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## HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

### INTERNAL AUDIT

To: Sheriff Austin Garrett

From: Chris McCollough, County Auditor *cm*

Date: May 29, 2025

Subject: Sheriff's Office Drug Burn on May 13, 2025

On May 12, 2025, we audited the drugs maintained in the Sheriff's Office drug vault located at the Sheriff's Annex. Our audit aimed to verify that all drugs scheduled for destruction by the Hamilton County Criminal Court order were on hand and identified adequately for destruction.

Access to the confiscated drugs held in the drug vault is limited to the Sheriff's custodians. According to the Sheriff's Drug Destruction Report, the drugs designated for destruction included 1,963 items of drug "contraband previously seized".

During our audit, we reconciled each barcoded envelope containing "seized contraband" to the destruction list approved by order of the Criminal Court. We reviewed all of the envelopes for examination and agreement with the list.

Our procedures relative to the drug burn included:

- Agreed all evidence envelopes to the listing of drugs approved by the Criminal Court for destruction;
- Verified that all drugs approved for destruction were properly placed into boxes and bags for destruction and sealed with evidence tape; and
- Visually observed the destruction of all sealed boxes on May 13, 2025.

In our opinion, all drugs approved by court order for destruction were properly accounted for and destroyed on May 13, 2025.

We appreciate the help of the Sheriff's Office custodians in assisting us during the drug destruction process. If you need further assistance or questions, please call me at 209-6212.

Staff Assigned to Audit

Lauren Cooper

Austin Durall

J.C. Clonts

Cc: Weston Wamp, County Mayor  
Clair McVay, Chief of Staff  
Hamilton County Commissioners  
Captain Mark Hooper, Sheriff's Office  
Heather Crow, Sheriff's Office– Property & Evidence Supervisor  
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