



**Thomas A. Schweich**  
Missouri State Auditor

# CITIZENS SUMMARY

## Findings in the audit of the Thirty-Eighth Judicial Circuit, City of Forsyth Municipal Division

### Municipal Division Procedures

The City Prosecuting Attorney did not sign traffic tickets submitted to the municipal division; instead, the Court Clerk used a stamp of his signature. The Municipal Judge approved a summary report of new cases heard but did not always sign court dockets after case dispositions were recorded, and the Court Clerk was allowed to amend certain speeding violations without the supervision or approval of the Prosecuting Attorney or Municipal Judge, which increases the risk tickets or monies will be mishandled. The Court Clerk was allowed to recall warrants using a facsimile of the Municipal Judge's signature and could contact an arresting law enforcement agency to request the release of a defendant on his/her own recognizance. Receipts were not always deposited on a timely basis, and the accounts receivable list maintained by the Court Clerk was not always accurate.

In the areas audited, the overall performance of this entity was **Good**.\*

### American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Federal Stimulus)

The Thirty-Eighth Judicial Circuit, City of Forsyth Municipal Division, did not receive any federal stimulus monies during the audited time period.

\*The rating(s) cover only audited areas and do not reflect an opinion on the overall operation of the entity. Within that context, the rating scale indicates the following:

- Excellent:** The audit results indicate this entity is very well managed. The report contains no findings. In addition, if applicable, prior recommendations have been implemented.
- Good:** The audit results indicate this entity is well managed. The report contains few findings, and the entity has indicated most or all recommendations have already been, or will be, implemented. In addition, if applicable, many of the prior recommendations have been implemented.
- Fair:** The audit results indicate this entity needs to improve operations in several areas. The report contains several findings, or one or more findings that require management's immediate attention, and/or the entity has indicated several recommendations will not be implemented. In addition, if applicable, several prior recommendations have not been implemented.
- Poor:** The audit results indicate this entity needs to significantly improve operations. The report contains numerous findings that require management's immediate attention, and/or the entity has indicated most recommendations will not be implemented. In addition, if applicable, most prior recommendations have not been implemented.