



**FRANKFORT, Ky**. – State Auditor Allison Ball released the audit of the 2024 financial statements of Edmonson County Clerk Kevin Alexander. State law requires the auditor to conduct annual audits of county clerks and sheriffs.

Auditing standards require the auditor's letter to communicate whether the financial statements present fairly the receipts and disbursements of the Edmonson County Clerk and the receipts, disbursements, and fund balances of the Edmonson County Clerk's operating fund and county fund in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The clerk's financial statements did not follow this format. However, the clerk's financial statements are fairly presented in conformity with the regulatory basis of accounting, which is an acceptable reporting methodology. This reporting methodology is followed for all 120 clerk audits in Kentucky.

## Finding: Lacks adequate segregation of duties over accounting functions.

The Edmonson County Clerk's Office lacks adequate segregation of duties over various accounting functions. The county clerk collects receipts, prepares daily check out sheets, posts to ledgers, prepares monthly reports, performs bank reconciliations, prepares deposits, and prepares and signs check. These incompatible duties create a lack of segregation of duties over receipts, disbursements, and reconciliations.

## Recommendations

We recommend the county clerk segregate duties involving the collection and reporting of receipts, the preparation and recording of disbursements, and bank reconciliations. If segregation of duties is not feasible due to a lack of staff, we recommend the county clerk implement and document compensating controls to offset this control deficiency in the form of strong oversight from an employee not performing any of those functions.

## **County Officials Response**

County Clerk's Response: I receive this comment annually, and it's not unexpected. As I've said before, I do 95% of all daily deposit activities. With [name redacted] retirement, [name redacted] does the remaining. With my full-time staff being four including myself, combined with an everchanging number of responsibilities, training someone else to perform bookkeeping duties would be difficult. We will continue on as we do, retaining dual-check-writing procedures and maintaining all of the necessary paperwork for voids and refunds.

The county clerk's responsibilities include collecting certain taxes, issuing licenses, maintaining county records, and providing other services. The clerk's office is funded through statutory fees collected in conjunction with these duties.

The audit report can be found on the <u>auditor's website</u>.









209 St. Clair Street | Frankfort, KY 40601 | 502.564.5841 | www.auditor.ky.gov