

# SOUTH CAROLINA JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

Notes to Schedules

June 30, 1997

## **NOTE 2 - STATE APPROPRIATIONS (CONTINUED)**

Proviso 72.44. of the 1997-98 Appropriation Act authorizes each agency to carry-forward unspent State General Fund appropriations from the current year into the next fiscal year up to a maximum of 10 percent of its original appropriation less any appropriation reductions. Agencies that have separate carry-forward authority must exclude the amount carried forward by such separate authority from their bases for purposes of calculating the 10 percent carry-forwards. Pursuant to this Proviso, the Department carried forward \$1,711,412 to fiscal year 1998. Part III of the 1997 Appropriation Act authorized separate carry-forward of supplemental appropriations in fiscal year 1996 for Travel - Partial Restoration of Fiscal Year 1996 Veto. Pursuant to this Part, the Department carried forward \$114,171 to fiscal year 1998. Part V of the 1997 Appropriation Act authorized separate carryforward of supplemental appropriations in fiscal year 1997 for Alternative Dispute Resolution and Judges Equipment. Pursuant to this Part, the Department carried forward \$56,160 and \$58,455, respectively, to fiscal year 1998. Also, Part VI of the 1997 Appropriation Act authorized separate carry-forward of supplemental appropriations in fiscal year 1997 for New Judges/Equipment. Pursuant to this Part, the Department carried forward \$55,615 to fiscal year 1998. In total, the Department carried forward \$1,995,813.

Part III of the 1997-98 Appropriation Act appropriated \$450,000 for Automation, \$343,200 for Judicial Commitment, and \$18,000 for Automation and Furnishings. These funds will be received in fiscal year 1998.