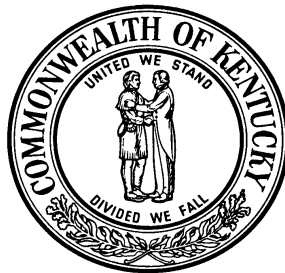


**REPORT OF THE AUDIT OF THE
BATH COUNTY
CLERK**

**For The Year Ended
December 31, 2024**



**ALLISON BALL
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
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ALLISON BALL
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Independent Auditor's Report

The Honorable Forrest McKenzie, Bath County Judge/Executive
The Honorable Roger Coyle, Bath County Clerk
Members of the Bath County Fiscal Court

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statement

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Excess Fees - Regulatory Basis of the County Clerk of Bath County, Kentucky, for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statement.

Unmodified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statement presents fairly, in all material respects, the receipts, disbursements, and excess fees of the Bath County Clerk for the year ended December 31, 2024, in accordance with the basis of accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the Commonwealth of Kentucky to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting and budget laws as described in Note 1.

Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles section of our report, the financial statement does not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Bath County Clerk, as of December 31, 2024, or changes in financial position or cash flows thereof for the year then ended.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards (GAS)*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the *Audit Program for County Fee Officials* issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Bath County Clerk and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.



The Honorable Forrest McKenzie, Bath County Judge/Executive
The Honorable Roger Coyle, Bath County Clerk
Members of the Bath County Fiscal Court

Basis for Opinion (Continued)

Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in Note 1 of the financial statement, the financial statement is prepared by the Bath County Clerk on the basis of the accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the laws of Kentucky to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting and budget laws, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The effects on the financial statement of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material and pervasive.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statement

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of this financial statement in accordance with accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the laws of Kentucky to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting and budget laws. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of a financial statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statement, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Bath County Clerk's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and GAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statement.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and GAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Bath County Clerk's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statement.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Bath County Clerk's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

The Honorable Forrest McKenzie, Bath County Judge/Executive
The Honorable Roger Coyle, Bath County Clerk
Members of the Bath County Fiscal Court

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement (Continued)

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we have identified during the audit.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 26, 2026, on our consideration of the Bath County Clerk's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely 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 effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Bath County Clerk's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Based on the results of our audit, we have presented the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Responses, included herein, which discusses the following report findings:

- 2024-001 The Bath County Clerk's Fourth Quarter Report Was Materially Misstated
- 2024-002 The Bath County Clerk's Office Lacks Adequate Segregation Of Duties

Respectfully submitted,



Allison Ball
Auditor of Public Accounts
Frankfort, KY

March 26, 2026

BATH COUNTY
 ROGER COYLE, COUNTY CLERK
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND EXCESS FEES - REGULATORY BASIS

For The Year Ended December 31, 2024

Receipts

State Grant	\$	10,800	
State Revenue Supplement			71,059
State Fees For Services			4,743
Fiscal Court			5,646
Licenses and Taxes:			
Motor Vehicle-			
Licenses and Transfers	\$	429,501	
Usage Tax		908,855	
Tangible Personal Property Tax		1,503,359	
Notary Fees		703	
Other-			
Marriage Licenses		3,750	
Deed Transfer Tax		38,325	
Delinquent Tax		121,186	3,005,679
Fees Collected for Services:			
Recordings-			
Deeds, Easements, and Contracts		18,826	
Real Estate Mortgages		29,701	
Chattel Mortgages and Financing Statements		37,052	
Powers of Attorney		2,066	
Affordable Housing Trust		10,806	
All Other Recordings		10,427	
Charges for Other Services-			
Candidate Filing Fees		700	
Copy Work		1,536	
Release		11,728	
Disabled Parking		974	
Storage Fees		17,990	
Miscellaneous		11,268	153,074
Interest Earned			287
Total Receipts			3,251,288

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

BATH COUNTY
 ROGER COYLE, COUNTY CLERK
 STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND EXCESS FEES - REGULATORY BASIS
 For The Year Ended December 31, 2024
 (Continued)

Disbursements

Payments to State:

Motor Vehicle-		
Licenses and Transfers	\$ 312,052	
Usage Tax	878,402	
Tangible Personal Property Tax	511,923	
Licenses, Taxes, and Fees-		
Delinquent Tax	8,399	
Legal Process Tax	11,808	
Affordable Housing Trust	<u>10,806</u>	\$ 1,733,390

Payments to Fiscal Court:

Tangible Personal Property Tax	132,085	
Delinquent Tax	7,376	
Deed Transfer Tax	<u>37,587</u>	177,048

Payments to Other Districts:

Tangible Personal Property Tax	799,214	
Delinquent Tax	<u>66,634</u>	865,848

Payments to Sheriff 9,480

Payments to County Attorney 15,403

Other Regulatory Payments:

 Other Refunds 10,384

Operating Disbursements:

Personnel Services-	
Deputies' Salaries	170,168
Employee Benefits-	
Employer's Paid Health Insurance	38,486
Materials and Supplies-	
Office Supplies	12,742

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

BATH COUNTY
 ROGER COYLE, COUNTY CLERK
 STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND EXCESS FEES - REGULATORY BASIS
 For The Year Ended December 31, 2024
 (Continued)

Disbursements (Continued)

Operating Disbursements: (Continued)

Other Charges-		
DRMS	\$ 22,116	
Disabled Parking	766	
Storage Fees	17,990	
Miscellaneous	2,429	
Postage	5,195	
E-Recording	10,800	
Utilities	1,394	\$ 282,086
		<u> </u>
Total Disbursements		<u>\$ 3,093,639</u>
Net Receipts		157,649
Less: Statutory Maximum		<u>108,103</u>
Excess Fees		49,546
Less: Expense Allowance		<u>3,600</u>
Excess Fees Due County for 2024		45,946
Payment to Fiscal Court - March 12, 2025		<u>45,946</u>
Balance Due Fiscal Court at Completion of Audit		<u>\$ 0</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

BATH COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

December 31, 2024

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Basis of Accounting

The financial statement has been prepared on a regulatory basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Authority for the regulatory basis is found in Kentucky Revised Statutes (KRS).

The Department for Local Government (DLG) is the regulatory agency responsible for establishing minimum accounting requirements for local government entities. The commissioner of the DLG is designated as the state local finance officer. (KRS 68.001). The DLG must prescribe and maintain “a uniform system of accounting and reporting on the receipt, use and handling of all public funds, other than taxes, due and payable to the state” from local government entities. (KRS 46.010(1)). The state local finance officer supervises the administration of the county uniform budget system and accounts and financial operations and must prescribe a “uniform system of accounts for all counties and county officials.” (KRS 68.210.) Under this authority, the DLG requires local governments to follow guidelines set forth in its *County Budget Preparation and State Local Finance Officer Policy Manual* (Manual) to meet the minimum required reporting for financial statement purposes.

The regulatory basis is outlined in the Manual and defines the measurement, presentation, disclosure, and recognition requirements for financial transactions when preparing regulatory basis financial statements. The Manual includes the standardized format for quarterly reporting to DLG.

Under this regulatory basis of accounting, receipts and disbursements are generally recognized when cash is received or disbursed, with the exception of accrual of the following items (not all-inclusive) as of December 31 that may be included in the excess fees calculation:

- Interest receivable
- Collection on accounts due from others for 2024 services
- Reimbursements for 2024 activities
- Payments due to other governmental entities for December tax and fee collections and payroll
- Payments due to vendors for goods or services provided in 2024

B. Measurement Focus and Excess Fees

The measurement focus of a fee official’s financial statement is upon current financial resources. A county clerk must remit to the fiscal court any income of his or her office, including the income from investments, that exceeds the sum of his or her maximum salary as permitted by the Constitution and other reasonable expenses, including compensation of deputies and assistants, when making his or her annual settlement. (KRS 64.152(2)). This settlement is due to the fiscal court by March 15 of each year. (KRS 64.152(1)). An outgoing clerk shall make a final settlement with the fiscal court by March 15 immediately following the expiration of his or her term of office. (KRS 64.830). The fiscal court shall collect any amount due from the county clerk as determined by the audit. (KRS 64.820.)

C. Fund Accounting

A fee official uses a fund to report on the results of operations. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities.

A fee official uses a fund for fees to account for activities for which the government desires periodic determination of the excess of receipts over disbursements to facilitate management control, accountability, and compliance with laws.

BATH COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
December 31, 2024
(Continued)

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

D. Cash and Investments

KRS 66.480 authorizes the county clerk's office to invest in obligations of the United States and of its agencies and instrumentalities, obligations and contracts for future delivery or purchase of obligations backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, obligations of any corporation of the United States government, bonds or certificates of indebtedness of this state, and certificates of deposit issued by or other interest-bearing accounts of any bank or savings and loan institution which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or which are collateralized, to the extent uninsured, by any obligation permitted by KRS 41.240(4).

Note 2. Employee Retirement System and Other Post-Employment Benefits

The clerk's office has elected to participate, pursuant to KRS 78.530, in the County Employees Retirement System (CERS), which has been governed by the CERS nine-member board of trustees since April 1, 2021. The Kentucky Public Pensions Authority (KPPA) was created by KRS 61.505, effective April 1, 2021, to provide staffing and daily administrative needs for CERS and Kentucky Retirement Systems. CERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer, defined benefit pension plan, which covers all eligible full-time employees and provides for retirement, disability, and death benefits to plan members. Benefit contributions, vesting requirements, and provisions are established by statute and are determined by participation date and hazardous or non-hazardous participation.

The county's contribution rate for nonhazardous employees for calendar year 2024 was 23.34% for the first six months and 19.71% for the last six months.

Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)

CERS provides post-retirement health care, cost of living adjustments for all recipients of retirement benefits, and a retired member's death benefit, all determined by participation date and hazardous or non-hazardous participation.

Specific details about retiree pension and OPEB benefits can be found online at: <https://www.kyret.ky.gov/Publications>.

Kentucky Public Pension Authority's Annual Financial Report and Proportionate Share Audit Report

KPPA issues a publicly available annual financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information on CERS. Many of these annual reports are available online at <https://kyret.ky.gov>. Reports may also be obtained by writing the KPPA, 1260 Louisville Road, Frankfort, KY 40601-6124, or by telephone at (502) 564-4646.

KPPA also issues proportionate share audit reports for both total pension liability and other post-employment benefits for CERS determined by actuarial valuation, as well as each participating county's proportionate share. Both the Schedules of Employer Allocations and Pension Amounts by Employer and the Schedules of Employer Allocations and OPEB Amounts by Employer reports and the related actuarial tables are available online at <https://kyret.ky.gov>. The complete actuarial valuation report, including all actuarial assumptions and methods, is also available on the website or can be obtained as described in the paragraph above.

BATH COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
December 31, 2024
(Continued)

Note 3. Deposits

The Bath County Clerk maintained deposits of public funds with federally insured banking institutions as required by the Manual. The Manual strongly recommends perfected pledges of securities covering all public funds except direct federal obligations and funds protected by federal insurance. In order to be perfected in the event of failure or insolvency of the depository institution, this pledge or provision of collateral should be evidenced by an agreement between the county clerk and the depository institution, signed by both parties, that is (a) in writing, (b) approved by the board of directors of the depository institution or its loan committee, which approval must be reflected in the minutes of the board or committee, and (c) an official record of the depository institution. These requirements were met.

Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a depository institution failure, the county clerk's deposits may not be returned. The Bath County Clerk does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk, but rather follows the requirements of the Manual. As of December 31, 2024, all deposits were covered by a properly executed collateral security agreement.

Note 4. State Grant

The Bath County Clerk's Office received an e-recording grant from the Kentucky Department for Local Government in the amount of \$35,371. Funds totaling \$10,800 were expended during the year. The unexpended grant balance was \$24,571 as of December 31, 2024.

Note 5. Commitments: - Lease Agreements and Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITA)

The Bath County Clerk's Office was committed to the following lease agreements and SBITAs as of December 31, 2024:

Description	Effective Date	Length of Term	Frequency of Payments	Ending Date	Amount of Payments	Balance December 31, 2024
Lease:						
Computer Hardware	12/22/2022	60	Monthly	12/22/2027	\$ 645	\$ 23,220
SBITA:						
Computer Software	12/22/2022	60	Monthly	12/22/2027	\$ 1,198	\$ 43,128

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REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND
ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL
STATEMENT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

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ALLISON BALL
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And
On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial
Statement Performed In Accordance With *Government Auditing Standards*

Independent Auditor's Report

The Honorable Forrest McKenzie, Bath County Judge/Executive
The Honorable Roger Coyle, Bath County Clerk
Members of the Bath County Fiscal Court

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the *Audit Program for County Fee Officials* issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Excess Fees - Regulatory Basis of the Bath County Clerk for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statement and have issued our report thereon dated March 26, 2026. The Bath County Clerk's financial statement is prepared on a regulatory basis of accounting, which demonstrates compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting and budget laws, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statement, we considered the Bath County Clerk's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statement, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Bath County Clerk's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Bath County Clerk's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Responses, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses.

A *deficiency in internal control* 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 and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statement will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis. We consider the deficiencies described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Responses as items 2024-001 and 2024-002 to be material weaknesses.



Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And
On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial
Statement Performed In Accordance With *Government Auditing Standards*
(Continued)

Report on Compliance And Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Bath County Clerk's financial statement is 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 financial statement. 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 an instance of noncompliance or other matter that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Responses as item 2024-001.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Respectfully submitted,



Allison Ball
Auditor of Public Accounts
Frankfort, KY

March 26, 2026

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES

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BATH COUNTY
ROGER COYLE, COUNTY CLERK
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES

For The Year Ended December 31, 2024

2024-001 The Bath County Clerk's Fourth Quarter Report Was Materially Misstated

The county clerk's fourth quarter financial report was materially misstated and required adjustments and reclassifications to present an accurate reporting of the financial activity during calendar year 2024. Several errors were made when totaling the fourth quarter report and one item was included in the financial statement twice. Receipts were misstated by \$132,816 compared to actual bank activity. The county clerk did not have procedures in place to ensure that amounts reported for receipts were accurate on the fourth quarter financial report. As a result, the county clerk's quarterly report submitted to the Department for Local Government was materially misstated.

KRS 68.210 gives the State Local Finance Officer the authority to prescribe a uniform system of accounts. The *County Budget Preparation and State Local Finance Officer Policy Manual* requires officials to submit quarterly reports to the Department for Local Government by the 30th day following the close of each quarter. The uniform system of accounts has specific requirements on how to record various types of transactions for different funds and fund types. The most basic requirement of the uniform system of accounts is that all transactions are recorded and classified correctly.

KRS 46.010(2) requires, "each county treasurer, and each county officer who receives or disburses state funds, to keep an accurate account of receipts and disbursements, showing a daily balance of receipts and disbursements." KRS 46.010(3) requires, "all county officers handling state funds, other than taxes, to make an annual report to the Department for Local Government showing receipts and disbursements, and to make other financial statements as the Department for Local Government requires." Proper recording is a basic internal control necessary to ensure the accuracy and reliability of financial reports.

We recommend the county clerk ensure that all quarterly financial reports are accurate prior to submission to the Department for Local Government.

County Clerk's Response: The county clerk did not provide a response.

2024-002 The Bath County Clerk's Office Lacks Adequate Segregation Of Duties

The Bath County Clerk's Office lacks adequate segregation of duties. All employees of the county clerk's office collect receipts. The county clerk or assigned deputy prepares the daily, weekly, and monthly reports. The county clerk posts to the receipts and disbursements ledgers and prepares financial reports. The county clerk has implemented compensating controls to mitigate this control weakness, however, the controls in place did not work as designed and misstatements were noted on the fourth quarter financial statement.

According to the county clerk, the lack of segregation of duties exists due to a limited office size and he chooses to perform some of the bookkeeping functions himself. A lack of segregation of duties or strong oversight increases the risk that errors or fraud could occur and not be detected.

KRS 46.010(2) requires, "each county treasurer, and each county officer who receives or disburses state funds, to keep an accurate account of receipts and disbursements, showing a daily balance of receipts and disbursements." KRS 46.010(3) requires, "all county officers handling state funds, other than taxes, to make an annual report to the Department for Local Government showing receipts and disbursements, and to make other financial statements as the Department for Local Government requires." The segregation of duties over various accounting functions such as mail, preparing deposits, recording receipts and disbursements, and preparing monthly reports or the implementation of compensating controls is essential for the accuracy and reliability of financial reports.

BATH COUNTY
ROGER COYLE, COUNTY CLERK
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES
For The Year Ended December 31, 2024
(Continued)

2024-002 The Bath County Clerk's Office Lacks Adequate Segregation Of Duties (Continued)

A proper segregation of duties over accounting and reporting functions such as preparing deposits, preparing daily checkout sheets, and preparation of reports, or implementing compensating controls when necessary because of a limited number of staff, is essential for providing protection from asset misappropriation and inaccurate financial reporting. Additionally, proper segregation of duties protects employees in the normal course of performing their daily responsibilities.

We recommend the county clerk segregate the duties of accounting functions. If segregation of duties is not feasible due to lack of staff, we recommend the county clerk mitigate this control weakness by implementing and documenting stronger effective compensating controls in the form of strong oversight from an employee who is not involved in the performance of these functions.

County Clerk's Response: The county clerk did not provide a response.