

Report on the

# Office of Circuit and District Courts

Talladega County, Alabama

March 1, 2014 through July 31, 2018

Filed: January 4, 2019



## Department of Examiners of Public Accounts

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*Rachel Laurie Riddle, Chief Examiner*





State of Alabama  
Department of  
**Examiners of Public Accounts**

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Rachel Laurie Riddle  
*Chief Examiner*

Honorable Rachel Laurie Riddle  
Chief Examiner of Public Accounts  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Dear Madam:

Under the authority of the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 41-5A-19, as added by Act Number 2018-129, I submit this report on the results of the examination of the Office of Circuit and District Courts, Talladega County, Alabama, for the period March 1, 2014 through July 31, 2018.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this  
the 11 day of December, 2018.

Kelly D. Matthews  
Notary Public

Respectfully submitted,

Brooke P. Warren

Brooke P. Warren  
Examiner of Public Accounts

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Department of  
**Examiners of Public Accounts**

**SUMMARY**

**Office of Circuit and District Courts  
Talladega County, Alabama  
March 1, 2014 through July 31, 2018**

The Office of Circuit and District Courts, Talladega County, Alabama, (hereinafter referred to as the "Courts") receipts, disburses and otherwise accounts for court costs, fines, forfeitures, fiduciary funds and other miscellaneous receipts for cases under the Courts' jurisdiction. The amounts collected are then distributed to various state and local entities as ordered by the Courts and in accordance with state and local laws and regulations. The Circuit Clerk, an elected official, is responsible for overseeing the operations of the Circuit and District Courts. The duties of the Circuit Clerk and District Court Clerk are enumerated in the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Sections 12-17-93 and 12-17-94. The Circuit Clerk also serves as clerk for the District Court pursuant to the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 12-17-160.

Honorable Brian York served as Circuit and District Court Clerk during the examination period.

The Circuit and District Court Clerk maintains a special fund known as the Circuit Clerk's Fund that was created pursuant to the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 12-17-225.4. The Circuit and District Court Clerk receives twenty-five percent (25%) of a thirty (30%) percent collection fee for any delinquent court ordered payments that are 90 days old and have been collected by the District Attorney. This twenty-five percent of the collection fee is deposited in the Circuit Clerk's Fund and is used for general office operations.

The Circuit and District Court Clerk maintains a special fund known as the Judicial Administration Fund that was created pursuant to the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 12-19-310. This law provides for additional court docket fees and bail bond fees to be collected by the Courts, with a portion of these fees to be distributed to the Circuit Clerk's Judicial Administration Fund. This fund is to be used for the support of local court operations and to promote efficient administration of justice.

This report presents the results of an examination of the Courts and a review of compliance by the Courts with applicable laws and regulations of the State of Alabama in accordance with the requirements of the Department of Examiners of Public Accounts under the authority of the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 41-5A-12, as added by Act Number 2018-129.

Tests performed during the examination did not disclose any significant instances of noncompliance with applicable state or local laws and regulations.

The Official was invited to discuss the results of this report at an exit conference held at the Circuit Clerk's Office. Representing the Department of Examiners of Public Accounts were: Nikki T. Morrison, Audit Manager; and Brooke P. Warren, Examiner of Public Accounts.



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# *Financial Information*

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***Summary of Receipts, Disbursements and Balances***  
***March 1, 2014 through July 31, 2018***

	<b>Civil Division</b>	<b>Criminal Division</b>	<b>Total</b>
Beginning Cash Balances - March 1, 2014	\$ 277,439.76	\$ 32,863.27	\$ 310,303.03
Receipts	<u>12,087,370.75</u>	<u>7,801,791.80</u>	<u>19,889,162.55</u>
Total Available for Disbursement	12,364,810.51	7,834,655.07	20,199,465.58
Disbursements	<u>(12,058,009.67)</u>	<u>(7,802,315.45)</u>	<u>(19,860,325.12)</u>
Ending Cash Balances - July 31, 2018	<u>\$ 306,800.84</u>	<u>\$ 32,339.62</u>	<u>\$ 339,140.46</u>

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*Fiduciary Funds on Hand*  
*July 31, 2018*

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Civil Division	<u>\$ 1,332,457.91</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 1,332,457.91</u></u>

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***Circuit Clerk's Fund***  
***Summary of Receipts, Disbursements and Balance***  
***March 1, 2014 through July 31, 2018***

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**Receipts**

Clerk's Fees	\$	311,225.62
Restitution Recovery Fees		18,631.87
Interest Earned		1,534.90
Other Receipts		3,482.41
Total Receipts		<u>334,874.80</u>

**Disbursements**

Equipment and Furniture		15,910.25
Salaries		94,657.39
Office Supplies		44,315.35
Conference Expenses		12,748.62
Miscellaneous		28,352.58
Total Disbursements		<u>195,984.19</u>

Excess of Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements		138,890.61
Balance - March 1, 2014		<u>143,041.78</u>
Balance - July 31, 2018	\$	<u>281,932.39</u>

***Circuit Clerk's Judicial Administration Fund  
Summary of Receipts, Disbursements and Balance  
March 1, 2014 through July 31, 2018***

**Receipts**

\$35 Bail Bond Fee	\$ 82,605.71
3.5% Bail Bond Fee	26,103.42
Civil Docket Fees	63,204.04
Criminal Docket Fees	84,205.35
Municipal Docket Fees	49,957.94
Interest Earned	939.95
Total Receipts	<u>307,016.41</u>

**Disbursements**

Salaries	<u>253,755.58</u>
Total Disbursements	<u>253,755.58</u>

Excess of Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements 53,260.83

Balance - March 1, 2014 105,429.53

Balance - July 31, 2018 \$ 158,690.36