
Town of Springdale Municipal Court

Springdale, South Carolina

Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Agreed-Upon
Procedures for the year ended June 30, 2019



April 13, 2021

Mr. Michael Bishop, Mayor
Town of Springdale
Springdale, South Carolina

This report resulting from the application of agreed-upon procedures to the accounting records of the Town of Springdale Municipal Court System as of and for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, was issued by Brown CPA, LLC, 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

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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. Michael Bishop, Mayor
Town of Springdale
Springdale, South Carolina

We have performed the procedures described below on the systems, processes, and behaviors related to financial activity of the Town of Springdale Municipal Court for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, in the areas addressed. The Town of Springdale Municipal Court (the "Municipality") is responsible for the systems, processes, and behaviors related to financial activity.

The South Carolina Office of the State Auditor has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of the systems, processes and behaviors related to financial activity for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, user are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

The procedures and the associated findings are as follows:

1. **Clerk of Court**

- 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 selected 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.

Finding:

1. For one of the twenty-five court receipts the incorrect fine was assessed. An individual was charged for littering 1st offense of less than 15 pounds and assessed a fine of \$460; South Carolina code of laws section 16-11-700(C)(1) specifies that the fine should be \$465.

Management Response – See Attachment A.

2. **Municipal Treasurer**

- 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 amounts reported on the monthly remittance forms or equivalents to the Municipality's support.
- We inspected the Municipality's support to confirm that the Municipality properly classified fine, fee, assessment, and surcharge receipts.
- We inspected all State Treasurer's Revenue Remittance Forms ("STRRF") for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019 and agreed the amounts reported on the STRRF to the court remittance forms or equivalents.

Finding:

1. Eight of the twelve monthly STRRF were not timely submitted to the State Treasurer's Office. The State Treasurer's Office receipts were between 2 and 37 days past the due date. Section 14-1-208(A) of the 1976 South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, states "...this assessment must be paid to the municipal clerk of court and deposited with the city treasurer for remittance to the State Treasurer." Section 14-1-208(B) of the 1976 South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, requires the Town to remit the balance of the assessment revenue to the State Treasurer on a monthly basis by the fifteenth day of each month and make reports on a form and in a manner prescribed by the State Treasurer.

Management Response – See Attachment A.

3. **Victim Assistance**

- We made inquiries and confirmed that any funds retained by the Municipality for victim assistance were deposited into a separate account.
- We randomly selected twenty-five expenditures to confirm that the Municipality expended victim assistance funds in accordance with State law and South Carolina Court Administration fee memoranda.
- We inspected the Municipality'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.

Finding:

1. We were unable to obtain supporting documentation for all amounts reported as expenditures of Victim Assistance on the Uniform Schedule of Court Fines, Assessments and Surcharges in the annual financial statement audit. The Uniform Schedule reported expenditures totaling \$9,981 and the Town of Springdale provided support for expenditures totaling \$8,780.

Management Response – See Attachment A.

4. Uniform Schedule of Court Fines, Assessments and Surcharges

- We agreed amounts reported by the Municipality on its Uniform Schedule of Court Fines, Assessments and Surcharges (“Uniform Schedule”), as reported in the annual financial statement audit, for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, to the Municipality’s general ledger.
- We inspected the Municipality’s Uniform Schedule of Court Fines, Assessments and Surcharges, as reported in the annual financial statement audit, to confirm that it contained all the elements required by South Carolina Code of Laws Section 14-1-208.

Finding: The amounts reported in the Uniform Schedule, as reported in the annual financial statement audit, did not agree with the underlying records. The Town of Springdale Municipal Court properly collected and remitted all amounts due to the South Carolina Office of the State Treasurer, however the Uniform Schedule to the financial statement audit for the year ended June 30, 2019 under reported the amounts collected and remitted by \$26,449.

Management Response – See Attachment A.

We were engaged by the South Carolina Office of the State Auditor to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement 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 engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on the systems, processes, and behaviors related to financial activity of the Court for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. 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.

We are required to be independent of the Municipality and to meet our ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Governor, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, Senate Finance Committee, House Judiciary Committee, Senate Judiciary Committee, members of Town of Springdale Council, Town of Springdale Clerk of Court, Town of Springdale Treasurer, State Treasurer, the South Carolina Department of Crime Victim Compensation, and the Chief Justice 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
April 13, 2021

Attachment A



— South Carolina —
SPRINGDALE

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Mayor Pro-Tem
Juston Ricard

Council
Viki Fecas
Steve O. Hallman
Cory T. Hook
J. Kevin Reeley
Jacob R. Wilkerson

Mayor
Michael Bishop

April 13, 2021

To whom it may concern:

We have reviewed the comments provided herein and agree with the comments and will remediate the findings as follows.

Concerning the reporting of court revenue and victim service expenditures on the schedule of court fines, fees, and assessments within our annual financial statements, we will provide our outside auditor with a copy of this report. Our auditor prepares our financial statements on our behalf and we will request they review the comments and correct the reporting deficiencies identified going forward.

With respect to the incorrect fine assessed, we will provide a copy of this report to our Municipal Judge and request they follow SC State Law concerning fines issued for minimum and maximum amounts. We have also provided our Municipal Judge and Police Officers with an updated bond amount sheet for reference.

With respect to timely submission of the monthly State Treasurer Revenue Remittance Forms, I have discussed the importance of submitting these monthly reports to the State with the proper staff and I am confident this matter will be remedied internally.

We are always receptive to positive constructive criticism in our effort to improve upon compliance and financial reporting. We will use this experience to grow as a Town that will provide the most accurate and transparent information possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Watkins
Town Administrator