

**KAREN DENTON, COURT CLERK
KIOWA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
STATUTORY REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2002**

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STATE OF OKLAHOMA
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR AND INSPECTOR

JEFF A. McMAHAN
State Auditor and Inspector

April 25, 2003

Karen Denton, Court Clerk
Kiowa County, Oklahoma

Transmitted herewith is the statutory report of the Kiowa County, Court Clerk, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2002. This engagement was conducted in accordance with 20 O.S. §1312. A report of this type is critical in nature; however, we do not intend to imply that there were not commendable features in the present accounting and operating procedures of the Court Clerk.

We wish to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for the assistance and cooperation extended to our office during the conduct of our procedures.

The Office of the State Auditor and Inspector is committed to serve the public interest by providing independent oversight and to issue reports that serve as a management tool to the state to ensure a government which is accountable to the people of the State of Oklahoma.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeff A. McMahan".

JEFF A. McMAHAN
State Auditor and Inspector

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introductory Information.....ii
Statutory Report of State Auditor and Inspector 1
Court Fund Account Analysis 3

INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION

The Court Clerk is elected by the qualified voters of the County for a term of four years.

The primary responsibilities of the Court Clerk are to record, file and maintain the proceedings of the District Court, and perform other duties as directed by the District Court. Other duties and responsibilities of the Court Clerk are as follows: collecting all required Court fees, issuing warrants, orders, writs, subpoenas, passports and certain licenses, maintaining dockets and financial records for the various divisions of the Court, maintaining an appropriation ledger to control and monitor Court Fund expenditures, disbursing District Court funds in accordance with Court instructions and state statutes, and reviewing Court Fund claims for proper supporting documentation before bringing the claims and vouchers to the Court Fund Board for approval.



STATE OF OKLAHOMA
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR AND INSPECTOR

JEFF A. McMAHAN
State Auditor and Inspector

Karen Denton, Court Clerk
Kiowa County Courthouse
Hobart, Oklahoma 73651

Dear Ms. Denton:

For the purposes of complying with 20 O.S. § 1312, we have performed the following procedures for the fiscal year 2002:

- We tested Court Fund vouchers issued to determine whether the expenditure: (1) was properly supported by a claim, invoice, and receiving documentation, (2) was properly approved, (3) was properly classified, and (4) did not exceed appropriations.
- We tested District Court vouchers to determine they were properly accounted for and we looked at supporting documentation for disbursements to determine they were issued in accordance with Court instructions.
- We reconciled the Court Fund activity and/or balances to the County Treasurer's records.
- We reconciled the District Court case balances to the County Treasurer's depository ledger.
- We tested receipts issued to determine whether: (1) the correct fee was collected, and (2) the receipt was properly accounted for in the financial records.

All information included in the reconciliations, the Court Fund appropriation ledger, the monthly reports, and the cash receipts journal is the representation of the Court Clerk.

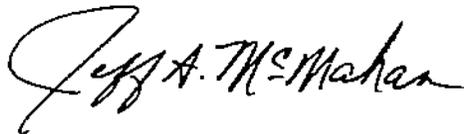
Our Court Clerk engagement was limited to the procedures performed above and was less in scope than an audit performed in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on any general-purpose financial statements of Kiowa County.

Based on the above reconciliations, tests, and procedures performed; Court Fund vouchers were properly supported, approved, classified, and did not exceed appropriations; District Court vouchers were properly accounted for and were issued in accordance with Court instructions; Court Fund financial records and District Court case balances reconciled with the County Treasurer's records; and the Court Clerk is collecting the correct fees and is properly accounting for them.

We have prepared a detailed analysis of the Court Fund, which is presented following this report.

This report is intended for the information and use of the Kiowa County Court Fund Board and the Administrative Office of the Courts. This restriction is not intended to limit the distribution of this report, which is a matter of public record.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff A. McMahen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

JEFF A. McMAHAN
State Auditor and Inspector

March 21, 2003

KAREN DENTON, COURT CLERK
 KIOWA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
 COURT FUND ACCOUNT ANALYSIS
 JUNE 30, 2002

Collections:	
Court fund fines, fees, and forfeitures	\$ 225,913
Interest earned on deposits	951
Total collections	<u>226,864</u>

Deductions:	
Lump sum budget categories:	
Juror expenses	10,310
Trial court attorneys	6,050
Guardians ad litem fees	350
Transcripts-preliminary and trial	1,910
Transcripts-appeals	2,070
Court system computer training	270
General office supplies	3,484
Forms printing	2,986
Postage and freight	7,134
Microfilm supplies	478
Court reporter supplies	235
Gas, water, electricity	16,800
General telephone expense	3,208
Long-distance telephone expense	871
Other expenses (robes, etc.)	40
Total lump sum categories	<u>56,196</u>

Restricted budget categories:	
Renovation and remodeling	4,677
Maintenance of court area(s)	2,730
Equipment purchases	8,941
Equipment rentals	1,320
Maintenance of equipment	11,702
OCIS services	11,536
Photocopy equipment rental	7,697
Photocopy equipment maintenance	890
Part-time court clerk employees	72,774
Total restricted categories	<u>122,267</u>

KAREN DENTON, COURT CLERK
KIOWA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
COURT FUND ACCOUNT ANALYSIS
JUNE 30, 2002

Mandated categories:	
Law library	<u>7,000</u>
Total mandated categories	<u>7,000</u>
Total deductions	<u>185,463</u>
Excess collections under deductions	<u>41,401</u>
Cancelled vouchers	303
Beginning account balance July 1, 2001	<u>41,953</u>
Ending account balance June 30, 2002	<u><u>\$ 83,657</u></u>