

Leon County, Florida



Comprehensive Annual Financial Report *For The Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2008*

Prepared by the
Department of Finance

Introductory Section

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. INTRODUCTORY SECTION

Title Page	<i>i</i>
Table of Contents	<i>ii</i>
Principal Officers	<i>v</i>
Organizational Charts	<i>vi</i>
Letter of Transmittal	<i>xii</i>
Statement of Responsibility	<i>xxii</i>
Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.....	<i>xxiii</i>

II. FINANCIAL SECTION

Independent Auditors' Report	1
Management's Discussion and Analysis	3

Basic Financial Statements:

Government-wide Financial Statements:

Statement of Net Assets	12
Statement of Activities.....	13

Fund Financial Statements:

Governmental Fund Financial Statements:

Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds	15
Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Net Assets	17
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Governmental Funds	18
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities.....	20
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget and Actual for Major Funds with Annually Appropriated Budgets:	
General Fund.....	21
Fine and Forfeiture Fund	22
Grants Fund.....	23
Special Assessment Paving Fund	24

Proprietary Fund Financial Statements:

Statement of Net Assets – Proprietary Funds	25
Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets – Proprietary Funds.....	26
Statement of Cash Flows – Proprietary Funds.....	27

Fiduciary Fund Statements:

Statement of Fiduciary Net Assets – Agency Funds	29
--	----

Notes to Financial Statements.....	30
------------------------------------	----

Supplementary Information:

Combining and Individual Funds Statements and Schedules:

General Fund Combining Schedules:

Combining Balance Sheet – General Fund81

Combining Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund

Balances – General Fund83

Nonmajor Governmental Funds:

Combining Balance Sheet – Nonmajor Governmental Funds85

Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund

Balances – Nonmajor Governmental Funds86

Nonmajor Special Revenue Funds:

Descriptions87

Combining Balance Sheet - Nonmajor Special Revenue Funds91

Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund

Balances – Nonmajor Special Revenue Funds98

Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances –

Budget and Actual for Nonmajor Special Revenue Funds105

Nonmajor Debt Service Funds:

Descriptions130

Combining Balance Sheet – Nonmajor Debt Service Funds131

Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in

Fund Balances – Nonmajor Debt Service Funds133

Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance –

Budget and Actual for Debt Service Funds135

Nonmajor Capital Projects Funds:

Descriptions142

Combining Balance Sheet – Nonmajor Capital Projects Funds144

Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund

Balances – Nonmajor Capital Projects Funds147

Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances –

Budget and Actual for Capital Projects Funds150

Nonmajor Proprietary Funds:

Enterprise Funds Descriptions161

Internal Service Funds:

Descriptions162

Combining Statement of Net Assets – Internal Service Funds163

Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net

Assets – Internal Service Funds164

Combining Statement of Cash Flows – Internal Service Funds165

Trust and Agency Fiduciary Funds:

Descriptions167

Combining Statement of Fiduciary Net Assets – Agency Funds168

Combining Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Assets and

Liabilities – Agency Funds169

III. STATISTICAL INFORMATION

See Statistical Section for Table of Contents

LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Jane G. Sauls - Chairman - District 2
Bryan Desloge - Vice Chairman - District 4
William G. (Bill) Proctor, Jr. - District 1
John E. Dailey - District 3
Bob Rackleff - District 5
Ed DePuy - At-Large
Cliff Thaell - At-Large

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Parwez Alam

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Herbert W.A. Thiele

TAX COLLECTOR

Doris Maloy

SHERIFF

Larry Campbell

PROPERTY APPRAISER

Bert Hartsfield

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

Ion Sancho

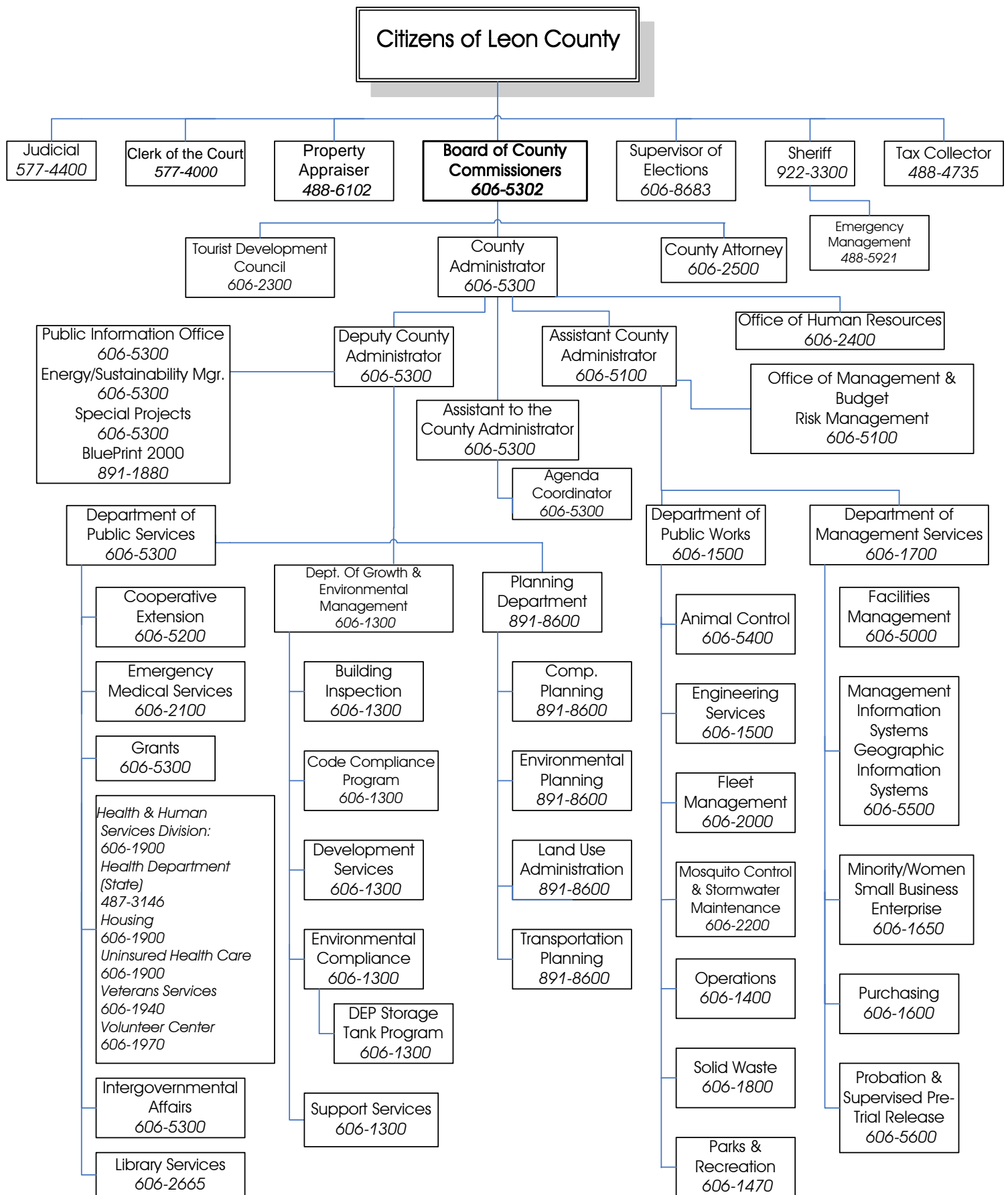
**CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT/COUNTY COURTS
AND
CLERK TO BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**
Robert B. (Bob) Inzer

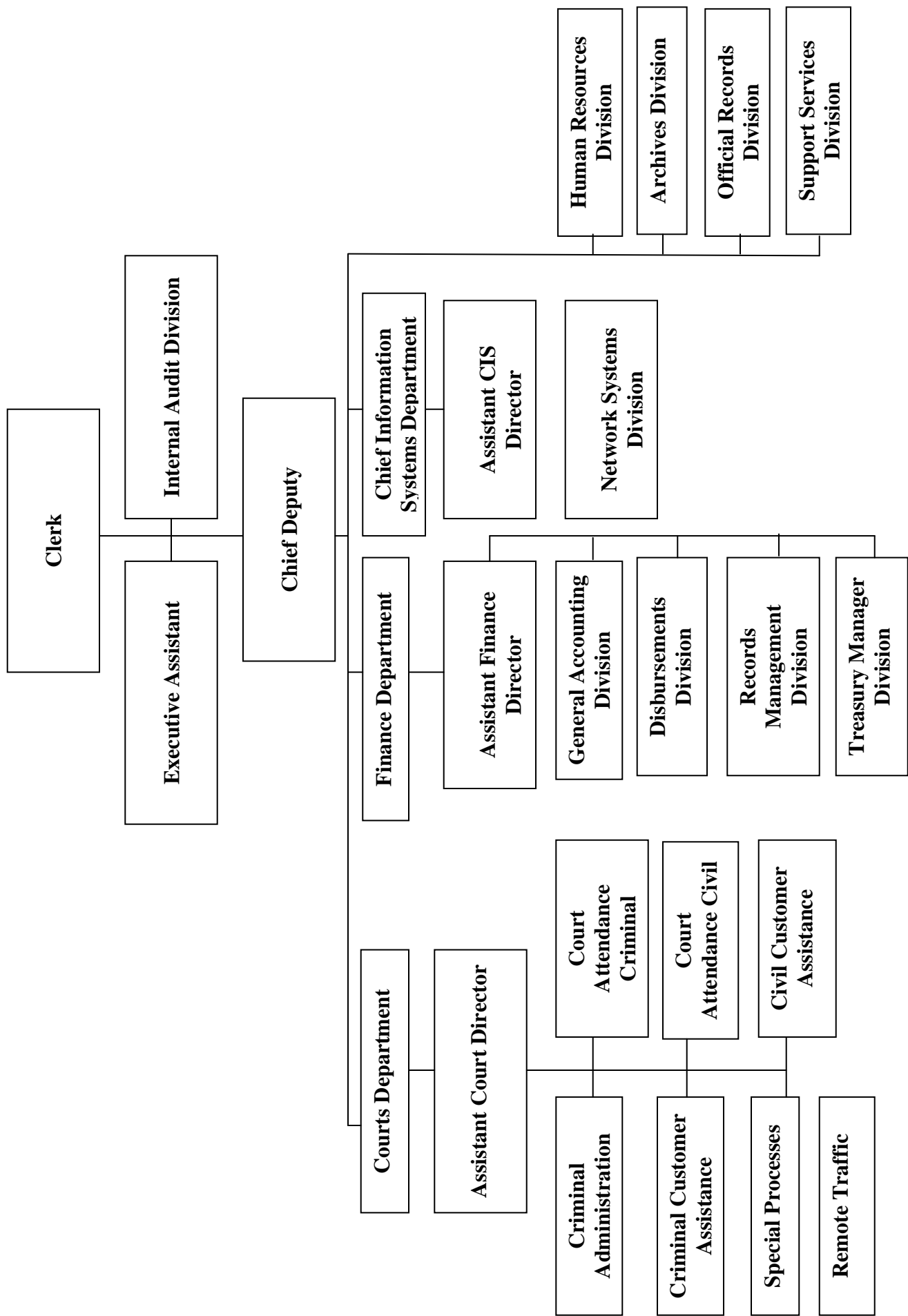
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

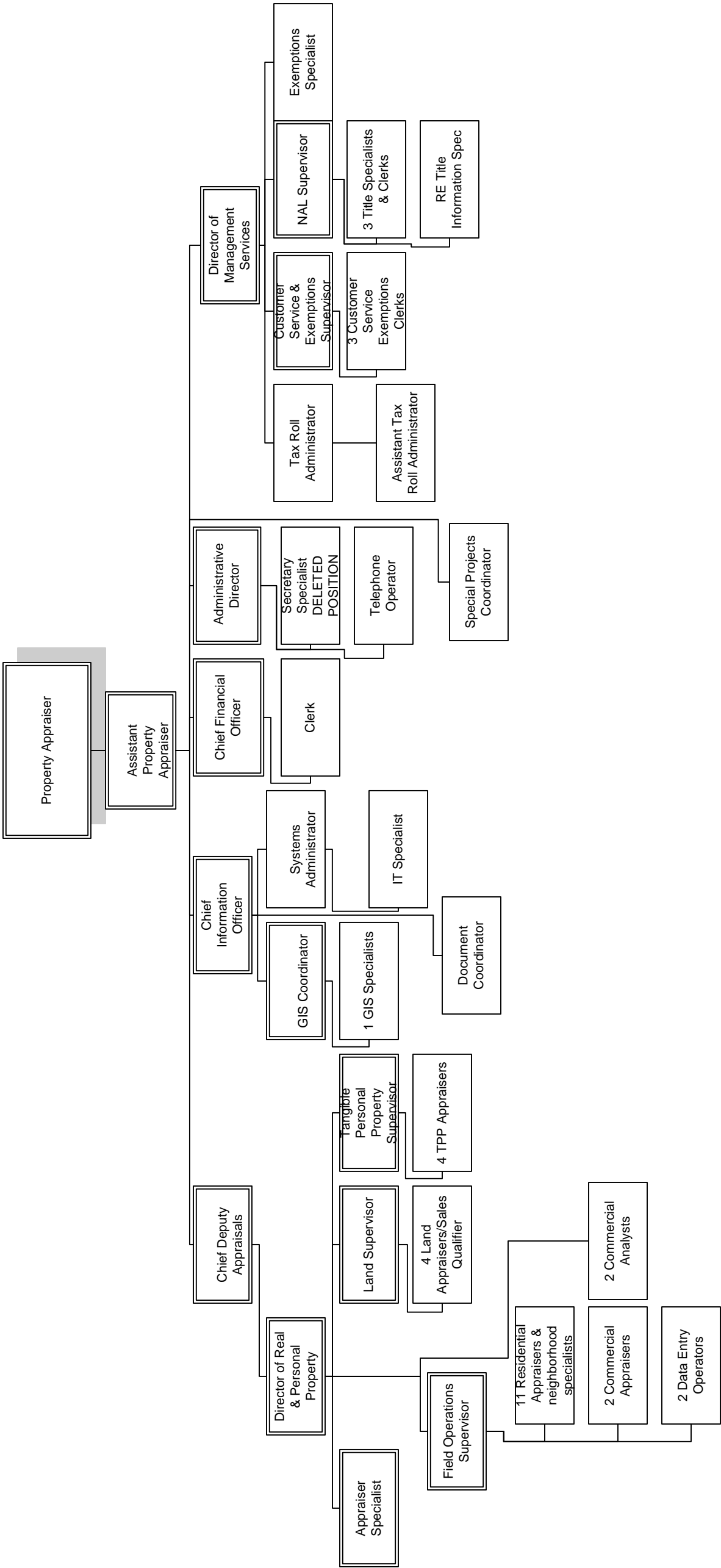
David C. Reid, CPA

ASST. FINANCE DIRECTOR

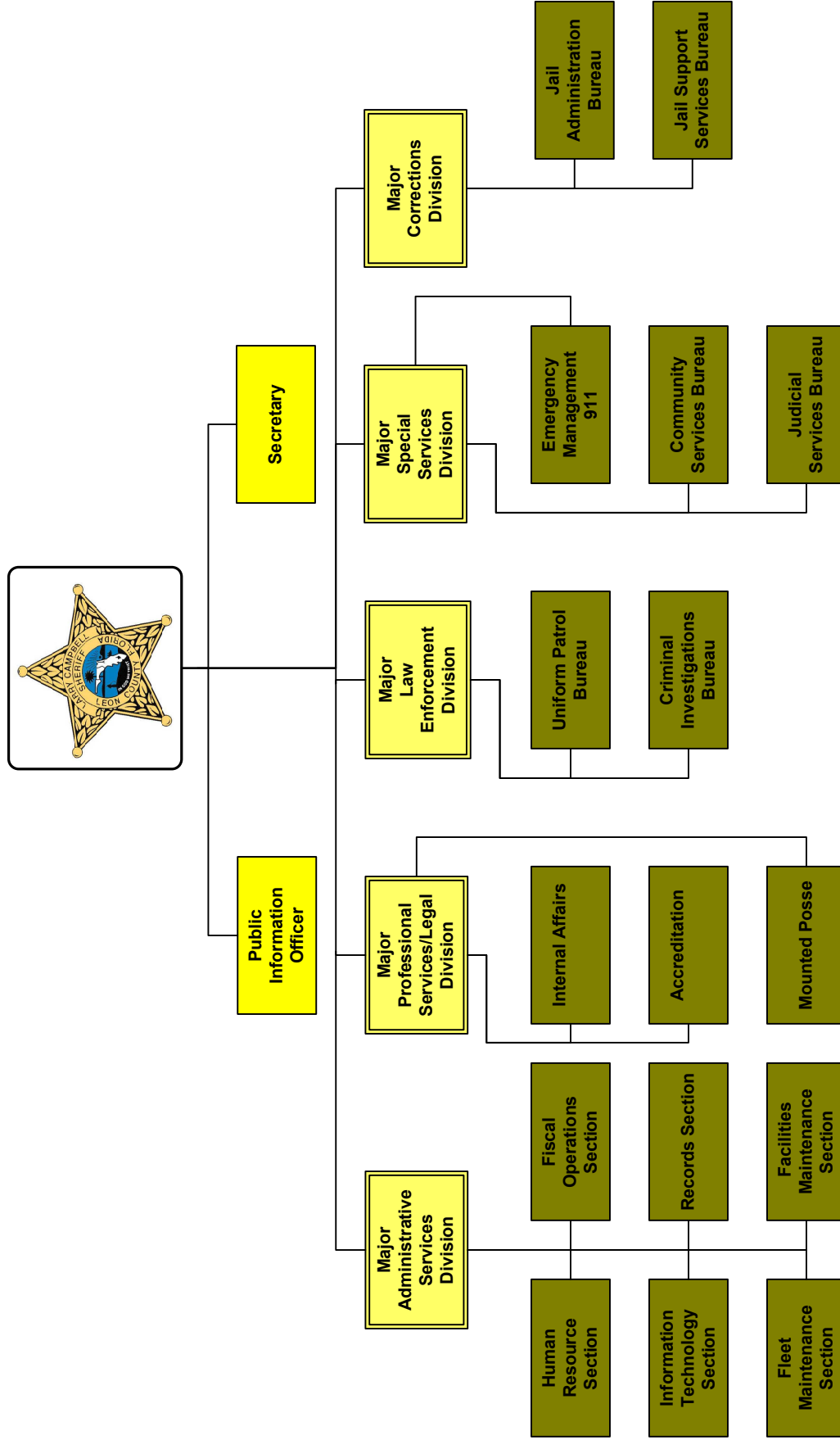
Betsy Coxen, CPA, CGFO



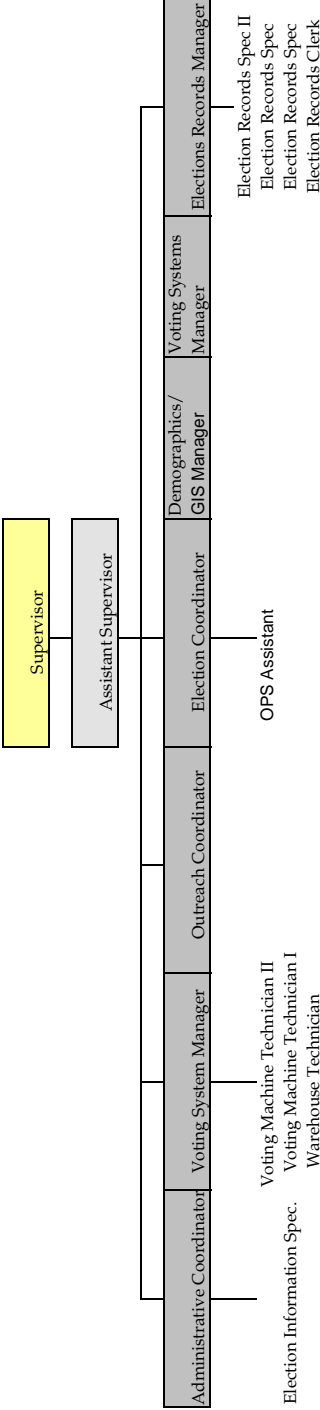




LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

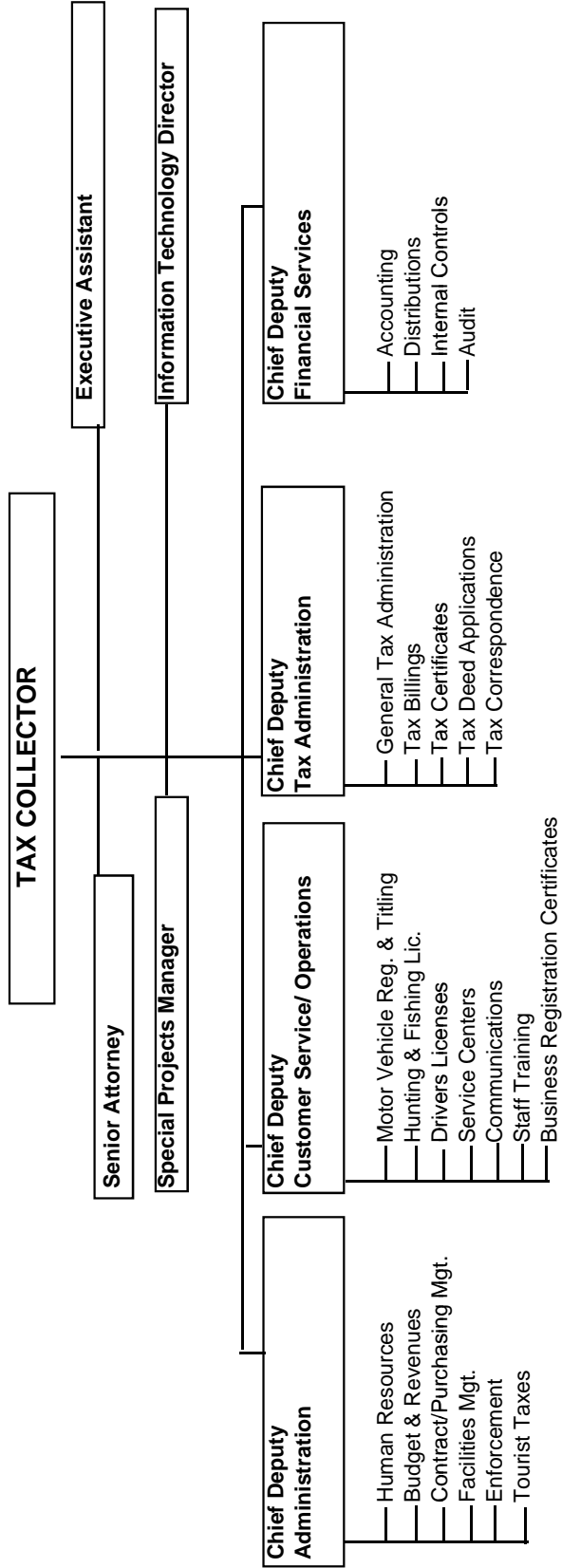


LEON COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



All positions shaded are Senior Management
Senior Management positions supervise
ops positions during elections cycles as needed

LEON COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR
Organizational Chart Summary





Bob Inzer

Clerk of Circuit Court

Clerk of Courts ▪ Clerk of County Commission ▪ Auditor ▪ Treasurer ▪ Recorder ▪ Custodian of County Funds

March 16, 2009

To the Honorable Board of
County Commissioners and to the
Citizens of Leon County
Leon County, Florida

The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) of Leon County (the County) for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2008, is respectfully submitted. State law requires that a complete set of financial statements be published within one year of the fiscal year end and presented in conformance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) as applicable to governmental entities and audited in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards by licensed independent certified public accountants. This report is being issued in fulfillment of these statutory requirements.

This report was prepared by the Finance Department of the Clerk of the Circuit Court (as part of the Clerk's legally prescribed duties as the Chief Financial Officer of the County), as such the Clerk and his staff are responsible for the contents of this CAFR. We believe the financial and statistical information presented is accurate in all material respects, and is set forth in a manner designed to present fairly the financial position and results of operations of the County as measured by the financial activity of its various funds. The report contains all of the disclosures necessary to enable the reader to gain the maximum understanding of the County's financial affairs.

The County established a comprehensive internal control framework to provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition and to ensure that the financial records used for preparing financial statements and maintaining accountability for assets are reliable. The concept of reasonable assurance recognizes that the cost of controls should not exceed the benefits likely to be derived, and that the evaluation of costs and benefits requires judgments and estimates by management. All internal control evaluations occur within the above framework. We believe that the County's internal controls adequately safeguard assets and provide reasonable assurance that financial transactions are properly recorded.

In compliance with the laws of the State of Florida, the County's independent auditors, Thomas Howell Ferguson P.A. and Law, Redd, Crona & Munroe P.A., have audited the financial statements through a joint venture. Both firms are certified public accountants licensed by the State of Florida. In addition to meeting the requirements set forth in state statutes, the audit was also designed to meet the requirements of the federal Single Audit Act amendments of 1996 and the related U.S. Office of Management and Budget's Circular A-133 and the state Single Audit Act

as defined in Florida Statutes 215.97. Auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards set forth in the General Accounting Office's *Government Auditing Standards* were used by the auditors in conducting the engagement.

The audit was performed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2008. The audit involved examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management; and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. The independent auditors concluded, based upon the audit, that there was a reasonable basis for rendering an unqualified opinion and that the County's financial statements for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2008, are fairly presented in conformity with GAAP. The independent auditors' report is presented as the first component of the financial section of this report.

The independent audit of the financial statements was part of a broader, federally and state mandated "Single Audit" designed to meet the special needs of federal and state grantor agencies. The standards governing Single Audit engagements require the independent auditor to report not only on the fair presentation of the financial statements, but also on the audited government's internal controls and compliance with legal requirements, with special emphasis on internal controls and legal requirements involving the administration of federal and state awards. These reports are available in a separately issued Single Audit Report. The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report contains three major sections: Introductory, Financial, and Statistical.

The Introductory Section, which is unaudited, is designed to give the reader some basic background about the governmental unit as a whole. This letter of transmittal will present a brief overview of the County's structure and services, a discussion of the County's financial condition as well as County awards and acknowledgements indicative of the quality of the County's financial management.

The Financial Section includes the Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A), basic financial statements, combining statements and supplemental information, as well as the Independent Auditors' Report on the financial statements and schedules. GAAP requires that management provide a narrative introduction, overview and analysis to accompany the basic financial statements in the form of the MD&A. This letter of transmittal is designed to complement the MD&A and should be read in conjunction with it. Leon County's MD&A can be found in the financial section following the Independent Auditors' Report.

County Services and Reporting Entity

Leon County was created by the Territorial Legislature on December 29, 1824, and was named for Juan Ponce de Leon, the Spanish explorer who gave Florida its name. Encompassing 702 square miles, it is bordered to the north by the State of Georgia and is less than 20 miles from the Gulf of Mexico. It is the home of the State Capital (Tallahassee), and the home of Florida State University and Florida A&M University. It should be noted that the Apalachicola National Forest and

290,000 acres of commercial forest occupy approximately one fourth of Leon County. Leon County is a political subdivision of the State of Florida. During the November 2002 elections, the voters of Leon County approved a referendum adopting a Charter for the County. The Charter affords the same powers to its officials as prescribed in the Florida Constitution.

The County operates under a commission/administrator form of government, with a governing board consisting of seven county commissioners. The County is divided into five geographical districts, with five of the seven commissioners elected from one of each of these separate districts. Two commissioners are elected at large. In addition to the Board of County Commissioners, there are five elected constitutional officers performing specifically designated governmental functions: Clerk of the Circuit Court, Property Appraiser, Sheriff, Supervisor of Elections, and Tax Collector. The Leon County Board of County Commissioners (the Board) exercises a varying degree of budgetary control, but not administrative control, over the activities of the constitutional officers. During fiscal year 2007-08, the Property Appraiser, Sheriff, and Supervisor of Elections each operated their respective offices as budget officers with funding provided by the Board in the form of operating subsidies. In return, each budget officer is responsible for the collection of revenues within their jurisdictional area and for the subsequent remittance of such collections to the Board.

The Clerk of the Circuit Court and Tax Collector operate a portion of their office as a budget officer, with the remainder being operated as a fee officer. Fee officers are authorized to retain revenues generated within their offices for the purpose of defraying the costs of operation. The Clerk of the Circuit Court serves as Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners. The duties of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, as set forth in the Florida Constitution, include those of County auditor, accountant, and custodian of County funds. Additionally, effective July 1, 2004, the Clerk of the Circuit Courts began operating the courts from a combination of fees collected, funding provided by the state court system, and appropriations from the Board of County Commissioners as set forth in Article V, Revision VII in the Florida Constitution. This change in funding is a direct result of a constitutional amendment passed in November 1998 by the voters in the State of Florida.

The primary government includes the Board of County Commissioners, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Property Appraiser, Sheriff, Supervisor of Elections, and Tax Collector. The Leon County Housing Finance Authority is included as a discretely presented component unit.

Formal budgetary integration is used as a management control device during the year for all governmental funds of the County and the Housing Finance Authority. Budgetary control (i.e. the level at which expenditures cannot exceed the appropriated amount) is established at the fund level, pursuant to Section 129.07, Florida Statutes. Budgets for all governmental fund types are adopted on a basis consistent with GAAP. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget, on behalf of the County Administrator, is responsible for the preparation of the Board's budget. Leon County has received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the last 18 years. In order to qualify for the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award, the County's budget document was judged to be proficient in several categories, including policy documentation, financial planning, and organization.

The legally adopted total appropriation by fund may only be changed by resolution of the Board. Through agenda items, the Board also approves all budgetary changes greater than \$20,000 within funds. Full authority to transfer budgetary amounts other than these instances is delegated to the County Administrator. When the Board adopts the program budget, it is integrated into the reporting system for management reporting purposes. Budget-to-actual comparisons are provided in this report for each fund for which an appropriated annual budget has been adopted. Original and final budgets for major governmental funds are also provided.

FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE COUNTY

The information presented in the financial statements is best understood when considered from the broader perspective of the environment in which the County operates. Financial condition reflects the County's existing and future resources and claims on those resources. Information useful in assessing financial condition includes a review of the major initiatives, prospects for the future, a summary of the economic conditions, current and planned County capital projects and acquisitions, cash management and investment practices, and risk management policies. The County's financial condition is strong. Leon County Board of County Commission conducted a workshop with financial professionals in the mid 1990's to consider ways to build fund balances to safeguard against emergencies and to enhance the County's credit ratings. Even in the last few years, with the legislature requiring reductions in ad valorem taxes, the County has been able to maintain its strong financial position. The County was able to use \$11,050,461 of its reserves to balance the FY 2008 budget, while maintaining the reserve levels required in the approved reserve policy. With the approval of Amendment 1 in January of 2008, there were further tax reform mandates that required a budget reduction of over \$17 million for the FY 2009 budget prepared during 2008. The Board re-examined its core services and made a commitment to priority setting. The reserve policy was revisited during the budget process for FY 09, and the updated policy was approved by the Board on September 16, 2008. This proactive approach by the Board has assured that the County has maintained its strong financial condition.

Major Initiatives

While the County had many accomplishments to report during fiscal year 2007-08, some of the more significant items include:

- Operated with the lowest ratio of county employees (6.6 for every 1,000 residents) and the lowest dollars spent (\$896 per county resident), when compared to like-sized counties.
- The Public Safety Communications Board (PSCB) is responsible for the oversight of the radio communication system and the consolidation of the dispatching of law enforcement and emergency personnel within Leon County and Tallahassee. The PSCB members include the County Administrator, the City Manager, the Leon County Sheriff, the Tallahassee Police Chief, the Tallahassee Fire Chief, and the Leon County Emergency Medical Services Chief. The County Administrator has served as chair of this committee since its inception. During the year, the PSCB purchased a new digital radio communications network to provide better communications between public safety and non-public safety entities. The PSCB also

established a location for the new public safety facility near Tom Brown Park. Leon County also donated land to the Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross for the purpose of constructing a new facility. The new American Red Cross facility will improve disaster relief response to the community and will be located adjacent to the public safety facility.

- In partnership with the City of Tallahassee, the County continues to work toward achieving functional consolidation of Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) services to the community.
- EMS received the 2008 EMS Magazine Gold Award for industry leadership and excellence, one of only two services chosen in the nation.
- County staff went above and beyond in responding to Tropical Storm Fay and the associated flooding. The Board created the Leon County Catastrophe Fund to provide residents assistance with damages caused as a result of a local declared state of emergency.
- Leon County is emerging as a national leader among local governments in our continued sustainable efforts as evidenced through the “Growing Green” initiative. The Leon County Climate Action Summit was an overwhelming success, and the establishment of our sustainable operations team is guiding the County to achieve the International Council for Local Environmental Initiative (ICLEI) milestones.
- The Employee Health Insurance Program was redesigned, resulting in a savings of \$360,000 to the County, while maintaining the highest level of coverage in the industry. Additionally, the Voluntary Separation Program produced \$600,000 of savings and increased the efficiency of the organization.
- Leon County was selected in the top ten similar-sized counties nationwide by the National Association of Counties (NACo) for being a digital county.
- The Leon County Library system received a \$25,000 grant, “The Big Read”, funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, with a match provided by the Knight foundation and the Friends of the Library
- Leon County launched the Leon County NACo Prescription Discount Card Program which provides an average savings of 20 percent on prescription drugs.
- The Leon County Volunteer Center, VolunteerLEON, received the Capital City Chapter of the American Red Cross 2008 Community Partner Award.
- The Leon County Master Gardener volunteers received three top awards statewide: 1) best newsletter, 2) best demonstration garden, 3) highest score on the statewide horticulture contest.
- Leon County Veteran Services facilitated the processing of veterans’ claims, which resulted in Leon County veterans receiving more than \$6.8 million in retroactive payments and basic awards for FY 08.
- The Board accepted the Leon County Aquifer Vulnerability Assessment (LAVA) Model Final Report, confirmed policy direction on use of the LAVA model to help establish a springs protection zone, and added additional regulations to help preserve Wakulla Springs.
- The County and the City adopted a resolution to modify the boundaries of the Tallahassee-Leon County Enterprise Zone. This boundary modification is intended to enhance the economic development activities and opportunities available within the zone by including the Tallahassee Regional Airport and Commonwealth Business Park in the Tallahassee-Leon Enterprise Zone.

Prospects for the Future

The County received less property tax revenues than long-term projections had anticipated for FY 2007 and 2008, because of the Legislature's on-going property tax reform. In January 2008, the voters of Florida passed Amendment 1, which will further limit property tax collections. Significant budget reductions were required for both of the last two fiscal years which included reducing planned expenditures for travel and training, freezing positions, and eliminating certain capital improvement projects.

Although Leon County has been fiscally conservative in the past, with one of lowest rates of property tax growth in the state, the County will monitor the impact of these changes in the next several years to determine the level of services that can be provided. The amendment increases certain tax exemptions and caps property tax increases. The projected impact of the constitutional amendment is more than \$13 million for the countywide millage rate.

In an effort to distribute more equitably the burden of paying for governmental services, effective October 1, 1991, the County implemented a system wherein, subject to certain criteria, each structure within the County is assessed a flat fee for storm water management. This "fee" is incorporated on the property tax bill and distributed as part of the ad valorem tax bills in November of each year. Additionally, as stated previously, the County now has the ability to diversify its revenue sources because of the voter-approved charter. The County has begun to utilize this feature by implementing the Public Service Tax (PST). The PST is an unrestricted tax levied on the unincorporated citizens of Leon County. This source generated \$5.61 million in revenue in fiscal 2007/08, as compared to \$5.31 million in revenue in fiscal 2006/07. When the County assumed responsibility for EMS, a Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) was established for that service. The MSTU generates slightly over \$7.7 million in revenue for EMS.

Economic Condition and Outlook

Leon County began to feel the impact of the nationwide economic downturn during FY 2008. Although the unemployment rate in Leon County jumped from 2.9% in 2007 to 5.1% at the end of FY 2008, this was still below the national rate of 6.2% and below the state rate of 6.7%.

Residential building permits fell significantly in 2008. Single family home permits fell by 44%, attached single family unit (townhomes) permits fell by 65%, and multifamily permits fell by 74%, when compared to 2007 levels. The 2008 single family permits were the lowest since 1975.

The local economy is continuing to decline, in line with the national economy, as we enter FY 09. We believe, because of the proactive budget decisions made by the Board of County Commissioners, Leon County will maintain its strong financial position.

Capital Projects Funds

As part of the County's constitutional and statutory responsibilities, the County continues to provide updated and expanded infrastructure to the court system. This process has included the construction of new courtrooms, hearing rooms, and judicial offices. Additionally, the County completed a first floor renovation that co-located all of the court related Clerk of Court operations. Other infrastructure projects included renovations done to the Bank of America Building (County Annex) and renovations for energy conservation improvements.

As stated above, the County, working with the City and Sheriff, is committed to the construction of a new Public Safety Complex to house the joint dispatch facility, EMS, a County Emergency Operations Center, and a regional traffic management center. The County, through previous conservative spending and reserve practices, has accumulated adequate funding to support their share of the project costs.

As part of the overall budget process occurring over the past several years, the County has placed a high priority in first maintaining the existing infrastructure through proper maintenance. For example, the County has established a capital improvement project to accumulate funds to replace the roof at the County jail several years in the future. Through this process, the Board has negated a large budgetary spike in the future by spreading this cost over several years.

During the FY 08 budget process, the County also established a reserve account to support intersection and resurfacing projects for the next 6 to 8 years.

Risk Management

Risk management is the process of managing the County's activities in order to minimize the total long-term cost to the County of all accidental losses and their consequences. The main elements of the risk management program are risk identification, risk control (loss reduction), and risk financing (restoration of the economic damages of losses incurred). Pursuant to Commission action, the risk management function was created to review and identify areas of risk, loss, and insurance coverage for each participant. This function is also charged with the establishment and implementation of a safety plan, which incorporates loss prevention and safety standards. In addition, the function establishes standard insurance and indemnification provisions for contracts, leases, and other special use agreements entered into by the participating governments.

The County remains self-insured for automobile liability, with the exception of physical damage coverage to vehicles valued at \$25,000 or greater. The County also purchases commercial coverage for general liability, property, aviation, and pollution liability.

Presently, the County's risk management program calls for self-insuring many types of risk, subject to the following limitations:

Type of Risk	Amount of Risk Retained by County	Limit of Excess Insurance Coverage
Workers Compensation	\$ 350,000	Statutory
General Liability ⁽¹⁾	\$ 10,000	\$3,000,000/\$6,000,000
Automobile Liability ⁽¹⁾	\$ 25,000	\$25,001-\$500,000
Property Actual Loss	\$ 25,000	Actual Loss

⁽¹⁾ Does not include coverage obtained by the Leon County Sheriff.

The limits stated above are on a per occurrence basis.

Cash Management

Cash management is exercised independently by each constitutional officer. With respect to the Board of County Commissioners, the Clerk of the Circuit Court serves as treasurer and custodian of County funds and disburses funds on their behalf as required by law and applicable management directives.

The portfolio earned \$7,427,338 for an effective rate of return of 3.32% on an average daily balance of \$224,028,095 in fiscal year 2008. This year market interest rates decreased significantly. Accordingly, the County's portfolio participated in this market interest rate adjustment and saw a significant decrease with the average portfolio return for Fiscal Year 2008 decreasing from 5.36% to 3.32%.

The activity associated with the Board's investment portfolio during 2008 is shown in the information below.

Table I

Investment Type	Book Value	Market Value	Unrealized/ Gain/(Loss) (current year)	Realized Gain/Loss	Interest	Total Income
Voyageur Asset Mgmt	\$64,911,085	\$64,096,822	\$ (917,561)	\$ 195,804	\$3,107,458	\$2,385,701
FI Municipal Investment Trust	10,000,000	9,939,999	—	—	(60,001)	(60,001)
FI Local Govt Investment Trust	10,000,000	9,962,433	—	—	(37,567)	(37,567)
Treasury SPIA	—	—	—	—	386,401	386,401
FL Local Govt Inv Pool (SBA)	—	—	—	—	469,157	469,157
Money Market- US Govt	80,613,915	80,613,915	—	—	989,634	989,634
Money Market- Treasuries	—	—	—	—	270,158	270,158
CDs	20,000,000	20,000,000	—	—	1,512,697	1,512,697
Wachovia Cash	16,160,158	16,160,158	—	—	1,480,510	1,480,510
Portfolio Cash	1,813,376	1,813,376	—	—	30,648	30,648
Total Cash and Investments	<u>\$203,498,534</u>	<u>\$202,586,703</u>	<u>\$ (917,561)</u>	<u>\$ 195,804</u>	<u>\$8,149,095</u>	<u>\$7,427,338</u>

Rate of Return (Interest only/average daily balance): 3.64%

Total return (Interest plus unrealized gain or losses/average daily balance): 3.32%

Certificate of Achievement

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awards a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to governmental agencies for their Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for their fiscal year. The Certificate of Achievement is a prestigious national award that recognizes conformance with the highest standards in the preparation of state and local government financial reports.

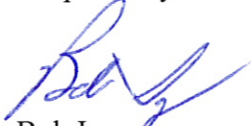
In order to be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, a governmental unit must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized Comprehensive Annual Financial Report whose contents conform to program standards. Such Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements.

A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year only. Leon County has been awarded this Certificate by the GFOA for twelve consecutive years. It is our belief that our current report conforms to the Certificate of Achievement Program requirements. This report will also be submitted to the GFOA to determine its eligibility for a Certificate. Leon County has received both the Certificate of Achievement and Distinguished Budget Presentation awards since fiscal year 1995-96.

Acknowledgments

A Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of this nature could not have been prepared without the efficient and dedicated service of all staff members involved. We would like to express our appreciation to the staff of the Finance Department for their efforts in producing this report. Finally, we would like to thank the Board of County Commissioners for planning and conducting the fiscal operations of Leon County.

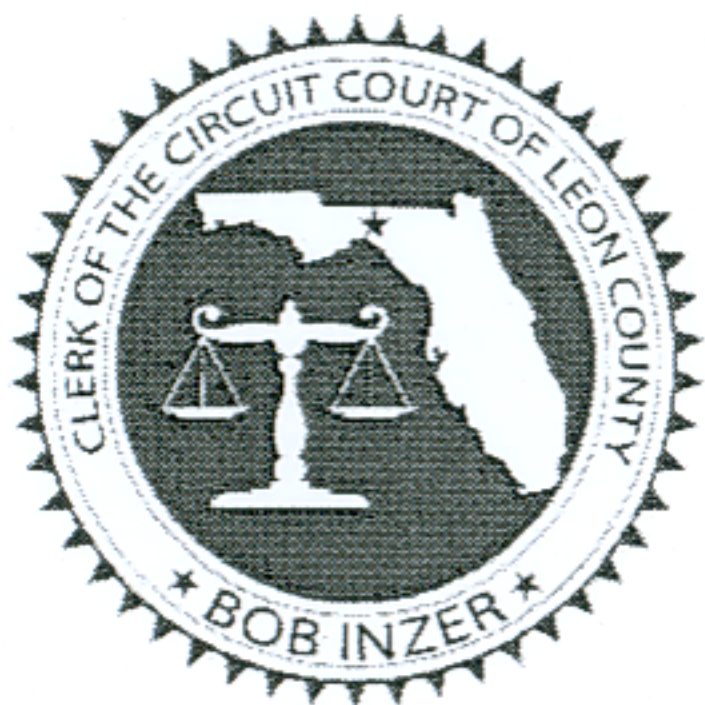
Respectfully submitted,



Bob Inzer
Clerk of the Court



David C. Reid, CPA
Finance Director



Bob Inzer

Clerk of Circuit Court
WWW.CLERK.LEON.FL.US

Clerk of Courts ❖ Clerk of County Commission ❖ Auditor ❖ Treasurer ❖ Recorder ❖ Custodian of County Funds

Statement of Responsibility

March 16, 2009

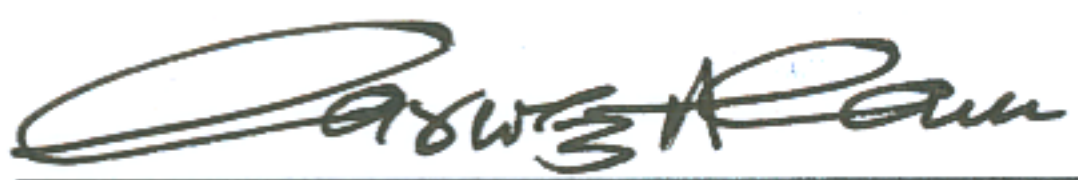
County Commissioners and Citizens of Leon County

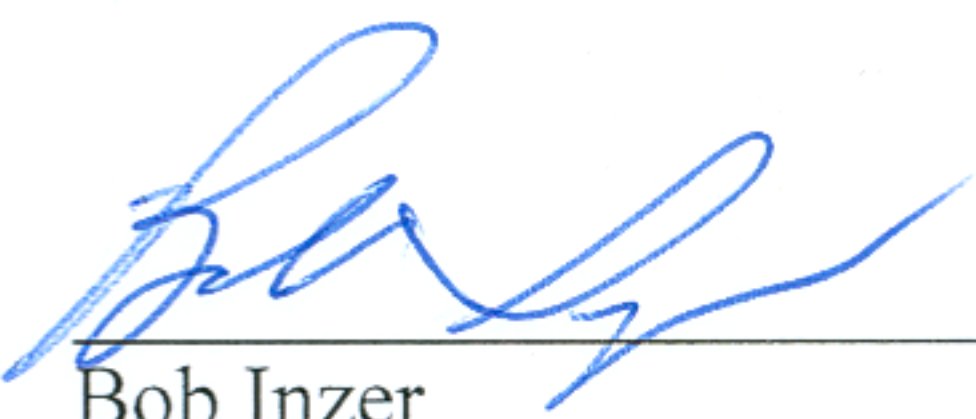
Nationally, considerable attention has focused on management taking responsibility for the publicly traded corporation's financial statements and the fairness, accuracy and completion thereof. While this is principally a private sector concern, it is equally important for public officials to provide similar assurances.

The undersigned hereby state and attest, having reviewed these financial statements, that to the best of their knowledge:

- the statements contain no untrue statement of a material fact
- there are no omissions of material fact(s), and
- the statements fairly present the results of operations and the financial position of the County, and the included reporting units, for the period ending September 30, 2008.


Bryan Desloge
Chairman


Parwez Alam
County Administrator


Bob Inzer
Clerk of Courts


David C. Reid
Finance Director

Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

Presented to

Leon County
Florida

For its Comprehensive Annual
Financial Report
for the Fiscal Year Ended
September 30, 2007

A Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting is presented by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada to government units and public employee retirement systems whose comprehensive annual financial reports (CAFRs) achieve the highest standards in government accounting and financial reporting.



President

Executive Director