

HOWELL COUNTY, MISSOURI TWO YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000

From The Office Of State Auditor Claire McCaskill

Report No. 2001-87 September 18, 2001 www.auditor.state.mo.us



Office Of The State Auditor Of Missouri Claire McCaskill

September 2001

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IMPORTANT: The Missouri State Auditor is required by Missouri law to conduct audits only once every four years in counties, like Howell, which do not have a county auditor. However, to assist such counties in meeting federal audit requirements, the State Auditor will also perform a financial and compliance audit of various county operating funds every two years. This voluntary service to Missouri counties can only be provided when state auditing resources are available and does not interfere with the State Auditor's constitutional responsibility of auditing state government.

Once every four years, the State Auditor's statutory audit will cover additional areas of county operations, as well as the elected county officials, as required by Missouri's Constitution.

This audit of Howell County included additional areas of county operations, as well as the elected county officials. The following concerns were noted as part of the audit:

• A state law, Section 50.333.13, RSMo, enacted in 1997, allowed salary commissions meeting in 1997 to provide mid-term salary increases for associate county commissioners elected in 1996 due to the fact that their terms were increased from two years to four. Based on this law, in 1999 Howell County's Associate County Commissioners salaries were each increased approximately \$5,400 yearly, according to information from the county clerk.

On May 15, 2001, the Missouri Supreme Court handed down an opinion that holds that all raises given pursuant to this statute section are unconstitutional. Based on the Supreme Court decision, the raises given to each of the Associate County Commissioners, totaling approximately \$10,800, for the two years ended December 31, 2000, should be repaid. Any raises given to other officials within their term of office should also be re-evaluated for propriety.

- The county does not have procedures in place to track federal awards for preparation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards. The county prepared a schedule for the years ended December 31, 2000 and 1999; however, the schedule contained a number of errors and omissions with expenditures understated by \$56,304 and \$93,253, respectively.
- State law allows county officials, with the approval of the County Commission, to perform services for cities that they normally provide to the county for additional compensation. The county entered into written contracts in 1988 and 1990 which provide for the county to collect property taxes for the city of West Plains and the city of Willow Springs, respectively.

The County Collector currently assesses a penalty on delinquent city tax payments in accordance with state law, which provides for a 5 percent penalty to be collected from the taxpayer, and the proceeds are to be distributed two-fifths to the General Revenue Fund and three-fifths to the County Employees' Retirement Fund. However, the County Collector personally retains these penalties.

The audit also includes some matters related to budgetary practices, published financial statements, collateral securities, and the Juvenile Office, upon which the county should consider and take appropriate corrective action.

Copies of the audit are available upon request.

HOWELL COUNTY, MISSOURI

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FINANCIAL SECTION

State Auditor's Reports



CLAIRE C. McCASKILL Missouri State Auditor

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

To the County Commission and Officeholders of Howell County, Missouri

We have audited the accompanying special-purpose financial statements of various funds of Howell County, Missouri, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2000 and 1999, as identified in the table of contents. These special-purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the county's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these special-purpose 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 special-purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the special-purpose financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and the significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The accompanying special-purpose financial statements were prepared for the purpose of presenting the receipts, disbursements, and changes in cash of various funds of Howell County, Missouri, and comparisons of such information with the corresponding budgeted information for various funds of the county and are not intended to be a complete presentation of the financial position and results of operations of those funds or of Howell County.

In our opinion, the special-purpose financial statements referred to in the first paragraph present fairly, in all material respects, the receipts, disbursements, and changes in cash of various funds of Howell County, Missouri, and comparisons of such information with the corresponding budgeted information for various funds of the county as of and for the years ended December 31,

2000 and 1999, in conformity with the comprehensive basis of accounting discussed in Note 1, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we also have issued our report dated June 14, 2001, on our consideration of the county's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*, and is not a required part of the special-purpose financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the special-purpose financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the special-purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

The accompanying History, Organization, and Statistical Information is presented for informational purposes. This information was obtained from the management of Howell County, Missouri, and was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the special-purpose financial statements referred to above.

Oir McCashill

Claire McCaskill State Auditor

June 14, 2001 (fieldwork completion date)

The following auditors participated in the preparation of this report:

Director of Audits:	Thomas J. Kremer, CPA
Audit Manager:	Jeannette Eaves, CPA
In-Charge Auditor:	Robyn Vogt
Audit Staff:	Steve Garner
	Cindy Elliott



CLAIRE C. McCASKILL Missouri State Auditor

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

To the County Commission and Officeholders of Howell County, Missouri

We have audited the special-purpose financial statements of various funds of Howell County, Missouri, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2000 and 1999, and have issued our report thereon dated June 14, 2001. 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.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the special-purpose financial statements of various funds of Howell County, Missouri, are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of the county's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants, 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 that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*. However, we noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance which are described in the accompanying Management Advisory Report.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the special-purpose financial statements of various funds of Howell County, Missouri, we considered the county's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the special-purpose financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not

necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the special-purpose financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we noted other matters involving the internal control over financial reporting which are described in the accompanying Management Advisory Report.

This report is intended for the information of the management of Howell County, Missouri; federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities; and other applicable government officials. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

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Claire McCaskill State Auditor

June 14, 2001 (fieldwork completion date)

Financial Statements

Exhibit A-1

HOWELL COUNTY, MISSOURI STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN CASH - VARIOUS FUNDS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000

	Cash,			Cash,
Fund	 January 1	Receipts	Disbursements	December 31
General Revenue	\$ 278,548	2,748,192	2,698,525	328,215
Special Road and Bridge	176,227	1,446,160	1,460,857	161,530
Assessment	12,441	298,632	263,775	47,298
School Resource Officer	31,712	34,797	39,935	26,574
Law Enforcement Training	13,100	15,095	11,781	16,414
Prosecuting Attorney Bad Check	14,995	50,940	52,453	13,482
Recorder's Special	41,221	17,372	3,650	54,943
Prosecuting Attorney Training	2,713	2,476	3,234	1,955
911 Emergency Telephone	334,135	385,619	374,489	345,265
Criminal Pleas	4,365	237	4,602	0
Children's Trust	0	7,350	7,350	0
Sheriff's Equipment	1,943	908	2,851	0
Prosecuting Attorney Special	4,532	964	4,713	783
Drug Enforcement	25,505	9,857	11,426	23,936
Sheriff Special	357	49,715	44,113	5,959
CDBG Project #98-PF-13	0	79,572	79,572	0
Sheriff Emergency Response Team	4,856	283	2,138	3,001
Special Grants	0	262,340	258,719	3,621
Election Services	54	2,943	1,069	1,928
Micro Enterprise Loan	0	51,100	51,100	0
Law Enforcement Sales Tax	0	66,478	0	66,478
Senate Bill 40 Board	12,816	134,669	111,503	35,982
Circuit Clerk Interest	24,131	3,977	995	27,113
Associate Circuit Division Interest	10,384	8,684	3,529	15,539
Law Library	1,191	14,817	4,604	11,404
Total	\$ 995,226	5,693,177	5,496,983	1,191,420

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

Exhibit A-2

HOWELL COUNTY, MISSOURI STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN CASH - VARIOUS FUNDS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999

	Cash,			Cash,
Fund	January 1	Receipts	Disbursements	December 31
General Revenue	\$ 258,908	2,686,274	2,666,634	278,548
Special Road and Bridge	214,100	1,416,452	1,454,325	176,227
Assessment	11,858	270,463	269,880	12,441
School Resource Officer	28,190	42,109	38,587	31,712
Law Enforcement Training	8,792	16,350	12,042	13,100
Prosecuting Attorney Bad Check	19,476	47,991	52,472	14,995
Recorder's Special	61,241	18,631	38,651	41,221
Prosecuting Attorney Training	3,446	2,849	3,582	2,713
911 Emergency Telephone	324,420	361,958	352,243	334,135
Criminal Pleas	9,207	404	5,246	4,365
Children's Trust	0	6,199	6,199	0
Sheriff's Equipment	3,840	889	2,786	1,943
Prosecuting Attorney Special	2,719	2,902	1,089	4,532
Drug Enforcement	11,802	120,081	106,378	25,505
Sheriff Special	408	28,831	28,882	357
EDA Grant - Phase 1	0	14,875	14,875	0
EDA Grant - Phase 2	0	982	982	0
CDBG Project #96-ED-09	0	924	924	0
CDBG Project #97-PF-11	0	40,761	40,761	0
CDBG Project #98-PF-13	0	298,728	298,728	0
Sheriff Emergency Response Team	2,578	5,008	2,730	4,856
South Central Drug Task Force	0	167,698	167,698	0
Election Services	0	54	0	54
Senate Bill 40 Board	21,366	129,164	137,714	12,816
Circuit Clerk Interest	27,034	7,176	10,079	24,131
Associate Circuit Division Interest	5,825	5,249	690	10,384
Law Library	2,391	3,052	4,252	1,191
Total	\$ 1,017,601	5,696,054	5,718,429	995,226

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

	Year Ended December 31,							
-		2000			1999			
-			Variance			Variance		
			Favorable			Favorable		
	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)		
TOTALS - VARIOUS FUNDS				_				
RECEIPTS \$	5,752,525	5,599,221	(153,304)	5,652,959	5,680,523	27,564		
DISBURSEMENTS	6,238,381	5,487,855	750,526	6,211,400	5,703,408	507,992		
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	(485,856)	111,366	597,222	(558,441)	(22,885)	535,556		
CASH, JANUARY 1	959,520	959,520	0	982,351	982,351	0		
CASH, DECEMBER 31	473,664	1,070,886	597,222	423,910	959,466	535,556		
GENERAL REVENUE FUND								
RECEIPTS								
Property taxes	34,500	38,029	3,529	29.000	31,954	2,954		
Sales taxes	1,582,000	1,493,560	(88,440)	1,422,000	1,450,344	28,344		
Intergovernmental	681,225	704,090	22,865	675,304	694,380	19,076		
Charges for services	434,483	426,357	(8,126)	392,470	434,513	42.043		
Interest	25,000	34,565	9,565	30,000	22,079	(7,921)		
Other	38,747	46,108	7,361	37.057	48,004	10,947		
Transfers in	5,000	5,483	483	5,000	5,000	0		
Total Receipts	2,800,955	2,748,192	(52,763)	2,590,831	2.686.274	95.443		
DISBURSEMENTS	2,000,755	2,740,172	(52,705)	2,590,051	2,000,274	,115		
County Commission	92,895	92.033	862	92,295	92.091	204		
County Clerk	89.675	85,325	4,350	85,775	82,943	2.832		
Elections	89,900	96,140	(6,240)	59,500	49,977	9,523		
Buildings and grounds	63,320	68,554	(5,234)	66,650	55,615	11,035		
Employee fringe benefits	392,700	361,285	31,415	304,000	299,037	4,963		
County Treasurer	46,902	44,481	2,421	46,277	44,649	1,628		
County Collector	118,254	118,239	15	113,760	113,748	1,020		
Ex Officio Recorder of Deeds	68,750	69,299	(549)	67,900	66,782	1.118		
Circuit Clerk	34,500	14,219	20,281	30,000	31,947	(1,947)		
Associate Circuit Court	17,100	15,363	1,737	17,354	16,062	1,292		
Court administration	8,200	5,250	2,950	8,350	5,147	3,203		
Public Administrator	20,555	19,000	1,555	20,515	19,405	1,110		
Sheriff	523,940	471,316	52,624	482,040	481,970	70		
Jail	172,890	157,921	14,969	162,500	481,970	22,391		
Prosecuting Attorney	141,506	141,706	(200)	138,383	140,109	(1,170)		
Juvenile Officer	141,500	124,710	16,886	166,213	155,141	11,072		
County Coroner	19,500	17,624	1,876	17,000	19,261	(2,261)		
Grants	312,783	227,746	85,037	306,675	257,529	49,146		
Public health and welfare services	31,000	62,916	(31,916)	31,000	45,421	(14,421)		
Debt service	135,000	127.700	7,300	135,000	123.823	11,177		
Other	349,869	310,008	39,861	326,173	355,118	(28,945)		
Transfers out	67,690	67,690	0	73,720	71,306	(28,945)		
Emergency Fund	85,000	07,090	85,000	80,000	0	80,000		
Total Disbursamenta	3,023,525	2,698,525	325,000	2,831,080	2.666.634	164,446		
Total Disbursements	(222,570)	2,698,525	272,237	(240,249)	2,000,034	259,889		
CASH. JANUARY 1		,	272,237		,	259,889		
CASH, JANUARY I CASH, DECEMBER 31	278,548 55,978	278,548 328,215	272,237	258,908 18,659	258,908 278,548	259,889		
CASH, DECEMBER 31	55,710	520,213	412,231	10,037	210,340	239,009		

			Year Ended De	December 31,			
_		2000			1999		
			Variance Favorable			Variance Favorable	
_	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)	
SPECIAL ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND							
RECEIPTS							
Property taxes	23,000	26,918	3,918	21,000	22,618	1,618	
Sales taxes	285,000	285,000	0	265,000	275,000	10,000	
Intergovernmental	1,122,410	1,120,899	(1,511)	1,140,366	1,104,926	(35,440)	
Charges for services	500	300	(200)	500	745	245	
Interest	11,000	10,432	(568)	11,000	11,018	18	
Other	0	2,611	2,611	0	2,145	2,145	
Total Receipts	1,441,910	1,446,160	4,250	1,437,866	1,416,452	(21,414)	
DISBURSEMENTS							
Salaries	480,000	478,942	1,058	460,000	456,814	3,186	
Employee fringe benefits	176,100	136,979	39,121	147,000	123,947	23,053	
Supplies	123,000	138,673	(15,673)	138,000	105,201	32,799	
Insurance	35,000	37,337	(2,337)	25,000	4,671	20,329	
Road and bridge materials	435,000	367,483	67,517	463,000	405,131	57,869	
Equipment repairs	75,000	95,843	(20,843)	90,000	61,772	28,228	
Rentals	34,000	33,309	691	19,000	33,161	(14,161)	
Equipment purchases	200,000	132,646	67,354	250,000	238,163	11,837	
Construction, repair, and maintenance	6,000	14,098	(8,098)	4,600	246	4,354	
Other	25,600	25,547	53	28,650	25,219	3,431	
Total Disbursements	1,589,700	1,460,857	128,843	1,625,250	1,454,325	170,925	
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	(147,790)	(14,697)	133,093	(187,384)	(37,873)	149,511	
CASH, JANUARY 1	176,227	176,227	0	214,100	214,100	0	
CASH, DECEMBER 31	28,437	161,530	133,093	26,716	176,227	149,511	
ASSESSMENT FUND RECEIPTS							
Intergovernmental	242.570	213.672	(28,898)	222.641	192.289	(30,352)	
Charges for services	9.000	18,349	9,349	9.000	9.084	(30,332) 84	
Interest	2,200	3,421	1,221	2,000	2,284	284	
Transfers in	63,190	63,190	0	69,220	66,806	(2,414)	
Total Receipts	316,960	298.632	(18,328)	302.861	270.463	(32,398)	
DISBURSEMENTS		,	<u> </u>	,			
Assessor	326,960	263,775	63,185	307,260	269,880	37,380	
Total Disbursements	326,960	263,775	63,185	307,260	269,880	37,380	
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	(10,000)	34,857	44,857	(4,399)	583	4,982	
CASH, JANUARY 1	12,441	12,441	0	11,858	11,858	0	
CASH, DECEMBER 31	2,441	47,298	44.857	7,459	12,441	4.982	

_			Year Ended De				
-		2000	Venience		1999	V	
			Variance Favorable			Variance Favorable	
	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)	
SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER FUND	Budget	Actual	(Ulliavolable)	Budget	Actual	(Ulliavorable)	
RECEIPTS							
Intergovernmental	43,798	34,797	(9,001)	41,241	42,109	868	
Total Receipts	43,798	34,797	(9,001)	41,241	42,109	868	
DISBURSEMENTS							
Salaries	36,316	35,603	713	33,759	33,854	(95)	
Office expenditures	600	507	93	600	568	32	
Equipment	500	116	384	500	143	357	
Mileage and training	6,456	3,709	2,747	6,382	4,022	2,360	
Total Disbursements	43,872	39,935	3,937	41,241	38,587	2,654	
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	(74)	(5,138)	(5,064)	0	3,522	3,522	
CASH, JANUARY 1	31,712	31,712	0	28,190	28,190	0	
CASH, DECEMBER 31	31,638	26,574	(5,064)	28,190	31,712	3,522	
LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING FUND							
RECEIPTS							
Intergovernmental	4,500	4,907	407	3,000	5,525	2,525	
Charges for services	9,200	9,337	137	9,500	10,295	795	
Interest	500	851	351	500	530	30	
Total Receipts	14,200	15,095	895	13,000	16,350	3,350	
DISBURSEMENTS Sheriff	26,500	11,781	14,719	20,500	12,042	8,458	
Total Disbursements	26,500	11,781	14,719	20,500	12,042	8,458	
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	(12,300)	3,314	15,614	(7,500)	4,308	11,808	
CASH, JANUARY 1	13,100	13,100	0	8,792	8,792	0	
CASH, DECEMBER 31	800	16,414	15,614	1,292	13,100	11,808	
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY BAD CHECK FUNI)						
RECEIPTS							
Charges for services	45,000	49,985	4,985	40,000	47,125	7,125	
Interest	500	955	455	1,500	866	(634)	
Total Receipts	45,500	50,940	5,440	41,500	47,991	6,491	
DISBURSEMENTS Prosecuting Attorney	58,707	52,453	6,254	57,822	52,472	5,350	
Total Disbursements	58,707	52,453	6,254	57,822	52.472	5,350	
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	(13,207)	(1,513)	11,694	(16,322)	(4,481)	11,841	
CASH, JANUARY 1	14,995	14,995	0	19,476	19,476	0	
	1,788	, .		.,	. ,		

			Year Ended De	ecember 31		
-		2000	Total Ended De		1999	
=			Variance			Variance
			Favorable			Favorable
_	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)
RECORDER'S SPECIAL FUND						
RECEIPTS						
Charges for services	20,000	14,742	(5,258)	20,000	16,064	(3,936)
Interest	3,000	2,630	(370)	4,000	2,567	(1,433)
Total Receipts	23,000	17,372	(5,628)	24,000	18,631	(5,369)
DISBURSEMENTS	25,000	17,572	(3,020)	24,000	10,051	(5,507)
Ex Officio Recorder of Deeds	12,100	3,650	8,450	40,000	38,651	1,349
	12,100	5,050	0,100	10,000	50,001	1,019
Total Disbursements	12,100	3,650	8,450	40,000	38,651	1,349
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	10,900	13,722	2,822	(16,000)	(20,020)	(4,020)
CASH, JANUARY 1	41,221	41,221	0	61,241	61,241	0
CASH, DECEMBER 31	52,121	54,943	2,822	45,241	41,221	(4,020)
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY TRAINING FUND						
RECEIPTS						
Charges for services	2,550	2.332	(218)	2,200	2,572	372
Interest	100	144	44	200	132	(68)
Other	0	0	0	0	145	145
Total Receipts	2,650	2,476	(174)	2,400	2,849	449
DISBURSEMENTS						
Prosecuting Attorney	5,150	3,234	1,916	5,800	3,582	2,218
Total Disbursements	5,150	3,234	1,916	5,800	3,582	2,218
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	(2,500)	(758)	1,918	(3,400)	(733)	2,218
CASH, JANUARY 1	2,713	2,713	1,742	3,446	3,446	2,007
CASH, DECEMBER 31	2,713	1,955	1,742	46	2,713	2,667
=		-,,			_,, _,	_,
911 EMERGENCY TELEPHONE						
RECEIPTS Charges for services	345.000	360,152	15,152	313.000	346.840	33.840
Interest	16.000	16,565	565	17.000	14.620	(2,380)
Other	10,000	8,902	8,902	17,000	498	498
ould	0	0,902	0,702	0	470	170
Total Receipts	361,000	385,619	24,619	330,000	361,958	31,958
DISBURSEMENTS			<u> </u>			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Salaries	248,800	235,952	12,848	227,500	221,176	6,324
Office expenditures	76,300	69,766	6,534	75,900	72,684	3,216
Equipment	32,000	22,025	9,975	29,000	36,072	(7,072)
Mileage and training	6,500	8,207	(1,707)	5,000	6,137	(1,137)
Contractual services	17,000	21,384	(4,384)	15,000	0	15,000
Other	17,330	12,155	5,175	10,730	11,174	(444)
Transfers out	5,000	5,000	0	5,000	5,000	0
Total Disbursements	402,930	374,489	28.441	368,130	352,243	15,887
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	(41,930)	11,130	53,060	(38,130)	9,715	47,845
CASH, JANUARY 1	334,135	334,135	0	324,420	324,420	47,845
CASH, DECEMBER 31	292.205	345.265	53.060	286,290	334,135	47.845
=	- ,	,	, •	, - *	,	.,

			Year Ended De	ecember 31,		
		2000				
			Variance Favorable			Variance Favorable
	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)
CRIMINAL PLEAS FUND						
RECEIPTS						
Interest	0	237	237	0	404	404
Total Receipts	0	237	237	0	404	404
DISBURSEMENTS						
Equipment	3,365	1,094	2,271	8,207	4,971	3,236
Other	1,000	1,419	(419)	1,000	275	725
Transfers out	0	2,089	(2,089)	0	0	0
Total Disbursements	4,365	4,602	(237)	9,207	5,246	3,961
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	(4,365)	(4,365)	0	(9,207)	(4,842)	4,365
CASH, JANUARY 1	4,365	4,365	0	9,207	9,207	0
CASH, DECEMBER 31	0	0	0	0	4,365	4,365
<u>CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND</u> RECEIPTS						
Charges for services	9,500	7,350	(2,150)	9,000	6,199	(2,801)
Charges for services	9,500	7,550	(2,150)	9,000	0,199	(2,801)
Total Receipts	9,500	7,350	(2,150)	9,000	6,199	(2,801)
DISBURSEMENTS						
Payments to shelters	9,500	7,350	2,150	9,000	6,199	2,801
Total Disbursements	9,500	7,350	2,150	9,000	6,199	2,801
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	0	0	0	0	0	0
CASH, JANUARY 1	0	0	0	0	0	0
CASH, DECEMBER 31	0	0	0	0	0	0
<u>SHERIFF'S EQUIPMENT FUND</u> RECEIPTS						
Interest	30	126	96	0	143	143
Other	900	782	(118)	2,000	746	(1,254)
Total Receipts	930	908	(22)	2,000	889	(1,111)
DISBURSEMENTS	950	908	(22)	2,000	889	(1,111)
Sheriff	2,800	622	2.178	5,800	2,786	3,014
Transfers out	2,800	2,229	(2,229)	0	2,780	0
Total Disbursements	2,800	2,851	(51)	5,800	2,786	3,014
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	(1,870)	(1,943)	(73)	(3,800)	(1,897)	1.903
CASH, JANUARY 1	1,943	1,943	0	3,840	3,840	1,903
CASH, DECEMBER 31	73	0	(73)	40	1.943	1,903
=		0	(10)		1,2.5	1,505

			Year Ended De	cember 31,			
-		2000		1999			
-			Variance Favorable			Variance Favorable	
_	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)	
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY SPECIAL FUND							
RECEIPTS							
Intergovernmental	2,700	814	(1,886)	1,300	2,735	1,435	
Interest	150	150	0	200	167	(33)	
Total Receipts	2,850	964	(1,886)	1,500	2,902	1,402	
DISBURSEMENTS							
Prosecuting Attorney	7,000	4,713	2,287	4,200	1,089	3,111	
Total Disbursements	7,000	4,713	2,287	4,200	1,089	3,111	
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	(4,150)	(3,749)	401	(2,700)	1,813	4,513	
CASH, JANUARY 1	4,532	4,532	0	2,719	2,719	0	
CASH, DECEMBER 31	382	783	401	19	4,532	4,513	
DRUG ENFORCEMENT FUND RECEIPTS							
Intergovernmental	10,000	8,426	(1,574)	107,000	117,598	10,598	
Interest	200	1,431	1,231	500	2,483	1,983	
Total Receipts	10,200	9,857	(343)	107,500	120,081	12,581	
DISBURSEMENTS							
Equipment	4,000	0	4,000	4,000	0	4,000	
Mileage and training	500	0	500	500	0	500	
South Central Drug Task Force	26,700	11,426	15,274	113,500	106,378	7,122	
Total Disbursements	31,200	11,426	19,774	118,000	106,378	11,622	
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	(21,000)	(1,569)	19,431	(10,500)	13,703	24,203	
CASH, JANUARY 1	25,505	25,505	0	11,802	11,802	0	
CASH, DECEMBER 31	4,505	23,936	19,431	1,302	25,505	24,203	
SHERIFF SPECIAL FUND							
RECEIPTS							
Charges for services	50,000	49,715	(285)	32,000	28,831	(3,169)	
Total Receipts	50,000	49,715	(285)	32,000	28,831	(3,169)	
DISBURSEMENTS Sheriff	50,000	44,113	5,887	32,000	28,882	3,118	
Total Disbursements	50,000	44,113	5,887	32,000	28,882	3,118	
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	30,000	5.602	5,602	32,000	(51)	(51)	
CASH, JANUARY 1	357	3,602	5,602	408	408	(31)	
CASH, DECEMBER 31	357	5.959	5.602	408	357	(51)	
	331	5,959	5,002	400	ادد	(51)	

	Year Ended December 31, 2000 1999						
-		2000					
			Variance Favorable			Variance Favorable	
	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)	
EDA GRANT - PHASE 1 FUND RECEIPTS							
Intergovernmental				37,403	14,875	(22,528)	
Total Receipts				37,403	14,875	(22,528)	
DISBURSEMENTS Grant expenditures				37,403	14,875	22,528	
Total Disbursements				37,403	14,875	22,528	
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS				0	14,875	22,528	
CASH, JANUARY 1				0	0	0	
CASH, DECEMBER 31				0	0	0	
EDA GRANT - PHASE 2 FUND RECEIPTS Intergovernmental Total Receipts DISBURSEMENTS				122,051	982	(121,069)	
Grant expenditures				122,051	982	121,069	
Total Disbursements				122,051	982	121,069	
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS CASH, JANUARY 1				0	0	0	
CASH, DECEMBER 31				0	0	0	
CDBG PROJECT #96-ED-09 FUND RECEIPTS							
Intergovernmental				2,324	924	(1,400)	
				2,324	924	(1,400)	
DISBURSEMENTS Grant expenditures				2,324	924	1,400	
Total Disbursements				2,324	924	1,400	
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS				0	0	0	
CASH, JANUARY 1 CASH, DECEMBER 31				0	0	0	
CASH, DECEMBER 31				0	0	0	

			Year Ended De	cember 31,		
_		2000			1999	
	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
CDBG PROJECT #97-PF-11 FUND	Budget	Actual	(Ulliavorable)	Budget	Actual	(Ulliavorable)
RECEIPTS						
Intergovernmental				52,232	40,761	(11,471)
Total Receipts			-	52,232	40,761	(11,471)
DISBURSEMENTS Grant expenditures				52,232	40,761	11,471
Total Disbursements			-	52,232	40,761	11,471
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS			-	0	0	0
CASH, JANUARY 1			-	0	0	0
CASH, DECEMBER 31			=	0	0	0
CDBG PROJECT #98-PF-13 FUND						
RECEIPTS	70 572	70 572	0	205 000	200 720	02 729
Intergovernmental	79,572	79,572	0	205,000	298,728	93,728
Total Receipts	79,572	79,572	0	205,000	298,728	93,728
DISBURSEMENTS						
Grant expenditures	79,572	79,572	0	205,000	298,728	(93,728)
Total Disbursements	79,572	79,572	0	205,000	298,728	(93,728)
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	0	0	0	0	0	0
CASH, JANUARY 1 CASH, DECEMBER 31	0	0	0	0	0	0
SHERIFF EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM FUN		0		0	0	0
RECEIPTS						
Interest	150	194	44	200	142	(58)
Other	5,000	89	(4,911)	5,000	4,866	(134)
Total Receipts	5,150	283	(4,867)	5,200	5,008	(192)
DISBURSEMENTS Sheriff	10,000	2,138	7,862	7,700	2,730	4,970
Total Disbursements	10,000	2,138	7,862	7,700	2,730	4,970
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	(4,850)	(1,855)	2,995	(2,500)	2,278	4,778
CASH, JANUARY 1	4,856	4,856	0	2,578	2,578	0
CASH, DECEMBER 31	6	3,001	2,995	78	4,856	4,778

<u> </u>	Year Ended De			,			
—		2000	Variance		1999	Variance	
			Favorable			Variance Favorable	
	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)	
SOUTH CENTRAL DRUG TASK FORCE FUND	Budget	Tietuu	(emuroruore)	Buuger	. ietutu	(emu/oruble)	
RECEIPTS							
Intergovernmental				169,000	167,698	(1,302	
Total Receipts			-	169,000	167,698	(1,302	
DISBURSEMENTS							
Grant expenditures				169,000	167,698	1,302	
Total Disbursements				169,000	167,698	1,302	
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS				0	0	0	
CASH, JANUARY 1			-	0	0	0	
CASH, DECEMBER 31			-	0	0	0	
SPECIAL GRANTS FUND RECEIPTS							
Intergovernmental	255,000	262,340	7,340				
Total Receipts	255,000	262,340	7,340				
DISBURSEMENTS							
Grant expenditures	255,000	258,719	(3,719)				
Total Disbursements	255,000	258,719	(3,719)				
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	0	3,621	3,621				
CASH, JANUARY 1	0	0	0				
CASH, DECEMBER 31	0	3,621	3,621				
ELECTION SERVICES FUND							
RECEIPTS	4.000	2.016	(1.104)				
Intergovernmental Interest	4,000 0	2,816 9	(1,184) 9				
Other	0	118	118				
_	-						
Total Receipts	4,000	2,943	(1,057)				
Elections	4,000	1,069	2,931				
Total Disbursements	4,000	1,069	2,931				
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	0	1,874	1,874				
CASH, JANUARY 1	54	54	0				
CASH, DECEMBER 31	54	1,928	1,874				

HOWELL COUNTY, MISSOURI COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN CASH - BUDGET AND ACTUAL - VARIOUS FUNDS

			Year Ended De	cember 31,		
-		2000			1999	
-			Variance Favorable	D		Variance Favorable
	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)
<u>MICRO ENTERPRISE LOAN FUND</u> RECEIPTS						
Intergovernmental	150.000	51.100	(98,900)			
Intergovernmental	150,000	51,100	(98,900)			
Total Receipts	150,000	51,100	(98,900)			
DISBURSEMENTS	150,000	51,100	()0,)00)			
Grant expenditures	150,000	51,100	98,900			
		,	,			
Total Disbursements	150,000	51,100	98,900			
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	0	0	0			
CASH, JANUARY 1	0	0	0			
CASH, DECEMBER 31	0	0	0			
<u>SENATE BILL 40 BOARD FUND</u> RECEIPTS						
Property taxes	130.000	129,945	(55)	120.000	125.012	5.012
Intergovernmental	1.850	614	(1.236)	1,550	998	(552)
Interest	3,500	4,110	610	2,500	3,154	654
interest	5,500	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	010	2,000	5,101	001
Total Receipts	135,350	134.669	(681)	124.050	129,164	5,114
DISBURSEMENTS	/	,	(,	- / -	- /
Office expenditures	500	323	177	400	270	130
Contractual services	145,000	111,180	33,820	140,000	137,444	2,556
Total Disbursements	145,500	111,503	33,997	140,400	137,714	2,686
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	(10,150)	23,166	33,316	(16,350)	(8,550)	7,800
CASH, JANUARY 1	12,816	12,816	0	21,366	21,366	0
CASH, DECEMBER 31	2,666	35,982	33,316	5,016	12,816	7,800

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

Notes to the Financial Statements

HOWELL COUNTY, MISSOURI NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies</u>

A. Reporting Entity and Basis of Presentation

The accompanying special-purpose financial statements present the receipts, disbursements, and changes in cash of various funds of Howell County, Missouri, and comparisons of such information with the corresponding budgeted information for various funds of the county. The funds presented are established under statutory or administrative authority, and their operations are under the control of the County Commission, an elected county official, or the Senate Bill 40 Board. The General Revenue Fund is the county's general operating fund, accounting for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The other funds presented account for financial resources whose use is restricted for specified purposes.

B. Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting; accordingly, amounts are recognized when received or disbursed in cash. This basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, which require revenues to be recognized when they become available and measurable or when they are earned and expenditures or expenses to be recognized when the related liabilities are incurred.

C. Budgets and Budgetary Practices

The County Commission and other applicable boards are responsible for the preparation and approval of budgets for various county funds in accordance with Sections 50.525 through 50.745, RSMo 2000, the county budget law. These budgets are adopted on the cash basis of accounting.

Although adoption of a formal budget is required by law, the county did not adopt formal budgets for the following funds:

Circuit Clerk Interest Fund2000 and 1999Associate Circuit Division Interest Fund2000 and 1999Law Library Fund2000 and 1999	Fund	Years Ended December 31,
Law Enforcement Sales Tax Fund2000Election Services Fund1999	Associate Circuit Division Interest Fund Law Library Fund Law Enforcement Sales Tax Fund	2000 and 1999 2000 and 1999 2000

Warrants issued were in excess of budgeted amounts for the following funds:

Years Ended December 31,
2000
2000
2000
1999

Section 50.740, RSMo 2000, prohibits expenditures in excess of the approved budgets.

D. Published Financial Statements

Under Sections 50.800 and 50.810, RSMo 2000, the County Commission is responsible for preparing and publishing in a local newspaper a detailed annual financial statement for the county. The financial statement is required to show receipts or revenues, disbursements or expenditures, and beginning and ending balances for each fund.

However, the county's published financial statements did not include the following funds:

Fund	Years Ended December 31,
Circuit Clerk Interest Fund	2000 and 1999
Associate Circuit Division Interest Fund	2000 and 1999
Law Library Fund	2000 and 1999
Senate Bill 40 Board Fund	1999

2. <u>Cash</u>

Section 110.270, RSMo 2000, based on Article IV, Section 15, Missouri Constitution, authorizes counties to place their funds, either outright or by repurchase agreement, in U.S. Treasury and agency obligations. In addition, Section 30.950, RSMo 2000, requires political subdivisions with authority to invest in instruments other than depositary accounts at financial institutions to adopt a written investment policy. Among other things, the policy is to commit a political subdivision to the principles of safety, liquidity, and yield (in that order) when managing public funds and to prohibit purchase of derivatives (either directly or through repurchase agreements), use of leveraging (through either reverse repurchase agreements or other methods), and use of public funds for speculation. The county has not adopted such a policy.

In accordance with Statement No. 3 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, *Deposits with Financial Institutions, Investments (Including Repurchase Agreements), and Reverse Repurchase Agreements*, disclosures are provided below regarding the risk of potential loss of cash deposits. For the purposes of these disclosures, deposits with financial institutions are demand, time, and savings accounts, including certificates of deposit and negotiable order of withdrawal accounts, in banks, savings institutions, and credit unions.

The county's and the Senate Bill 40 Board's deposits at December 31, 2000 and 1999 were entirely covered by federal depositary insurance, collateral securities held by the county's custodial bank in the county's name, or by an irrevocable standby letter of credit issued by a Federal Home Loan Bank.

However, because of significantly higher bank balances at certain times during the year, uninsured and uncollateralized balances existed at those times although not at year-end.

To protect the safety of county deposits, Section 110.020, RSMo 2000, requires depositaries to pledge collateral securities to secure county deposits not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Supplementary Schedule

Schedule

HOWELL COUNTY, MISSOURI SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

Federal		Pass-Through Entity	Federal Expe	
CFDA Number	Endered Constanting Theory & Constant Decomer Title	Identifying	2000	1999
	Federal Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/Program Title S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	Number		1777
	Passed through state:			
	Office of Administration -			
10.665	Schools and Roads - Grants to States	N/A \$	70,003	76,671
U.S	S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE			
	Direct program -			
11.300	Grants for Public Works and Economic Development	05-01-02896 05-01-02925	0 0	14,875 982
	Program Total		0	15,857
	S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN EVELOPMENT			
	Passed through state:			
	Department of Economic Development -			
14.228	Community Development Block Grants/State's Program	96-ED-09 97-PF-11 98-PF-13 2000-ME-02	0 0 79,572 51,100	924 40,761 298,728 0
	Program Total	2000-1112-02	130,672	340,413
	Department of Social Services -			
14.231	Emergency Shelter Grants Program	ERO1640282	31,743	19,966
U.S	5. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE			
	Direct programs:			
16.710	Public Safety Partnership and Community Policing Grants COPS More COPS Methamphetamine Initiative Program Total	1999CMWX1819 1999CKWX0063	6,136 80,000 86,136	8,824 0 8,824
16.unknown	Equitable Sharing of Seized and Forfeited Property	N/A	21,351	112,434
	Passed through:			
	State Department of Public Safety -			
16.540	Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention - Allocation to States	98-JFJ5-25	0	8,804

Schedule

HOWELL COUNTY, MISSOURI SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

		Pass-Through	Federal Expe	
Federal CFDA		Entity Identifying	Year Ended De	ecember 31,
Number	Federal Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/Program Title	Number	2000	1999
16.548	Title V - Delinquency Prevention Program	99-JJT5-05	42,376	
16.579	Byrne Formula Grant Program	98-NCD2-036	0	78,78
101077		99-NCD2-013	72,749	71,5
	Program Total	2000-NCD2-012	90,560 163,309	150,3
16.588	Violence Against Women Formula Grants	97-VAWA-0068	0	14,52
	C C	98-VAWA-0033	0	17,4
		98-VAWA-0085 99-VAWA-0023	22,420 21,727	
	Program Total		44,147	31,96
	Missouri Sheriffs' Association -			
16.unknown	Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program	N/A	0	77
U.	S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION			
	Passed through state Highway and Transportation Commission:			
20.703	Interagency Hazardous Materials Public Sector Training and Planning Grants	N/A	2,647	
GE	NERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION			
	Passed through state Office of Administration -			
39.003	Donation of Federal Surplus Personal Property	N/A	0	8
FE	DERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY			
	Passed through state Department of Public Safety:			
83.534	Emergency Management - State and Local Assistance	N/A	4,659	4,52
U.	S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES			
	Passed through state:			
	Department of Social Services -			
93.563	Child Support Enforcement	N/A	60,280	52,9
93.667	Social Services Block Grant	ER0172078	94	7,58
		ER0172079 ER0172080	8,443 8,732	23,0° 24,72
	Program Total	LICO172000	17,269	55,3

N/A - Not applicable

The accompanying Notes to the Supplementary Schedule are an integral part of this schedule.

Notes to the Supplementary Schedule

HOWELL COUNTY, MISSOURI NOTES TO THE SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULE

1. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies</u>

A. Purpose of Schedule and Reporting Entity

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards has been prepared to comply with the requirements of OMB Circular A-133. This circular requires a schedule that provides total federal awards expended for each federal program and the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number or other identifying number when the CFDA information is not available.

The schedule includes all federal awards administered by Howell County, Missouri, except for the programs accounted for in the Howell County Public Housing Agency Fund. Federal awards for that fund have been audited and separately reported on by other independent auditors for its years ended June 30, 2000 and 1999.

B. Basis of Presentation

OMB Circular A-133 includes these definitions, which govern the contents of the schedule:

Federal financial assistance means assistance that non-Federal entities receive or administer in the form of grants, loans, loan guarantees, property (including donated surplus property), cooperative agreements, interest subsidies, insurance, food commodities, direct appropriations, and other assistance, but does not include amounts received as reimbursement for services rendered to individuals....

Federal award means Federal financial assistance and Federal costreimbursement contracts that non-Federal entities receive directly from Federal awarding agencies or indirectly from pass-through entities. It does not include procurement contracts, under grants or contracts, used to buy goods or services from vendors.

Accordingly, the schedule includes expenditures of both cash and noncash awards.

C. Basis of Accounting

Except as noted below, the schedule is presented on the cash basis of accounting, which recognizes amounts only when disbursed in cash.

Amounts for the Equitable Sharing of Seized and Forfeited Property Program (CFDA number 16.unknown) represent the county's share of seized monies or property.

Amounts for the Donation of Federal Surplus Personal Property Program (CFDA number 39.003) represent the estimated fair market value of property at the time of receipt.

2. <u>Subrecipients</u>

Of the federal expenditures presented in the schedule, the county provided federal awards to subrecipients as follows:

		Amount Pr	rovided
Federal		Year Ended D	ecember 31,
CFDA Number	Program Title	2000	1999
14.231	Emergency Shelter		
	Grants Program	\$ 31,743	19,966
16.unknown	Equitable Sharing of		
	Seized and Forfeited		
	Property	18,351	109,434
16.548	Title V - Delinquency		
	Prevention Program	42,376	0
16.579	Byrne Formula Grant		
	Program	163,309	150,360
16.710	Public Safety Partnersl	hip	,
	and Community	1	
	Policing Grants	80,000	0
	C	,	

FEDERAL AWARDS -SINGLE AUDIT SECTION

State Auditor's Report



CLAIRE C. McCASKILL Missouri State Auditor

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH OMB CIRCULAR A-133

To the County Commission and Officeholders of Howell County, Missouri

Compliance

We have audited the compliance of Howell County, Missouri, with the types of compliance requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement that are applicable to each of its major federal programs for the years ended December 31, 2000 and 1999. The county's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. Compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to each of its major federal programs is the responsibility of the county's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the county's compliance based on our audit.

We conducted our audit of compliance 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 OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the county's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the county's compliance with those requirements.

In our opinion, Howell County, Missouri, complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referred to above that are applicable to each of its major federal programs for the years ended December 31, 2000 and 1999. However, the results of our auditing procedures disclosed an instance of noncompliance with those requirements, which is required to be reported in accordance

with OMB Circular A-133 and which is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as finding number 00-1.

Internal Control Over Compliance

The management of Howell County, Missouri, is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to federal programs. In planning and performing our audit, we considered the county's internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on the internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133.

We noted a certain matter involving the internal control over compliance and its operation that we consider to be a reportable condition. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control over compliance that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the county's ability to administer a major federal program in accordance with the applicable requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants. The reportable condition is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as finding number 00-1.

A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that noncompliance with the applicable requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants that would be material in relation to a major federal program being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. Our consideration of the internal control over compliance would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, we do not believe that the reportable condition described above is a material weakness.

This report is intended for the information of the management of Howell County, Missouri; federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities; and other applicable government officials. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Die McCaslil

Claire McCaskill State Auditor

June 14, 2001 (fieldwork completion date)

Schedule

HOWELL COUNTY, MISSOURI SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS (INCLUDING MANAGEMENT'S PLAN FOR CORRECTIVE ACTION) YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999

Section I - Summary of Auditor's Results

Financial Statements

Type of auditor's report issued:		Unqualified	
Internal control over	financial reporting:		
Material wea	knesses identified?	yes	<u> </u>
_	onditions identified that are ed to be material weakness?	yes	<u>x</u> none reported
Noncompliance mate noted?	erial to the financial statements	yes	<u> </u>
Federal Awards			
Internal control over	major programs:		
Material wea	knesses identified?	yes	<u> </u>
1	ondition identified that is ed to be a material weakness?	<u>x</u> yes	none reported
Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major programs:		Unqualified	
,	isclosed that are required to be ce with Section .510(a) of OMB	<u> </u>	no
Identification of maj	or programs:		
CFDA or Other Identifying Number	Program Title		
10.665	Schools and Roads - Grants to Sta	tes	

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A			
and Type B programs:	\$300,000		
Auditee qualified as a low-risk auditee?	yes	X	no

Section II - Financial Statement Findings

This section includes no audit findings that *Government Auditing Standards* requires to be reported for an audit of financial statements.

Section III - Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs

This section includes the audit finding that Section .510(a) of OMB Circular A-133 requires to be reported for an audit of federal awards.

00-1 Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

Federal Grantor: Pass-Through Grantor: Federal CFDA Number: Program Title: Pass-Through Entity Identifying Number: Award Years:	U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of Administration 10.665 Schools and Roads – Grants to States Not Applicable 2000 and 1999
Questioned Costs:	Not Applicable
Federal Grantor: Pass-Through Grantor: Federal CFDA Number: Program Title: Pass-Through Entity Identifying Number: Award Years:	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Department of Economic Development 14.228 Community Development Block Grants/State's Program 96-ED-09, 97-PF-11, 98-PF-13, & 2000-ME-02 2000 and 1999
Questioned Costs:	Not Applicable
Federal Grantor: Pass-Through Grantor: Federal CFDA Number: Program Title: Pass-Through Entity Identifying Number: Award Years: Questioned Costs:	U.S. Department of Justice Department of Public Safety 16.579 Byrne Formula Grant Program 98-NCD2-036, 99-NCD2-013, & 2000-NCD2-012 2000 and 1999 Not Applicable

Section .310(b) of Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*, requires the auditee to prepare a schedule of expenditures of federal awards (SEFA) for the period covered by the auditee's financial statements. The county is required to submit the schedule of expenditures of federal awards to the State Auditor's Office as a part of the annual budget.

The county does not have a procedure in place to track federal awards for preparation of the SEFA. For the years ended December 31, 2000 and 1999, the county's SEFA contained numerous errors and omissions. For example, expenditures relating to several federal grants were not included on the schedules. Other programs reported did not include the required pass-through grantor's number. In addition, some programs were reported incorrectly, and in total, expenditures were understated by \$56,304 and \$93,253 for 2000 and 1999, respectively.

Without an accurate SEFA, federal financial activity may not be audited and reported in accordance with federal audit requirements which could result in future reductions of federal funds.

WE RECOMMEND the County Clerk prepare a complete and accurate schedule of expenditures of federal awards.

AUDITEE'S RESPONSE AND PLAN FOR CORRECTIVE ACTION

The County Clerk indicated the procedures for the preparation of the SEFA will be reviewed prior to the next due date.

Follow-Up on Prior Audit Findings for an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance With *Government Auditing Standards*

HOWELL COUNTY, MISSOURI FOLLOW-UP ON PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS FOR AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Our prior audit report issued for the two years ended December 31, 1998, included no audit findings that *Government Auditing Standards* requires to be reported for an audit of financial statements.

Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings in Accordance With OMB Circular A-133

HOWELL COUNTY, MISSOURI SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS IN ACCORDANCE WITH OMB CIRCULAR A-133

Section .315 of OMB Circular A-133 requires the auditee to prepare a Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings to report the status of all findings that are relative to federal awards and included in the prior audit report's Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. The summary schedule also must include findings reported in the prior audit's Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings, except those listed as corrected, no longer valid, or not warranting further action.

Section .500(e) of OMB Circular A-133 requires the auditor to follow up on these prior audit findings; to perform procedures to assess the reasonableness of the Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings; and to report, as a current year finding, when the auditor concludes that the schedule materially misrepresents the status of any prior findings.

Our prior audit report issued for the two years ended December 31, 1998, included no audit findings that Section .510(a) of OMB Circular A-133 requires to be reported for an audit of federal awards.

MANAGEMENT ADVISORY REPORT SECTION

Management Advisory Report -State Auditor's Findings

HOWELL COUNTY, MISSOURI MANAGEMENT ADVISORY REPORT -STATE AUDITOR'S FINDINGS

We have audited the special-purpose financial statements of various funds of Howell County, Missouri, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2000 and 1999, and have issued our report thereon dated June 14, 2001. We also have audited the compliance of Howell County, Missouri, with the types of compliance requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement that are applicable to each of its major federal programs for the years ended December 31, 2000 and 1999, and have issued our report thereon dated June 14, 2001.

We also have audited the operations of elected officials with funds other than those presented in the special-purpose financial statements. As applicable, the objectives of this audit were to:

- 1. Determine the internal controls established over the transactions of the various county officials.
- 2. Review and evaluate certain other management practices for efficiency and effectiveness.
- 3. Review certain management practices and financial information for compliance with applicable constitutional, statutory, or contractual provisions.

Our audit was conducted in accordance with applicable standards contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and included such procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. In this regard, we reviewed accounting and bank records and other pertinent documents and interviewed various personnel of the county officials.

As part of our audit, we assessed the controls of the various county officials to the extent we determined necessary to evaluate the specific matters described above and not to provide assurance on those controls. With respect to controls, we obtained an understanding of the design of relevant policies and procedures and whether they have been placed in operation and we assessed control risk.

Because the Howell County Public Housing Agency is audited and separately reported on by other independent auditors, the related fund is not presented in the special-purpose financial statements. However, we reviewed that audit report and other applicable information.

Our audit was limited to the specific matters described in the preceding paragraphs and was based on selective tests and procedures considered appropriate in the circumstances. Had we performed additional procedures, other information might have come to our attention that would have been included in this report.

The accompanying Management Advisory Report presents our findings arising from our audit of the elected county official referred to above. In addition, this report includes findings other than those, if any, reported in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. These findings resulted from our audit of the special-purpose financial statements of Howell County but do not meet the criteria for inclusion in the written report on compliance and on internal control over financial reporting that is required for an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.

1.	Budgetary Practices and Published Financial Statements

A. Formal budgets were not prepared for various county funds for the two years ended December 31, 2000.

Chapter 50, RSMo 2000, requires the preparation of annual budgets for all funds to present a complete financial plan for the ensuing year. By preparing or obtaining budgets for all county funds and activities, the County Commission is able to more effectively evaluate all county financial resources.

B. Actual disbursements exceeded the budgeted amounts in various funds as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,		
Fund	 2000	1999	
Criminal Pleas	\$ 237	N/A	
Sheriff's Equipment	51	N/A	
Special Grants	3,719	N/A	
CDBG Project #98-PF-13	N/A	93,728	

The budgets for the Criminal Pleas Fund and the Sheriff's Equipment Fund were exceeded because funds were transferred to the new Law Enforcement Sales Tax Fund at the end of the year and the county did not budget for the transfers.

It was ruled in State ex rel. Strong v. Cribb, 364 Mo. 1122, 273 SW2d 246(1954), that county officials are required to strictly comply with the county budget laws. If there are valid reasons which necessitate excess disbursements, budget amendments should be made following the same process by which the annual budget is approved, including holding public hearings and filing the amended budget with the State Auditor's office. In addition, Section 50.622, RSMo 2000, provides that counties may amend the annual budget during any year in which the county receives additional funds which could not be estimated when the budget was adopted and that the county shall follow the same procedures required for adoption of the annual budget to amend its budget.

C. The annual published financial statements of the county did not include the financial activity of some county funds as required. Sections 50.800, RSMo 2000, provides that the financial statements show receipts or revenues, disbursements or expenditures, and beginning and ending balances for all county funds.

For the published financial statements to adequately inform the citizens of the county's financial activities, all monies received and disbursed by the county should be included.

WE RECOMMEND the County Commission:

- A. Ensure financial information for all county funds is included in the annual budgets.
- B. Refrain from authorizing disbursements in excess of budgeted amounts. If valid reasons necessitate excess disbursements, the original budget should be formally amended and filed with the State Auditor's office.
- C. Ensure financial information for all county funds is properly reported in the annual financial statements.

AUDITEE'S RESPONSE

A. Three funds (the Circuit Clerk Interest Fund, the Associate Circuit Division Interest Fund, and the Law Library Fund) are not under the direct control of the County Commission. Budgets for these funds were not received from the appropriate offices to be included in the 1999 and 2000 county budget documents.

All funds under the direct control of the County Commission are budgeted in January of each year.

A new fund was established in the later part of 1999 and 2000, respectively:

- 1. The Election Services Fund was established on December 3, 1999. The December 31, 1999 fund balance was \$54.
- 2. The Law Enforcement Sales Tax Fund was established on November 8, 2000. The December 31, 2000 fund balance was \$66,478.

Section 50.622 provides that counties <u>may</u> amend the annual budget during the year in which the county receives additional funds, which could not be estimated when the budget was adopted.

In this case, the fund balance in these two funds were held frozen since no expenditures were intended in the remaining few days of the calendar year.

We will request this information from the appropriate offices to be included in the 2002 budget.

B. On December 29, 2000, the balances of the Criminal Pleas Fund and the Sheriff's Equipment Fund were transferred to the new Law Enforcement Sales Tax Fund in order to combine law enforcement funds. The Special Grants Fund and the CDBG Project #98-PF-13 Fund are pass through accounts. In most situations, federal regulations require that receipts to these funds be paid out within five days.

This recommendation will be reviewed and applied appropriately for the 2001 budget year.

C. Three funds (the Circuit Clerk Interest Fund, the Associate Circuit Division Interest Fund, and the Law Library Fund) are not under the direct control of the County Commission. Financial statements for these funds were not received from the appropriate offices to be included in the 1999 and 2000 county financial statements.

Collateral Securities

2.

The county and the Senate Bill 40 Board have not established procedures to monitor collateral securities pledged by their depository banks, and as a result, funds were undercollateralized during January 2001 and January 2000. The amount of collateral securities pledged by the county's depositary bank to cover deposits of the County Treasurer was insufficient by approximately \$4,600,000 and \$4,300,000 during January 2001 and January 2000, respectively. The Senate Bill 40 Board's funds on deposit exceeded the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) coverage by approximately \$40,000 and \$11,000 during January 2001 and January 2000, respectively. No collateral securities were pledged by the depositary bank to cover the monies in excess of the FDIC coverage. The high balance periods were primarily due to property tax monies collected by the County Collector and disbursed to the County Treasurer and the Senate Bill 40 Board.

Section 110.020, RSMo 2000, requires that the value of securities pledged shall at all times be not less than 100 percent of the actual amount on deposit less the amount insured by the FDIC. Inadequate collateral securities leave county funds and Senate Bill 40 Board funds unsecured and subject to loss in the event of a bank failure.

In addition, the county and the Senate Bill 40 Board have not entered into written depositary agreements with their depositary banks. A depositary contract is necessary to ensure both the bank and the county or county board understand and comply with the agreement. Such a contract may cover issues such as costs of checking accounts and safe deposit boxes, interest charges for borrowed funds, interest to be paid on certificates of deposit, savings accounts, and interest bearing checking accounts, and should include collateral securities required to be pledged. In addition, Section 110.130, RSMo 2000, requires the county and the Senate Bill 40 Board to enter into agreements with the bank selected as the depositary during the May term in each odd-numbered year.

WE RECOMMEND the County Commission and the Senate Bill 40 Board establish monitoring procedures to ensure depositary banks pledge adequate collateral securities at all times. In addition, the County Commission and the Senate Bill 40 Board should enter into written depositary agreements with all depositary banks, as required by state law.

AUDITEE'S RESPONSE

3.

The County Commission indicated procedures have been established to ensure adequate collateral securities are pledged. Depositary agreements will be reviewed this year.

The Senate Bill 40 Board treasurer indicated the bank pledged collateral securities to secure Senate Bill 40 Board funds. When property tax monies are received, the board will notify the bank that additional securities need to be pledged. The bank has provided the board with a letter discussing competitive interest rates to be paid. In the future, the board will solicit proposals from the various banks and will enter into a written contract with the bank selected.

Official's Salaries

Section 50.333.13, RSMo, enacted in 1997, allowed salary commissions meeting in 1997 to provide mid-term salary increases for associate county commissioners elected in 1996. The motivation behind this amendment was the fact that associate county commissioners' terms had been increased from two years to four years. Based on this statute, in 1999 Howell County's Associate County Commissioners salaries were each increased approximately \$5,400 yearly, according to information from the County Clerk.

On May 15, 2001, the Missouri Supreme Court handed down an opinion in a case that challenged the validity of that statute. The Supreme Court held that this section of statute violated Article VII, section 13 of the Missouri Constitution, which specifically prohibits an increase in compensation for state, county and municipal officers during the term of office. This case, Laclede County v. Douglass et al., holds that all raises given pursuant to this statute section are unconstitutional.

Based on the Supreme Court decision, the raises given to each of the Associate County Commissioners, totaling approximately \$10,800 for the two years ended December 31, 2000, should be repaid. In addition, in light of the ruling, any other raises given to other officials within their term of office should be re-evaluated for propriety.

<u>WE RECOMMEND</u> the County Commission review the impact of this decision and develop a plan for obtaining repayment of the salary overpayments.

AUDITEE'S RESPONSE

The County Commission is aware of the court decision addressing officials' salaries pursuant to Senate Bill 11 passed by the Missouri Legislature in 1997. This legislation gave permission for a one-time increase in compensation to Associate Commissioners due to the extension of their terms. Although the court decision did not rule favorably on the legislative provisions of the mid-term salary increase, it appears the court, at the time of their decision, chose not to address repayment. The County Commission is following this matter closely. At such time the court gives direction on repayment, the County Commission will respond appropriately. The Juvenile Office maintains six bank accounts. Reimbursements from other counties, grants, and donations are deposited into these accounts and disbursements are made for operations of the Juvenile Office, various grant programs, and special activities for juveniles. Restitution monies received from juvenile offenders are not deposited into a bank account. Our review of the procedures of the Juvenile Office disclosed the following concerns:

A. Accounting duties are not adequately segregated. One clerk is primarily responsible for preparing checks and deposit slips, preparing bank reconciliations, and maintaining the accounting records.

Proper segregation of duties helps ensure that all transactions are accounted for properly and assets are adequately safeguarded. Internal controls would be improved by segregating the duties of receiving and depositing receipts from recording and reconciling receipts. If proper segregation of duties cannot be achieved, at a minimum, periodic supervisory reviews of the records should be performed and documented.

B. The Juvenile Office is responsible for collecting court ordered restitution from juvenile offenders and remitting monies collected to victims. A bank account is not maintained, instead, receipts from each juvenile, in the form of money order or certified check, are forwarded by the Juvenile Office to the victim.

The Juvenile Office does not issue receipt slips for restitution monies received unless requested by the payor. Further, no centralized restitution log is maintained to account for restitution assessed, collected, and distributed for each case. As a result of the lack of adequate receipt records and because restitution receipts are not deposited in a bank account, the total amount of restitution received was not available.

To properly account for all monies received, prenumbered receipt slips should be issued for all receipts. In addition, complete documentation of juvenile restitution receipts provides a framework for ensuring restitution owed, paid, and distributed to victims is properly accounted for and accurately recorded.

WE RECOMMEND the Juvenile Division:

- A. Segregate accounting duties to the extent possible or ensure periodic supervisory reviews are performed and documented.
- B. Issue prenumbered receipt slips for all restitution monies received. In addition, a centralized restitution log should be maintained to ensure complete documentation of juvenile restitution activity.

4.

AUDITEE'S RESPONSE

5.

The Juvenile Officer provided the following responses:

- *A.* We have implemented a policy whereby the Juvenile Officer or the Chief Deputy Juvenile Officer reviews monthly bank reconciliations and dates and initials the bank reconciliations to document the review.
- B. We have started issuing prenumbered duplicate receipt slips for all restitution monies received. In addition, all monies received are logged in the juvenile's case file.

County Collector's Commissions

Section 50.332, RSMo 2000, allows county officials, with the approval of the County Commission, to perform services for cities that they normally provide to the county for additional compensation. The county entered into written contracts in 1988 and 1990 which provide for the county to collect property taxes for the city of West Plains and the city of Willow Springs, respectively. The contracts provide for the County Collector to receive a fee of three percent withheld from all taxes collected, and to receive penalties, in the amount of two percent, on delinquent taxes as prescribed by law which are collected from the taxpayers. In addition, the county receives a fee of one percent withheld from all taxes collected for providing the use of county employees and equipment in collecting the taxes.

The County Collector currently assesses a penalty on delinquent city tax payments in accordance with Section 52.290.1, RSMo 2000, which provides for a 5 percent penalty to be collected from the taxpayer, and the proceeds are to be distributed two-fifths to the General Revenue Fund and three-fifths to the County Employees' Retirement Fund. However, the County Collector personally retains these penalties, and during the two years ended February 28, 2001, the County Collector collected and retained \$4,604 in 5 percent penalties collected for city taxes. The 5 percent penalty currently collected on delinquent taxes exceeds the penalty of two percent stated in the contracts due to changes in state law which have not been reflected in amended contracts.

Any add on fee or penalty charged to taxpayers must be based on state law or city ordinance. The contracts with the cities should clearly define the amount of penalties to be assessed on delinquent taxes and how these amounts should be distributed.

WE RECOMMEND the County Collector and the County Commission amend the contracts with the cities to specifically define the amount of penalties to be collected on delinquent city taxes and how the penalties are to be distributed. The penalty amounts should be based on applicable state laws and city ordinances.

AUDITEE'S RESPONSE

As recommended by the Missouri State Auditor, the cooperative agreement to collect city taxes for the City of West Plains has been amended as requested and has been agreed to and approved by all parties; the City of West Plains, the Howell County Commission and the Howell County Collector.

The City of Willow Springs contract is worded such, that it appears no change is necessary.

This report is intended for the information of the management of Howell County, Missouri, and other applicable government officials. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Follow-Up on Prior Audit Findings

HOWELL COUNTY, MISSOURI FOLLOW-UP ON PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, this section reports the auditor's follow-up on action taken by Howell County, Missouri, on findings in the Management Advisory Report (MAR) of our audit report issued for the two years ended December 31, 1996. The prior recommendations which have not been implemented, but are considered significant, are repeated in the current MAR. Although the remaining unimplemented recommendations are not repeated, the county should consider implementing those recommendations.

1. <u>Budgetary Practices</u>

- A. Formal budgets were not prepared for various county funds for the years ended December 31, 1996 and 1995.
- B. Actual expenditures exceeded budgeted amounts for the Assessment and School Resource Officer Funds in 1996.

Recommendation:

The County Commission:

- A. Ensure financial information for all county funds is included in the annual budgets.
- B. Refrain from incurring disbursements in excess of budgeted amounts. If additional funds are received which could not be estimated when the budget was adopted, the budget should be amended by following the procedures required by state law.

Status:

A&B. Not implemented. See MAR finding number 1.

2. Drug-Free Workplace Act

The county received \$18,707 in direct federal financial assistance. The county did not have a drug-free workplace policy or awareness program for its employees as required by the Drug-Free Workplace Act.

Recommendation:

The County Commission establish written policies and programs to ensure compliance with the Drug-Free Workplace Act. These policies and programs should be adequately communicated to all county employees who perform functions associated with federal funds. The County Commission should also contact the grantor agencies and resolve the questioned costs.

Status:

Not implemented. Although not repeated in the current report, our recommendation remains as stated above.

3. <u>Prosecuting Attorney's Restitution Account</u>

- A. Cash duties were not adequately segregated.
- B. Proper bank reconciliations were not prepared.
- C. Monthly listings of open items were not prepared and, consequently, open items were not reconciled with the cash balance.

Recommendation:

The Prosecuting Attorney:

- A. Provide for adequate segregation of duties and performance of independent reconciliations and reviews of accounting records.
- B. Properly reconcile the monthly bank statements to the checkbook balance.
- C. Prepare a monthly listing of open items and reconcile it to the cash balance.

Status:

- A. Implemented.
- B. Not implemented. Although not repeated in the current report, our recommendation remains as stated above.
- C. Not implemented. However, this procedure no longer appears necessary as all monies are disbursed at the end of the month.

STATISTICAL SECTION

History, Organization, and Statistical Information

HOWELL COUNTY, MISSOURI HISTORY, ORGANIZATION, AND STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Organized in 1857, the county of Howell was named after Josiah Howell, a pioneer settler. Howell County is a county-organized, third-class county and is part of the Thirty-Seventh Judicial Circuit. The county seat is West Plains.

Howell County's government is composed of a three-member county commission and separate elected officials performing various tasks. The county commission has mainly administrative duties in setting tax levies, appropriating county funds, appointing board members and trustees of special services, accounting for county property, maintaining county roads and bridges, and performing miscellaneous duties not handled by other county officials.

Principal functions of these other officials relate to judicial courts, law enforcement, property assessment, property tax collections, conduct of elections, and maintenance of financial and other records of importance to the county's citizens.

Counties typically spend a large portion of their receipts to support general county operations and to build and maintain roads and bridges. The following chart shows from where Howell County received its money in 2000 and 1999 to support the county General Revenue and Special Road and Bridge Funds:

	200	00	1999		
		% OF		% OF	
SOURCE	AMOUNT	TOTAL	AMOUNT	TOTAL	
Property taxes \$	64,947	2	54,572	1	
Sales taxes	1,778,560	42	1,725,344	42	
Federal and state aid	1,824,989	44	1,799,306	44	
Fees, interest, and other	525,856	12	523,504	13	
Total \$	4,194,352	100	4,102,726	100	

The following chart shows how Howell County spent monies in 2000 and 1999 from the General Revenue and Special Road and Bridge Funds:

	_	200	00	1999		
		% OF % OF				
USE		AMOUNT	TOTAL	AMOUNT	TOTAL	
General county						
government	\$	1,594,632	38	1,561,356	38	
Public safety		1,103,893	27	1,105,278	27	
Highways and roads		1,460,857	35	1,454,325	35	
Total	\$	4,159,382	100	4,120,959	100	

The county maintains approximately 41 county bridges and 1,042 miles of county roads.

The county's population was 23,521 in 1970 and 31,447 in 1990. The following chart shows the county's change in assessed valuation since 1970:

		Year Er	ded December	31,	
	2000	1999	1985*	1980**	1970**
		(in millions)		
Real estate	\$ 169.8	162.6	84.6	33.1	21.2
Personal property	80.9	71.0	22.1	9.1	6.3
Railroad and utilities	 14.7	14.1	6.7	6.8	4.6
Total	\$ 265.4	247.7	113.4	49.0	32.1

* First year of statewide reassessment.

** Prior to 1985, separate assessments were made for merchants' and manufacturers' property. These amounts are included in real estate.

Howell County's property tax rates per \$100 of assessed valuations were as follows:

Property taxes attach as an enforceable lien on property as of January 1. Taxes are levied on September 1 and payable by December 31. Taxes paid after December 31 are subject to penalties. The county bills and collects property taxes for itself and most other local governments. Taxes collected were distributed as follows:

	Year Ended February 28 (29),			
	2001	2000		
State of Missouri	\$ 80,779	77,814		
General Revenue Fund	49,760	41,554		
Special Road and Bridge Fund	28,472	28,453		
Assessment Fund	87,324	79,311		
Senate Bill 40 Board Fund	137,424	132,574		
Schools	7,441,340	7,156,231		
Ambulance district	527,921	509,025		
Fire protection district	172,946	170,362		
Overplus Fund	5,430	32,342		
Tax Sale Advertising	166	228		
Cities	499,205	461,305		
County Clerk	5,611	5,797		
County Employees' Retirement	85,461	83,660		
Commissions and fees:				
General Revenue Fund	160,318	153,830		
Collector	17,975	16,447		
Total	\$ 9,300,132	8,948,933		

Percentages of current taxes collected were as follows:

	Year Ended February 28 (29),		
	2001	2000	
Real estate	91 %	92 %	
Personal property	89	89	
Railroad and utilities	100	100	

Howell County also has the following sales taxes; rates are per \$1 of retail sales:

		Expiration	Required Property
	Rate	Date	Tax Reduction
General	\$.0050	None	50 %
Law Enforcement	\$.0025	None	0 %

The elected officials and their compensation paid for the year ended December 31 (except as noted) are indicated below.

Officeholder	2001	2000	1999
County-Paid Officials:			
Larry Spence, Presiding Commissioner	\$	29,390	29,390
Judy Thorton, Associate Commissioner		27,390	27,390
Mark B. Collins, Associate Commissioner		27,390	27,390
Dennis K. VonAllmen, County Clerk		41,500	41,500
Michael P. Hutchings, Prosecuting Attorney		51,000	51,000
Bill Shephard, Sheriff		40,000	40,000
Truell Harrison, County Treasurer		30,710	30,710
Lonnie Pruett, County Coroner		8,000	8,000
Charm L. Eagleman, Public Administrator *		34,299	28,255
Wayne Scharnhorst, County Collector**,			
year ended February 28 (29),	59,725	57,947	
Daniel Franks, County Assessor ***, year ended			
August 31,		42,400	42,400
Ralph Riggs, County Surveyor ****			

* Includes fees received from probate cases.

** Includes \$17,975 and \$16,447, respectively, of commissions earned for collecting city property taxes.

*** Includes \$900 annual compensation received from the state.

**** Compensation on a fee basis.

State-Paid Officials:

Fern Freeman Welker, Circuit Clerk and		
Ex Officio Recorder of Deeds	46,127	44,292
David Dunlap, Associate Circuit Judge	97,382	87,235
David Evans, Associate Circuit Judge	97,382	87,235

A breakdown of employees (excluding the elected officials) by office at December 31, 2000, is as follows:

	Numbe	Number of Employees Paid by	
Office	County		State
County Commission	2	*	0
Circuit Clerk and Ex Officio Recorder of Deeds	4	*	6
County Clerk	5	*	0
Prosecuting Attorney	10	*	0
Sheriff	25	*	0
County Treasurer	1	*	0
County Collector	6	**	0
County Assessor	8		0
Road and Bridge	22		0
911 Center	14	***	0
Total	97		6
		=	

* Includes one part-time employee

** Includes three part-time employees

*** Includes four part-time employees

In addition, the county pays a proportionate share of the salaries of other circuit court-appointed employees. Howell County's share of the Thirty-Seventh Judicial Circuit's expenses is 58.19 percent.

Leasehold revenue bonds, dated December 1, 1995, were issued in the original amount of \$1,500,000 by the Public Building Corporation of Howell County. These bonds were issued to provide funds for a jail expansion project. The county is lease-purchasing the jail expansion from the Public Building Corporation of Howell County. The revenues from the lease-purchase agreement are being used to make debt service payments. Bonds payable at December 31, 2000, totaled \$1,260,000 and this debt issue is scheduled to be fully liquidated in 2015.