



COUNTY OF EL PASO
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY AUDITOR

BARBARA PARKER, CPA, CIA
COUNTY AUDITOR
B.Parker@epcountytexas.gov
www.epcounty.com/auditor

Downtown County Annex
320 S. Campbell, Suite 140
El Paso, Texas 79901
(915) 273-3262
(915) 273-3266 FAX

11-38

November 14, 2023

The Honorable Richard D. Wiles
El Paso County Sheriff
3850 Justice Drive
El Paso, Texas 79938

Dear Sheriff Wiles:

A copy of a memorandum from Mr. Phillip Trevizo, internal auditor, dated November 14, 2023, is attached. This memorandum is a report on a review of your State Forfeiture Accounts for the reporting period October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023.

If we can be of any assistance in this regard, please let us know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Barbara Parker".

Barbara Parker
County Auditor

BP:PT:ya

Attachment



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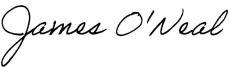
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11-39

MEMORANDUM

TO: BARBARA A. PARKER, COUNTY AUDITOR

THRU: MICHAEL LAMAS, COUNTY AUDITOR, FIRST ASSISTANT 

THRU: JAMES O'NEAL, COUNTY AUDITOR, MANAGER SENIOR 

FROM: PHILIP TREVIZO, INTERNAL AUDITOR 

DATE: NOVEMBER 14, 2023

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF THE EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S STATE FORFEITURE ACCOUNTS FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2022, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Overview

A review of the El Paso Sheriff's Office State Forfeiture Accounts has been performed for the reporting period of October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023, to verify compliance with the requirements of *Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 59.06 (g)*.

Scope and Purpose

The proceeds and expenditures of the seizure and forfeiture funds were reviewed to ensure they were accounted for properly. The Fiscal Year 2023 Chapter 59 Asset Forfeiture Report, copy attached, was reviewed for accuracy and completeness.

Summary

While reviewing the proceeds and expenditures of the Asset Forfeiture Report, no discrepancies were noted.

This financial review was designed to provide reasonable assurance that the internal control structure is adequate to safeguard the County's assets from loss, theft, or misuse. The County's internal control structure is designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that these objectives are met. The concept of reasonable assurance recognizes that: (1) the cost of implementing the controls should not exceed the benefits likely to be derived; and (2) the valuation of costs and benefits requires the use of estimates and judgment by management. Because of the inherent limitations in any system of internal controls, errors or irregularities may occur and not be detected. The internal control structure of the El Paso County Sheriff's Office, as it pertains to state forfeiture accounts, appears to be adequate.

BP:PT:ya



KEN PAXTON

ATTORNEY GENERAL *of* TEXAS

CHAPTER 59 ASSET FORFEITURE REPORT BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

Agency Information

Agency Information

Year: 2023 Agency Name: [El Paso County Sheriff's Office](#)

Agency Mailing Street: City: El Paso

3850 Justice Road

ZIP: 79938 State: TX

County: El Paso Phone Number: (915) 538-2286

Agency Fiscal Beginning Month: October Agency Fiscal Ending Month: September

I. Seized Funds

Do not include federal seizures and/or forfeitures on this form. This form is only for those seizures and/or forfeitures made pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure.

Seized Funds Pursuant to Chapter 59

Funds that have been seized but have not yet been awarded/forfeited to your agency by the judicial system.

A) Beginning Balance: \$0.00

B) Seizures During Reporting Period

Include only those seizures which occurred during the reporting period and where the seizure affidavit required by Article 59.03 is sworn to by a peace officer employed by your agency (E.G. seizing officer's affidavit).

1) Amount seized and retained in your agency's custody: \$21,665.14

2) Amount seized and transferred to the District Attorney pending forfeiture: \$0.00

3) Total Seizures - This field will be auto-calculated when you SAVE or switch sections: \$21,665.14

C) Interest Earned on Seized Funds During Reporting Period: \$346.31

D) Amount Returned to Defendants/Respondents: \$0.00

E) Amount Transferred to Forfeiture Account: \$0.00

F) Other Reconciliation Items (Must provide detail in box below): \$0.00

Description:

G) Ending Balance - This field will be auto-calculated when you SAVE or switch sections: \$22,011.45

Ending Balance - Mailed Form:

II. Forfeited Funds & Other Court Awards

Forfeited Funds and Other Court Awards Pursuant to Chapter 59

Funds awarded to your agency by the judicial system and which are available to spend.

A) Beginning Balance: \$650,836.99

B) Amount Forfeited to and Received by Reporting Agency (Including Interest) During Reporting Period: \$63,205.06

C) Interest Earned on Forfeited Funds During Reporting Period: \$0.00

D) Amount Awarded Pursuant to 59.022: \$0.00

E) Amount Awarded Pursuant to 59.023: \$0.00

F) Proceeds Received by Your Agency From Sale of Forfeited Property: \$60,642.51

G) Amount Returned to Crime Victims: \$0.00

H) Other Reconciliation Items (Must provide detail in box below): \$0.00

Description:

I) Total Expenditures of Forfeited Funds During Reporting Period. This field will be auto-calculated once section VI has been completed and you save or switch sections.: \$207,491.57

J) Ending Balance - This field will be auto-calculated when you SAVE or switch sections.: \$567,192.99

I) Total Expenditure from Mailed Form:

J) Ending Balance from Mailed Form:

III. Other Property

Other Property

List the number of items seized for each category. Include only those seizures where a seizure is made by a peace officer employed by your agency. If property is sold, list under "Proceeds Received by Your Agency From Sale of Forfeited Property" in Section II (F) in the reporting year in which the proceeds are received. Please note - this should be a number not a currency amount. Example 4 cars seized, 3 cars forfeited and 0 cars put into use.

A) Motor Vehicles (Include cars, motorcycles, tractor trailers,etc.)

- 1) Seized: 0
- 2) Forfeited to Agency: 0
- 3) Returned to Defendants/Respondents: 0
- 4) Put into use by Agency: 0

B) Real Property (Count each parcel seized as one item)

- 1) Seized: 0
- 2) Forfeited to Agency: 0
- 3) Returned to Defendants/Respondents: 0
- 4) Put into use by Agency: 0

C) Computers (Include computer and attached system components, such as printers and monitors, as one item)

Please note - this should be a number not a currency amount. For example, 4 computers seized, 3 computers forfeited and 0 computers put into use.

- 1) Seized: 0
- 2) Forfeited to Agency: 0
- 3) Returned to Defendants/Respondents: 0
- 4) Put into use by Agency: 0

D) Firearms (Include only firearms seized for forfeiture under Chapter 59. Do not include weapons disposed under Chapter 18)

Please note - this should be a number not a currency amount. For example, 4 firearms seized, 3 firearms forfeited, 0 firearms put into use.

- 1) Seized: 0
- 2) Forfeited to Agency: 0
- 3) Returned to Defendants/Respondents: 0
- 4) Put into use by Agency: 0

E) Other Property

Please note - this should be a number not a currency amount. For example, 4 lots of tools seized, 3 lots of tools forfeited, 0 lots of tools put into use.

Description	Seized	Forfeited To Agency	Returned to Defendants/Respondents	Put into use by Agency
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IV. Forfeited Property Received

Forfeited Property Received From Another Agency

Enter the total number of items transferred to your agency where the forfeiture judgment awarded ownership of the property to another agency prior to the transfer.

A) Motor Vehicles: 0

B) Real Property: 0

C) Computers: 0

D) Firearms: 0

E) Other: 0

V. Forfeited Property Transferred/Loaned

Forfeited Property Transferred or Loaned to Another Agency

Enter the total number of items transferred or loaned from your agency where the forfeiture judgment awarded ownership of the property to your agency prior to the transfer.

A) Motor Vehicles: 0

B) Real Property: 0

C) Computers: 0

D) Firearms: 0

E) Other: 0

VI. Expenditures: A - D

A) Salaries

- 1) Increase of Salary, Expense
or Allowance for Employees
(Salary Supplements): \$0.00
- 2) Salary Budgeted Solely
From Forfeited Funds: \$0.00
- 3) Number of Employees Paid
Using Forfeiture Funds: 0

- 4) TOTAL SALARIES PAID
OUT OF CHAPTER 59 FUNDS: \$0.00

Total Salaries from Mailed
Form:

B) Overtime

- 1) For Employees Budgeted by
Governing Body: \$0.00
- 2) For Employees Budgeted
Solely out of Forfeiture Funds: \$0.00
- 3) Number of Employees Paid
Using Forfeiture Funds: 0

- 4) TOTAL OVERTIME PAID
OUT OF CHAPTER 59 FUNDS: \$0.00

Total Overtime from Mailed
Form:

C) Equipment

- 1) Vehicles: \$0.00
- 2) Computers: \$0.00
- 3) Firearms, Protective Body
Armor, Personal Equipment: \$0.00
- 4) Furniture: \$0.00
- 5) Software: \$0.00
- 6) Maintenance Costs: \$9,175.00
- 7) Uniforms: \$0.00

8) K9 Related Costs: \$0.00
9) Other (Must provide detail in box below): \$5,980.00

Description:

Generator

10) TOTAL EQUIPMENT PURCHASED WITH CHAPTER 59 FUNDS: \$15,155.00

Total Equipment from Mailed Form:

D) Supplies

1) Office Supplies: \$0.00
2) Mobile Phone and Data Account Fees: \$5,897.22
3) Internet: \$0.00
4) Other (Must provide detail in box below): \$41,761.18

Description:

Promotionals \$41,761.18

5) TOTAL SUPPLIES PURCHASED WITH CHAPTER 59 FUNDS: \$47,658.40

Total Supplies from Mailed Form:

VI. Expenditures: E

E) Travel

1) In State Travel

a) Transportation: \$0.00
b) Meals & Lodging: \$9,603.68
c) Mileage: \$0.00

d) Incidental Expenses: \$0.00

e) Total In State Travel: \$9,603.68

Total In State Travel from
Mailed Form:

2) Out of State Travel

a) Transportation: \$269.96

b) Meals & Lodging: \$2,290.24

c) Mileage: \$0.00

d) Incidental Expenses: \$4,000.00

e) Total Out of State Travel: \$6,560.20

Total Out of State Travel from
Mailed Form:

3) Total Travel Paid Out of Chapter 59 Funds

Total Travel Paid Out of
Chapter 59 Funds: \$16,163.88

Total Travel from Mailed Form:

VI. Expenditures: F - G

F) Training

1) Fees (Conferences,
Seminars): \$10,490.00

2) Materials (Books, CDs,
Videos, etc.): \$0.00

3) Other (Must provide detail in
box below): \$0.00

Description:

4) TOTAL TRAINING PAID
OUT OF CHAPTER 59 FUNDS: \$10,490.00

Total Training from Mailed Form:

G) Investigative Costs

- 1) Informant Costs: \$25,000.00
- 2) Buy Money: \$0.00
- 3) Lab Expenses: \$0.00
- 4) Other (Must provide detail in box below): \$0.00

Description:

5) TOTAL INVESTIGATIVE COSTS PAID OUT OF CHAPTER 59 FUNDS: \$25,000.00

Total Investigative Costs from Mailed Form:

VI. Expenditures: H - N

H) Prevention / Treatment Programs / Financial Assistance / Donation

- 1) Total Prevention/Treatment Programs (pursuant to 59.06 (d-3(6), (h), (j)): \$0.00
- 2) Total Financial Assistance (pursuant to Articles 59.06 (n) and (o)): \$0.00
- 3) Total Donations (pursuant to Articles 59.06 (d-2)): \$0.00
- 4) Total scholarships to children of officers killed in the line of duty (pursuant to Article 59.06 (r)): \$0.00

5) TOTAL PREVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAMS/FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE/DONATIONS (Pursuant to Articles 59.06 (d-3(6)), (h), (j), (n), (o), (d-2), \$0.00

(r) - This field will be auto-calculated when you SAVE or switch sections:

Total
PREVENTION/TREATMENT
PROGRAMS/FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE/DONATIONS
from Mailed Form:

I) Facility Costs

- 1) Building Purchase: \$0.00
- 2) Lease Payments: \$0.00
- 3) Remodeling: \$0.00
- 4) Maintenance Costs: \$8,324.00
- 5) Utilities: \$0.00
- 6) Other (Must provide detail in box below): \$19,046.79

Description:

Incinerator Parts \$1,995
Janitorial Cleaning for Headquarters \$7,750
Replace Flooring Downtown Jail \$9,301.79

7) TOTAL FACILITY COSTS
PAID OUT OF CHAPTER 59 FUNDS: \$27,370.79

Total Facility Costs from
Mailed Form:

J) Miscellaneous Fees

- 1) Court Costs: \$0.00
- 2) Filing Fees: \$0.00
- 3) Insurance: \$0.00
- 4) Witness Fees (including travel and security): \$0.00
- 5) Audit Costs and Fees (including audit preparation and professional fees): \$0.00
- 6) Other (Must provide detail in box below): \$65,653.50

Description:

Parking \$58,776
Vehicle Titles \$81.75
Bank Fees \$619.84

Assessors \$195.91
TALON Annual Fees \$100.00
Hauler Permit \$150
CALEA \$5,730

7) Total Miscellaneous Fees
Paid Out of Chapter 59 Funds
- This will be auto-calculated \$65,653.50
when you SAVE or switch
sections:

Total Miscellaneous Costs
from Mailed Form:

K) Paid to State Treasury / General Fund / Health & Human Services Commission

1) Total paid to State Treasury
due to lack of local agreement \$0.00
pursuant to 59.06 (c):

2) Total paid to State Treasury
due to participating in task \$0.00
force not established in
accordance with 59.06 (q)(1):

3) Total paid to General Fund
pursuant to 59.06 (c-3) (C) \$0.00
(Texas Department of Public
Safety only):

4) Total forfeiture funds
transferred to the Health and \$0.00
Human Services Commission
pursuant to 59.06 (p):

5) TOTAL PAID TO STATE
TREASURY/ GENERAL
FUND/ HEALTH & HUMAN \$0.00
SERVICES COMMISSION
OUT OF CHAPTER 59
FUNDS:

Total Paid to State
Treasury/General fund/ Health
& Human Services
Commission from Mailed
Form:

L) Total Paid to Cooperating Agency(ies) Pursuant to Local Agreement

TOTAL PAID TO
COOPERATING \$0.00
AGENCY(IES) PURSUANT
TO LOCAL AGREEMENT:

M) Total Other Expenses Paid Out of Chapter 59 Funds Which Are Not Accounted For In Previous Categories

TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES
PAID OUT OF CHAPTER 59
FUNDS WHICH ARE NOT
ACCOUNTED FOR IN \$0.00
PREVIOUS CATEGORIES
(Must provide detail in box
below):

Description:

N) Total Expenditures

TOTAL EXPENDITURES: \$207,491.57

Total Expenditures from Mailed
Form:

Financial Professional Signature

After signing and pressing "Save", using your email address and password account access, and pursuant to the terms of service, you certify that you swear or affirm that the Commissioners Court, City Council or Head of Agency (if no governing body) has requested that you conduct the audit required by Article 59.06 of the Code of Criminal Procedure and that upon diligent inspection of all relevant documents and supporting materials, you believe that the information contained in this report is true and correct to the best of your Knowledge.

Do you acknowledge the
above terms :

Typed Name of
Auditor/Treasurer/Accounting
Professional/Preparer::

Title: