EXECUTIVE SECRETARY KARL R. HADE

ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE SECRETARY & LEGAL COUNSEL EDWARD M. MACON

COURT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM SANDRA L. KARISON, DIRECTOR

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CAROLINE E. KIRKPATRICK, DIRECTOR

FISCAL SERVICES BARRY M. WENZIG, DIRECTOR HUMAN RESOURCES RENÉE FLEMING MILLS, DIRECTOR

SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA



OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY 100 NORTH NINTH STREET RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219-2334 (804) 786-6455

August 1, 2022

The Honorable Erica W. Conner, Clerk Montgomery Circuit Court

Dear Ms. Conner:

As you are aware, upon the completion of each court audit, the Auditor of Public Accounts provides the Department of Judicial Services with a copy of its report. We were very pleased to receive your report covering the period of October 1, 2020 through March 31, 2022.

The <u>Code of Virginia</u> places many duties and responsibilities on the circuit court clerk's office. At a time when accounting procedures have become increasingly complex, with new fees and assessments being added, rising caseloads, and budgetary constraints, you and your staff have risen to the challenge and demands and were able to receive a report detailing no material deficiencies in your court's operation. We congratulate you and your staff on this accomplishment.

In the future, please let us know if the Department of Judicial Services can be of any assistance to you or your staff. We welcome the opportunity to work with you.

Very truly yours,

Tammie Barbee, Financial Management Analyst JUDICIAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MICHAEL J. RIGGS, SR., DIRECTOR

JUDICIAL PLANNING Cyril W. Miller, Jr., Director

JUDICIAL SERVICES PAUL F. DELOSH, DIRECTOR

LEGAL RESEARCH STEVEN L. DALLE MURA, DIRECTOR

LEGISLATIVE & PUBLIC RELATIONS ALISA W. PADDEN, DIRECTOR

MAGISTRATE SERVICES JONATHAN E. GREEN, DIRECTOR

TB/lib



Commonwealth of Virginia

Auditor of Public Accounts

Staci A. Henshaw, CPA Auditor of Public Accounts P.O. Box 1295 Richmond, Virginia 23218

July 5, 2022

The Honorable Erica W. Conner Clerk of the Circuit Court County of Montgomery

Sherri Blevins, Board Chair County of Montgomery

Audit Period: October 1, 2020, through March 31, 2022 Court System: County of Montgomery

We have audited the cash receipts and disbursements of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for this locality for the period noted above. Our primary objectives were to test the accuracy of financial transactions recorded on the Court's financial management system; evaluate the Court's internal controls; and test its compliance with significant state laws, regulations, and policies.

Management's Responsibility

Court management has responsibility for establishing and maintaining internal controls and complying with applicable laws and regulations. Internal control is a process designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting, effectiveness and efficiency of operations, and compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Deficiencies in internal controls could lead to noncompliance with laws and regulations, the loss of assets or revenues, or otherwise compromise the Clerk's fiscal accountability.

We noted no matters involving internal control and its operation necessary to bring to management's attention.

Erica W Conner, Clerk of the Circuit Court Sherri Blevins, Board Chair July 5, 2022 Page Two

We acknowledge the cooperation extended to us by the Clerk and her staff during this engagement.

Staci Henshaw AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

LJH:rh

cc: The Honorable Bradley W. Finch, Chief Judge F. Craig Meadows, County Administrator Paul F. DeLosh, Director of Judicial Services Supreme Court of Virginia Director, Admin and Public Records Department of Accounts