



Office of Judge of Probate Talladega County, Alabama

July 1, 2022 through September 30, 2025

Filed: March 13, 2026

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF
EXAMINERS of Public Accounts

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Honorable Rachel Laurie Riddle
Chief Examiner of Public Accounts
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Dear Madam:

An examination was conducted on the Office of Judge of Probate, Talladega County, Alabama, for the period July 1, 2022 through September 30, 2025, by Examiners Kim Q. Huynh and Izayah Glenon. I, Kim Q. Huynh, served as Examiner-in-Charge on the engagement, and under the authority of the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 41-5A-19, I hereby swear to and submit this report to you on the results of the examination.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Q. Huynh
Examiner of Public Accounts

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Department of **Examiners of Public Accounts**

EXAMINER'S SUMMARY

**Office of Judge of Probate
Talladega County, Alabama
July 1, 2022 through September 30, 2025**

PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE EXAMINATION

This report presents the results of an examination of the Office of Judge of Probate, Talladega County, Alabama, (hereinafter referred to as the "Judge of Probate") and a review of the Judge of Probate's compliance with applicable laws and regulations of the State of Alabama in accordance with the requirements of the Department of Examiners of Public Accounts under the authority of the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 41-5A-12.

The Agency Overview contained in this report provides information on the Judge of Probate's operating authority. Honorable Charles "Chad" Joiner served as Judge of Probate during the examination period.

Exhibit 1 provides information on the receipts, disbursements, and balances that were collected by the Judge of Probate during the examination period. Exhibit 2 provides information on the receipts, disbursements and balance of the Special Fund of the Judge of Probate.

RESULTS OF THE EXAMINATION

Tests performed during the examination did not disclose any significant instances of noncompliance with applicable state and local laws and regulations.

EXIT CONFERENCE

The Official was invited to and attended an exit conference to discuss the results of the examination. Representing the Department of Examiners of Public Accounts was BriAnna Upchurch, Audit Manager.



Department of **Examiners of Public Accounts**

AGENCY OVERVIEW

**Office of Judge of Probate
Talladega County, Alabama
July 1, 2022 through September 30, 2025**

The Office of Judge of Probate, Talladega County, Alabama, is responsible for various Probate Court matters in accordance with the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 12-13-1, and is responsible for assessing the appropriate fees and court costs for each case under the Court's jurisdiction in accordance with the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 12-19-90. The Judge of Probate, an elected official, is also responsible for issuing and collecting the related fees on marriage licenses and for recording and collecting taxes on deeds and mortgages in accordance with various provisions of the *Code of Alabama 1975*. The Office is also responsible for the collection and distribution of the county's beer tax in accordance with the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 28-3-190. All fees and taxes collected are distributed in accordance with prevailing statutes.

Act Number 97-567, Acts of Alabama, authorized a special recording and filing fee of \$5 to be collected on each real property instrument, each personal property instrument, and other instruments or documents filed for record in the Office of Judge of Probate. This statute also authorizes a special recording fee of \$5 collected on every court case filed in the probate court. In addition, a special transaction fee of \$5 is collected on every other transaction in the Office of Judge of Probate. These fees are deposited into the Special Indexing Fee Fund to be used at the discretion of the Judge of Probate for an improved recording, archiving, and retrieving system and/or other equipment, maintenance, and services necessary for the improvement of the Office of Judge of Probate.

Financial Information

Summary of Receipts and Disbursements
July 1, 2022 through September 30, 2025

	State	County	Board of Education	Municipal	Officer and Others	Probate Court	Total
<u>Receipts</u>							
Recordation Tax	\$ 1,703,655.59	\$ 1,845,794.17	\$ 1.04	\$	\$ 14,596.10	\$	\$ 3,564,046.90
Marriage License	90,480.00	14,890.00					105,370.00
Interest Earned		209.20					209.20
Local Beer Tax		573,878.37	1,364,288.92	481,513.79	44,691.44		2,464,372.52
Other Fees		68,441.48					68,441.48
Probate Court						298,693.05	298,693.05
Fiduciary Funds						300,015.77	300,015.77
Total Receipts	1,794,135.59	2,503,213.22	1,364,289.96	481,513.79	59,287.54	598,708.82	6,801,148.92
<u>Disbursements</u>							
Remittances:							
Taxes, Licenses and Fees	1,794,135.59	2,503,213.22	1,364,289.96	481,513.79	59,287.54		6,202,440.10
Probate Court						298,633.05	298,633.05
Fiduciary Funds						457,566.97	457,566.97
Total Disbursements	1,794,135.59	2,503,213.22	1,364,289.96	481,513.79	59,287.54	756,200.02	6,958,640.12
Beginning Amounts Not Due To Be Remitted:							
Probate Court						2,882.18	2,882.18
Fiduciary Funds						744,454.00	744,454.00
Ending Amounts Not Due To Be Remitted:							
Probate Court						2,942.18	2,942.18
Fiduciary Funds						586,902.80	586,902.80
Balance Left To Be Settled at September 30, 2025	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

***Special Fund of the Judge of Probate
Summary of Receipts, Disbursements and Balance
July 1, 2022 through September 30, 2025***

	Special Indexing Fee Fund
<u>Receipts</u>	
Indexing Fees	\$ 320,187.86
Bank Account Interest	107.07
Total Receipts	<u>320,294.93</u>
<u>Disbursements</u>	
Imaging Services	222,023.67
Office Supplies	12,337.88
Miscellaneous	662.70
Total Disbursements	<u>235,024.25</u>
Excess of Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	85,270.68
Balance - July 1, 2022	<u>279,483.48</u>
Balance - September 30, 2025	<u><u>\$ 364,754.16</u></u>