

Report on the

**Office of District Attorney  
Twenty-Fourth Judicial Circuit**

**Fayette, Lamar and Pickens Counties, Alabama**

**August 1, 2015 through August 31, 2019**

Filed: February 14, 2020



**Department of  
Examiners of Public Accounts**

**401 Adams Avenue, Suite 280  
Montgomery, Alabama 36104-4338  
P.O. Box 302251  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-2251  
Website: [www.examiners.alabama.gov](http://www.examiners.alabama.gov)**

*Rachel Laurie Riddle, Chief Examiner*





Rachel Laurie Riddle  
Chief Examiner

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

P.O. Box 302251, Montgomery, AL 36130-2251  
401 Adams Avenue, Suite 280  
Montgomery, Alabama 36104-4338  
Telephone (334) 242-9200  
FAX (334) 242-1775

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

Dear Madam:

An examination was conducted on the Office of District Attorney, Twenty-Fourth Judicial Circuit, Fayette, Lamar and Pickens Counties, Alabama, for the period August 1, 2015 through August 31, 2019. Under the authority of the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 41-5A-19, I submit this report to you on the results of the examination.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this  
the 22 day of January, 2020.

Michelle Johnson  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires 6-2-2020

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Madison  
Laura Madison  
Examiner of Public Accounts



---

---

## *Table of Contents*

---

---

	<i>Page</i>
<b>Summary</b>	A
Contains items pertaining to state and local legal compliance.	
<b>Financial Information</b>	1
Exhibit #1      Summary of Receipts, Disbursements and Cash Balances	2
Exhibit #2      Receipts, Disbursements and Cash Balances – By County	6
Exhibit #3      Description and Source of Funds	8

---





Department of  
**Examiners of Public Accounts**

**SUMMARY**

**Office of District Attorney  
Twenty-Fourth Judicial Circuit  
Fayette, Lamar and Pickens Counties, Alabama  
August 1, 2015 through August 31, 2019**

The Office of District Attorney, Twenty-Fourth Judicial Circuit, Fayette, Lamar and Pickens Counties, Alabama, (hereinafter referred to as the “District Attorney”) is responsible for law enforcement activities in these counties. This includes the operation and administration of duties for which they were elected or appointed, in accordance with the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 12-17-184, which includes, but is not limited to: (1) To attend on the grand juries, advise them in relation to matters of law, and examine and swear witnesses before them; (2) To draw up all indictments and to prosecute all indictable offenses; (3) To prosecute and defend any civil action in the circuit court in the prosecution or defense of which the state is interested; and (4) To, at any time the grand jury is not in session, issue subpoenas and to administer oaths to individuals and examine them as to any violation of the criminal laws of the state. The District Attorney is also responsible for the Worthless Check Unit which accounts for fees from service charges and restitution collected for processing worthless checks. The Worthless Check Unit is established by the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 12-17-224. The *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 45-29-82.60, provides for the establishment of a Pre-Trial Diversion program in Fayette, Lamar and Pickens Counties.

The following individuals served as District Attorney during the examination period: Honorable J. Chris McCool served from August 1, 2015 through November 8, 2018, and Honorable Andrew C. Hamlin served from November 9, 2018 through the end of the examination period.

This report presents the results of an examination of the Office of District Attorney and a review of compliance by the District Attorney 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.

Test performed during the examination did not disclose any significant instances of noncompliance with applicable laws and regulations.

The Officials were invited to discuss the results of the examination. Individuals in attendance were: Andrew C. Hamlin, District Attorney. Representing the Department of Examiners of Public Accounts was Laura Madison, Examiner.

---

*This Page Intentionally Blank*

---



---

# *Financial Information*

**Summary of Receipts, Disbursements and Cash Balances**  
**August 1, 2015 through August 31, 2019**

	District Attorney's Fund	Worthless Check Unit Fund	Domestic Violence Unit Fund
<b>Receipts</b>			
District Attorney Fees - Courts	\$ 51,966.83	\$ 177,607.00	\$
Sex Offender Registration Fees	2,080.40		
Worthless Check Fees-Courts	52,402.16		
Restitution Recovery Fees	82,091.80	151,840.44	
Bail Bond Fee	81,328.60		
3.5% Bond Fee	104,116.35		
Solicitor's Fees	375,684.06		
Child Support Collections	1,187,591.74		
Grants	41,754.50		
Pre-Trial Diversion Fees			
Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs			184,232.21
Condemnations and Forfeitures	230,164.88		
Municipal Funding			
Seized Monies			
Refunds and Miscellaneous	40,461.72	219.38	
Interest	376.56		
Total Receipts	2,250,019.60	329,666.82	184,232.21
<b>Disbursements</b>			
Salaries and Salary Supplements	1,957,166.22		
Office of Prosecution Services	5,329.98		
Travel	184,899.09		
Rentals and Leases	68,671.85		
Repair and Maintenance	1,760.94		
Utilities and Communications	78,989.02		
Supplies and Materials	189,200.27		
Professional Services	254,231.89		
Equipment Purchases	62,524.82		
Circuit Clerk			
VOCAL			
Drug Enforcement			
Awarded Seizures			
Miscellaneous	128,733.43	55.38	
Restitution		151,840.44	
Trial Expense	10,411.94		
Total Disbursements	2,941,919.45	151,895.82	
Excess of Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	\$ (691,899.85)	\$ 177,771.00	\$ 184,232.21

Pre-Trial Diversion Fund	Drug Enforcement Fund	Evidence Seizures Fund	Attorney General Investigation Fund	Drug Task Force Fund	Total
\$	\$ 237,826.37	\$	\$	\$	\$ 467,400.20
					2,080.40
					52,402.16
	7,471.85			3,995.00	245,399.09
					81,328.60
					104,116.35
					375,684.06
					1,187,591.74
271,585.22					41,754.50
					271,585.22
					184,232.21
	4,063.00				234,227.88
	49,919.08				49,919.08
		170,799.07		7,942.00	178,741.07
	300.85				40,981.95
	68.74		34.13		479.43
271,585.22	299,649.89	170,799.07	34.13	11,937.00	3,517,923.94
	68,223.85		18,157.91	6,000.00	2,049,547.98
2,051.00					7,380.98
	212.55			3,177.04	188,288.68
					68,671.85
					1,760.94
	1,223.16			884.93	81,097.11
	218.56			9.30	189,428.13
			120,307.72		374,539.61
					62,524.82
14,214.00					14,214.00
1,463.00					1,463.00
	31,701.56			830.00	32,531.56
		171,124.34		24,210.70	195,335.04
510.93	5.00				129,304.74
					151,840.44
					10,411.94
18,238.93	101,584.68	171,124.34	138,465.63	35,111.97	3,558,340.82
\$ 253,346.29	\$ 198,065.21	\$ (325.27)	\$ (138,431.50)	\$ (23,174.97)	\$ (40,416.88)

***Summary of Receipts, Disbursements and Cash Balances  
August 1, 2015 through August 31, 2019***

	<b>District Attorney's Fund</b>	<b>Worthless Check Unit Fund</b>	<b>Domestic Violence Unit Fund</b>
<b><u>Operating Transfers In/(Out)</u></b>			
Transfers In	\$ 860,763.66	\$	\$
Transfers Out	(50.00)	(177,727.00)	(189,232.21)
Total Operating Transfers	<u>860,713.66</u>	<u>(177,727.00)</u>	<u>(189,232.21)</u>
Excess of Receipts and Transfers In Over/(Under) Disbursements and Transfers Out	168,813.81	44.00	(5,000.00)
Cash Balances - August 1, 2015	<u>81,781.94</u>	100.00	5,601.08
Cash Balances - August 31, 2019	<u>\$ 250,595.75</u>	<u>\$ 144.00</u>	<u>\$ 601.08</u>

<b>Pre-Trial Diversion Fund</b>	<b>Drug Enforcement Fund</b>	<b>Evidence Seizures Fund</b>	<b>Attorney General Investigation Fund</b>	<b>Drug Task Force Fund</b>	<b>Total</b>
\$ (253,397.35)	\$ (240,408.10)	\$ 50.00	\$	\$ 1.00	\$ 860,814.66
(253,397.35)	(240,408.10)	50.00		1.00	(860,814.66)
(51.06)	(42,342.89)	(275.27)	(138,431.50)	(23,173.97)	(40,416.88)
86.62	51,567.01	2,536.86	138,431.50	23,173.97	303,278.98
\$ 35.56	\$ 9,224.12	\$ 2,261.59	\$	\$	\$ 262,862.10

***Receipts, Disbursements and Cash Balances - By County***  
***August 1, 2015 through August 31, 2019***

	Worthless Check Unit Fund			Total
	Fayette County	Lamar County	Pickens County	
<b><u>Receipts</u></b>				
District Attorney Fees - Courts	\$ 50,220.00	\$ 63,878.00	\$ 63,509.00	\$ 177,607.00
Restitution Recovery Fees	41,041.80	49,448.37	61,350.27	151,840.44
Condemnations and Forfeitures				
Municipal Funding				
Refunds and Miscellaneous			219.38	219.38
Interest				
Total Receipts	<u>91,261.80</u>	<u>113,326.37</u>	<u>125,078.65</u>	<u>329,666.82</u>
<b><u>Disbursements</u></b>				
Salaries and Salary Supplements				
Travel				
Utilities and Communication				
Supplies and Materials				
Drug Enforcement				
Miscellaneous			55.38	55.38
Restitution	41,041.80	49,448.37	61,350.27	151,840.44
Total Disbursements	<u>41,041.80</u>	<u>49,448.37</u>	<u>61,405.65</u>	<u>151,895.82</u>
Excess of Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	<u>50,220.00</u>	<u>63,878.00</u>	<u>63,673.00</u>	<u>177,771.00</u>
<b><u>Operating Transfers In/(Out)</u></b>				
Transfers Out	(50,220.00)	(63,878.00)	(63,629.00)	(177,727.00)
Total Operating Transfers	<u>(50,220.00)</u>	<u>(63,878.00)</u>	<u>(63,629.00)</u>	<u>(177,727.00)</u>
Excess of Receipts and Transfers In Over/ (Under) Disbursements and Transfers Out			44.00	44.00
Cash Balances - August 1, 2015			100.00	100.00
Cash Balances - August 31, 2019	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$ 144.00</u>	<u>\$ 144.00</u>

Drug Enforcement Fund				
Fayette County	Lamar County	Pickens County	24th Judicial Circuit	Total
\$ 61,201.42	\$ 38,979.79	\$ 137,645.16	\$	\$ 237,826.37
1,250.33	1,624.00	2,856.20	1,741.32	7,471.85
			4,063.00	4,063.00
			49,919.08	49,919.08
			300.85	300.85
15.67	12.46	30.36	10.25	68.74
62,467.42	40,616.25	140,531.72	56,034.50	299,649.89
9,988.86	6,401.63	16,889.36	34,944.00	68,223.85
			212.55	212.55
		122.29	1,100.87	1,223.16
	39.22	57.34	122.00	218.56
6,000.00	2,000.00	10,500.00	13,201.56	31,701.56
			5.00	5.00
15,988.86	8,440.85	27,568.99	49,585.98	101,584.68
46,478.56	32,175.40	112,962.73	6,448.52	198,065.21
(53,407.10)	(35,000.00)	(134,000.00)	(18,001.00)	(240,408.10)
(53,407.10)	(35,000.00)	(134,000.00)	(18,001.00)	(240,408.10)
(6,928.54)	(2,824.60)	(21,037.27)	(11,552.48)	(42,342.89)
9,430.34	5,068.86	23,763.49	13,304.32	51,567.01
\$ 2,501.80	\$ 2,244.26	\$ 2,726.22	\$ 1,751.84	\$ 9,224.12

---

---

## *Description and Source of Funds*

---

---

The following is a brief summary and description of the different funds that are utilized by the Office of District Attorney, Twenty-Fourth Judicial Circuit, Fayette, Lamar and Pickens Counties, Alabama, for the period August 1, 2015 through August 31, 2019.

- ◆ **District Attorney's Fund** – accounts for court fees received from the Circuit Clerks in Fayette, Lamar and Pickens Counties. This fund also accounts for state incentive receipts and the cost reimbursements for child support enforcement received from the Department of Human Resources, fees received from the Worthless Check Unit, interest earned, and other miscellaneous receipts.
  
- ◆ **Worthless Check Unit Fund** – accounts for fees from service charges and restitution collected for processing worthless checks. The Worthless Check Unit is established by the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 12-17-224.
  
- ◆ **Domestic Violence Unit Fund** – accounts for all funds received from the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA), and the Alabama Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ACADV). These funds are used to fund the investigation and prosecution of domestic violence offenses.
  
- ◆ **Pre-Trial Diversion Fund** – accounts for fees received from the Pre-Trial Diversion Program. The Pre-Trial Diversion Fund is established by the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 45-29-82.60.
  
- ◆ **Drug Enforcement Fund** – accounts for court fees received from the Circuit Clerks and Municipalities in Fayette, Lamar and Pickens Counties. The Drug Enforcement Fund is established by Act Numbers: 2010-386, Fayette County; 2010-230, Lamar County; and 2010-590 (as amended by 2012-204), Pickens County, Acts of Alabama.
  
- ◆ **Evidence Seizures Fund** – accounts for seizures of funds from evidence held by the Office of District Attorney.
  
- ◆ **Attorney General Investigation Fund** – accounts for funds received from the State of Alabama for use in investigations.
  
- ◆ **Drug Task Force Fund** – accounts for monies received from the Drug Task Force Grant which is passed through the Pickens County Commission. This fund also accounts for seized monies and awarded seizures.