

SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA TAX COLLECTOR

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA TAX COLLECTOR

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Honorable Robert McClure
Tax Collector
Santa Rosa County, Florida

We have audited the accompanying special-purpose financial statements (hereinafter referred to as "financial statements") of the general fund and the tax fund of the Office of the Tax Collector of Santa Rosa County, Florida (hereinafter referred to as "Tax Collector"), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2007, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Tax Collector's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Tax Collector's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

As discussed in Note A to the financial statements, the special-purpose financial statements consists of only the fund level financial statements as defined in Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 34, and do not include presentations of *government-wide* financial statements of the Tax Collector, nor are they intended to be a complete presentation of the financial position and changes in financial position of Santa Rosa County, Florida, taken as a whole.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the general fund and tax fund of the Tax Collector as of September 30, 2007, and the respective changes in financial position, where applicable, thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 13, 2008, on our consideration of the Tax Collector's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

The budgetary comparison information on page 13 is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Tax Collector, Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioners, and the State of Florida Office of Auditor General and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

O'Sullivan Creel, LLP

May 13, 2008

**Santa Rosa County, Florida Tax Collector
BALANCE SHEET - GENERAL FUND
September 30, 2007**

ASSETS

Cash	<u>\$ 1,284,722</u>
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LIABILITIES

Accrued wages payable	\$ 98,715
Due to other governmental units	<u>1,186,007</u>
Total liabilities	1,284,722

FUND BALANCE

Fund balance	<u> --</u>
Total liabilities and fund balance	<u><u>\$ 1,284,722</u></u>

**Santa Rosa County, Florida Tax Collector
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE -
GENERAL FUND
For the year ended September 30, 2007**

REVENUES

Charges for services	\$ 3,653,832
Miscellaneous	34,732
Total revenues	<u>3,688,564</u>

EXPENDITURES

Current:	
General government:	
Personal services	1,968,926
Operating	512,015
Capital outlay	28,121
Total expenditures	<u>2,509,062</u>

Excess of revenues over expenditures	1,179,502
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OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)

Excess fees	<u>(1,179,502)</u>
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(1,179,502)</u>

Net change in fund balance	--
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FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>--</u>
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FUND BALANCE, END OF YEAR	<u><u>\$ --</u></u>
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Santa Rosa County, Florida Tax Collector
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS - AGENCY FUNDS -
TAX FUND
September 30, 2007

ASSETS

Cash	\$ 1,363,723
Miscellaneous receivables	<u>62,852</u>
Total assets	1,426,575

LIABILITIES

Deposits	600
Due to other governmental units	1,390,624
Miscellaneous	<u>35,351</u>
Total liabilities	<u>1,426,575</u>

NET ASSETS

Net Assets	<u><u>\$ --</u></u>
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**Santa Rosa County, Florida Tax Collector
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended September 30, 2007**

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A summary of the significant accounting policies consistently applied in the preparation of the financial statements follows.

1. Reporting Entity

The Office of the Tax Collector of Santa Rosa County, Florida (the "Tax Collector"), as established by Article VIII, Section 1(d), of the Constitution of the State of Florida, is an elected official of Santa Rosa County, Florida (the "County"). Although the Tax Collector is operationally autonomous from the Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioners, it does not hold sufficient corporate powers to be considered a legally separate entity for financial reporting purposes. Therefore, the Tax Collector is considered part of County's primary government for external financial reporting purposes.

These *special-purpose financial statements* of the Tax Collector are not intended to be a complete presentation of the financial position and results of operations of Santa Rosa County, Florida taken as a whole. As permitted by Chapter 10.556(4), Rules of the Auditor General State of Florida, the special-purpose financial statements consist of only the fund level financial statements as defined in GASB Statement No. 34, and do not include presentations of government-wide financial statements of the Tax Collector.

2. Fund Accounting

The accounting system of the Tax Collector is organized and operated on a fund basis. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts recording cash and financial resources, together with all related liabilities and residual equities or balances, and changes therein, which are segregated for the purpose of carrying on specific activities or attaining certain objectives in accordance with special regulations, restrictions, or limitations.

The funds utilized by the Tax Collector are as follows:

Governmental Funds

These funds utilize a modified accrual basis of accounting. The measurement focus is upon determination of financial position and changes in financial position (sources, uses, and balances of financial resources rather than upon net income determination).

**Santa Rosa County, Florida Tax Collector
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended September 30, 2007**

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES -- (Continued)

2. Fund Accounting -- (Continued)

General Fund - The general fund of the Tax Collector is used to account for all financial resources which are generated from operations of the office and any other resources not required to be accounted for in another fund.

Fiduciary Funds

The Tax Collector's sole fiduciary fund is an agency fund (the Tax Fund). Agency funds are used to account for assets held in a custodial capacity for others. Assets equal liabilities in agency funds and results of operations are not measured. The Tax Fund is used to account for receipts of various types of taxes, licenses, and fees collected on behalf of state, county, and municipal governmental agencies.

3. Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting refers to *when* revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. The basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied. All governmental funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. The revenues are recognized when they become both measurable and available as net current assets. The Tax Collector considers receivables collected within sixty days after year-end to be available and recognizes them as revenues of the current year. Expenditures are recognized when the related fund liability is incurred. Agency funds use the accrual basis of accounting.

4. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments with maturities of three months or less when purchased.

5. Accounting for Capital Assets

Capital assets (vehicles, equipment, and other tangible property costing at least \$1,000 with a useful life of more than one year) are recorded as expenditures at the time of purchase. These assets are capitalized at cost and accounted for in the County's government-wide financial statements.

**Santa Rosa County, Florida Tax Collector
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended September 30, 2007**

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES -- (Continued)

6. Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

The Tax Collector establishes an annual budget pursuant to Section 195.087, Florida Statutes. The budget is submitted to the Florida Department of Revenue for approval. A copy is provided to the Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioners and is incorporated into the overall county budget. The Tax Collector's budget is adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The legal level of budgetary control is the fund level.

7. Compensated Absences

Employees accumulate a limited amount of earned but unused sick leave, annual leave, and compensatory time, which will be paid upon separation from service. Unpaid compensated absences are recorded as a liability when the benefits are earned in the County's government-wide financial statements. For the general fund, compensated absence expenditures are recognized when payments are made to employees.

8. Excess Revenue

In accordance with Section 218.36, Florida Statutes, excess revenue is remitted proportionately to the various taxing districts at fiscal year-end.

NOTE B - CASH AND INVESTMENTS

At September 30, 2007, banks reported deposits before outstanding checks and deposits of \$2,817,842, all of which were held by financial institutions designated as "qualified public depositories" by the State Treasurer. All deposits were fully insured through a combination of Federal depository insurance and participation of the financial institutions in the multiple financial institution collateral pool as specified in Chapter 280, Florida Statutes. Accordingly, risk of loss due to bank failure is not significant.

Florida Statutes authorize the Tax Collector to invest in obligations of the U.S. Treasury and interest bearing time deposits or savings accounts in banks participating in the multiple financial institution collateral pool.

Santa Rosa County, Florida Tax Collector
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended September 30, 2007

NOTE C - LONG-TERM DEBT -- COMPENSATED ABSENCES

Disclosures required by Chapter 10.557(3)(g), Rules of the Auditor General State of Florida related to long-term debt are as follows:

Balance - October 1, 2006	\$ 208,774
Increases	204,609
Decreases	<u>(187,869)</u>
Balance - September 30, 2007	<u>\$ 225,514</u>

Compensated absences are paid by the General Fund.

NOTE D - PENSION AND RETIREMENT PLAN

Substantially all full-time employees of the Tax Collector are covered by the Florida Retirement System (FRS), a multiple employer cost sharing defined benefit pension plan. The FRS was established in 1970 by Chapter 121, Florida Statutes and is administered by the Florida Department of Management Services, Division of Retirement. Changes to the FRS can be made only by an act of the Florida Legislature. Rules governing the operation and administration of the system may be found in Chapter 60S of the Florida Administrative Code. The FRS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. The report may be obtained by writing to FRS, 2639-C North Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1560.

The FRS provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. The FRS provides for vesting of benefits for all members actively employed on July 1, 2001 after 6 years of creditable service, regardless of membership class. Under the laws in effect before that date, members needed 7, 8, or 10 years of service to become vested, depending on their membership class. Normal retirement benefits are available to employees who retire at age 62 with 6 or more years of service, or to those employees who have at least 30 years of creditable service, regardless of age. Retirement age and years of service requirements will vary depending on membership class. Early retirement is available after 6 years of service with a 5% reduction of benefits for each year prior to the normal retirement age. Retirement benefits are based upon age, average compensation and years-of-service credit where average compensation is computed as the average of an individual's five highest years of earnings.

Santa Rosa County, Florida Tax Collector
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended September 30, 2007

NOTE D - PENSION AND RETIREMENT PLAN -- (Continued)

Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) is an elective program available for eligible members of the FRS Pension Plan, Teachers' Retirement System, and State and County Officers and Employees' Retirement System who are eligible for normal retirement. Under this program, a member effectively retires and continues covered employment for up to 5 years. While in DROP, the member's deferred monthly retirement benefits accumulate, earning interest and cost-of-living increases. When the DROP period is over, the participant terminates covered employment and begins receiving his/her predetermined monthly retirement benefit, as well as the accrued DROP benefit. Disability retirees are not eligible to participate in DROP, and DROP participants do not qualify for disability retirement.

The FRS is noncontributory for employees and all contributions are made by participating FRS employers. Participating employer contributions are based upon state-wide rates established by the State of Florida. Average contribution rates for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2007 were as follows: regular employees, 9.85%, special risk employees, 20.92%, elected officials, 16.53%, senior management employees, 13.12%, and DROP participants, 10.91%. The Tax Collector's contributions, funded on a pay-as-you-go basis, were equal to the actuarially determined contribution requirements for each year and totaled \$152,774, \$119,477, and \$111,458, for the years ended September 30, 2007, 2006, and 2005, respectively.

NOTE E - OPERATING LEASES

The Tax Collector has an operating lease agreement for the rental of the Gulf Breeze branch office that expires in February 2008. Future minimum lease payments under this non-cancelable operating lease are \$8,525. The Pace branch office is rented on a month-to-month basis.

Rental expense for the offices for the year-ended September 30, 2007 was \$27,760.

Santa Rosa County, Florida Tax Collector
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended September 30, 2007

NOTE F - RISK MANAGEMENT

The Tax Collector is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The Santa Rosa Board of County Commissioners has established a Self-Insurance Fund (an internal service fund) to account for and finance its uninsured risks of loss. Under this program the County is self-insured with respect to the following exposures:

- Workers Compensation
- Auto Physical Damage
- Auto Liability
- Construction and Road Equipment

The County is covered by outside insurance for the following exposures:

- Portable Communication Equipment
- Boats
- Employee Fidelity
- General Liability, \$25,000 deductible
- Public Officials' Liability, \$25,000 deductible

Conventional insurance remains in effect for buildings and their contents. Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years. The County is a member of the Florida Association of Counties Trust, a pooled liability program providing general liability coverage and public officials' liability coverage. The Tax Collector participates in the program and makes payments to the Self-Insurance Fund based on historical estimates of amounts needed to pay prior and current year claims and to establish a reserve for catastrophe losses.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**Santa Rosa County, Florida Tax Collector
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL -
GENERAL FUND (Unaudited)
For the year ended September 30, 2007**

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Positive (Negative)
REVENUES				
Charges for services	\$ 3,101,700	\$ 3,101,700	\$ 3,653,832	\$ 552,132
Miscellaneous	35,000	35,000	34,732	(268)
Total revenues	<u>3,136,700</u>	<u>3,136,700</u>	<u>3,688,564</u>	<u>551,864</u>
EXPENDITURES				
Current:				
General government:				
Personal services	2,022,445	1,998,423	1,968,926	29,497
Operating	437,500	512,024	512,015	9
Capital outlay	40,600	28,121	28,121	--
Total expenditures	<u>2,500,545</u>	<u>2,538,568</u>	<u>2,509,062</u>	<u>29,506</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures	636,155	598,132	1,179,502	581,370
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Excess fees	(636,155)	(598,132)	(1,179,502)	(581,370)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(636,155)</u>	<u>(598,132)</u>	<u>(1,179,502)</u>	<u>(581,370)</u>
Net change in fund balance	--	--	--	--
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING OF YEAR	--	--	--	--
FUND BALANCE, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ --</u>	<u>\$ --</u>	<u>\$ --</u>	<u>\$ --</u>

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Honorable Robert McClure
Tax Collector
Santa Rosa County, Florida

We have audited the special-purpose financial statements (hereinafter referred to as “financial statements”) of the general fund and the tax fund of the Office of the Tax Collector of Santa Rosa County, Florida (hereinafter referred to as “Tax Collector”), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2007, and have issued our report thereon dated May 13, 2008. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Tax Collector’s internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Tax Collector’s internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Tax Collector’s internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity’s ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity’s financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity’s internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the entity’s internal control.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Tax Collector's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We noted certain matters that we reported to management of the Tax Collector in a separate letter dated May 13, 2008.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Tax Collector, Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioners, and the State of Florida Office of Auditor General and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

O'Sullivan Creel, LLP

May 13, 2008

MANAGEMENT LETTER

Honorable Robert McClure
Tax Collector
Santa Rosa County, Florida

We have audited the special-purpose financial statements (hereinafter referred to as “financial statements”) of the general fund and the tax fund of the Office of the Tax Collector of Santa Rosa County, Florida (hereinafter referred to as “Tax Collector”), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2007, and have issued our report thereon dated May 13, 2008.

We have issued our Independent Auditor’s Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, dated May 13, 2008. Disclosures in that report, if any, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Additionally, our audit was conducted in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General, which govern the conduct of local governmental entity audits performed in the State of Florida and require that certain items be addressed in this letter.

The Rules of the Auditor General (Section 10.554 (1) (i) 1.) require that we comment as to whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address significant findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report. The recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report have been implemented.

As required by the Rules of the Auditor General (Section 10.554 (1) (i) 2.) we determined that the Tax Collector is in compliance with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, regarding the investment of public funds.

The Rules of the Auditor General (Section 10.554 (1) (i) 3.) require that we comment as to whether or not there were any recommendations made to improve the Tax Collector's financial management, accounting procedures, and internal controls. We are submitting for consideration the recommendations described in Attachment A, as required by the Rules of the Auditor General (Section 10.554(1) (i) 3.).

The Rules of the Auditor General (Section 10.554 (1) (i) 4.) require disclosure in the management letter of violations of provisions of contracts and grant agreements or abuse that have an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but more than inconsequential. No items were identified which are required to be disclosed.

The Rules of the Auditor General (Section 10.554 (1) (i) 5.) permit disclosure in the management letter based on professional judgment of matters that are inconsequential to the financial statements, considering both quantitative and qualitative factors, including the following: violations of laws, rules, regulations, and contractual provisions or abuse that have occurred, or were likely to have occurred, and would have an immaterial effect on the financial statements; improper expenditures or illegal acts that would have an immaterial effect on the financial statements; control deficiencies that are not significant deficiencies, including, but not limited to: improper or inadequate accounting procedures (e.g. the omission of required disclosures from the annual financial statements), failures to properly record financial transactions, and other inaccuracies, shortages, defalcations, and instances of fraud discovered by, or that come to the attention of, the auditor. We are submitting for consideration the recommendation described in Attachment A as required to be disclosed by the Rules of the Auditor General (Section 10.554 (1) (i) 5.).

The Tax Collector's response to the recommendations described in Attachment A is included in the accompanying management's response to management letter. We did not audit the Tax Collector's response and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Tax Collector, Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioners, and the State of Florida Office of Auditor General and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

O'Sullivan Greel, LLP

May 13, 2008

Santa Rosa County, Florida Tax Collector
CURRENT YEAR RECOMMENDATIONS (Attachment A)
For the year ended September 30, 2007

2007-1 REVIEW OF JOURNAL ENTRIES

Finding – Due to the small size of the accounting staff, the Office Manager has the responsibility to prepare and post all journal entries to the general ledger. Although the monthly review of financial activity by upper level management is a part of the control process, we noted that journal entries are not subject to specific review.

Recommendation - We recommend the Office consider the practicality of instituting another level of management review of journal entries. The Office should also consider more fully integrating the tax collection software with the general ledger system in order to reduce the number of journal entries required.

2007-2 REVIEW OF TIMESHEETS

Finding – Although we noted that the Office’s internal controls over payroll include reviews by upper management of the payroll register, the direct deposit report, and the payroll exceptions report, the review and signoff of original timesheets was not performed consistently during the year.

Recommendation – We recommend the Office require timely review and approval of the original employee timesheets and that such reviews be performed by someone not involved in the direct processing of the payroll.

2007-3 APPROVAL AND REVIEW OF VOID TRANSACTIONS

Finding – The Office’s accounting policies do not require agents to obtain supervisory approval prior to voiding a transaction. Although void transactions processed on the Florida Real Time Vehicle Information System (FRVIS) are subsequently reviewed by a supervisor there is no such review of property tax and business license void transactions.

Recommendation – We recommend the Office review the void policies and procedures and upgrade controls to include the approval of all voids by a supervisory level employee, the subsequent review of void transaction reports, and any other procedures which are determined to be necessary.

**Santa Rosa County, Florida Tax Collector
CURRENT YEAR RECOMMENDATIONS (Attachment A)
For the year ended September 30, 2007**

2007-4 ALLOCATION OF INTEREST

Finding – The Tax Collector serves as the collecting agent for the various local taxing authorities, maintaining all collected amounts in interest bearing accounts until distribution is made to the appropriate taxing authority. Section 219.075, Florida Statutes requires the surplus investment earnings to be apportioned and remitted at least quarterly. During 2007, interest was remitted in one annual installment.

Recommendation – We recommend the Tax Collector transfer, on at least a quarterly basis, interest earnings to the applicable taxing authorities.

2007-5 INTERNAL CONTROL MONITORING AND REPORTING

Finding – We commend the Office’s efforts to upgrade its internal control systems and monitoring processes. We encourage continued focus on assessing risk and identifying areas of exposure in determining the design and timing of monitoring procedures.

Recommendation – To insure that monitoring of significant internal controls is consistently performed, we recommend the Office develop a more formalized schedule of controls to be reviewed, as well as a written reporting process to communicate the results of those reviews directly to the Tax Collector.

Santa Rosa County, Florida Tax Collector
MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSE TO MANAGEMENT LETTER
For the year ended September 30, 2007

2007-1 REVIEW OF JOURNAL ENTRIES

We continue to work with our software suppliers and have scheduled a software update which will correct previous problems with the interface between the tax collection software and the general ledger software. This should allow for automatic posting of tax collection transactions to the general ledger. We will consider the necessity and practicality of instituting another level of management review of the remaining journal entries.

2007-2 REVIEW OF TIMESHEETS

This recommendation will be implemented.

2007-3 APPROVAL AND REVIEW OF VOID TRANSACTIONS

This recommendation will be implemented.

2007-4 ALLOCATION OF INTEREST

This recommendation will be implemented.

2007-5 INTERNAL CONTROL MONITORING AND REPORTING

This recommendation will be implemented.