# OBLIGATION RECOVERY CENTER

FISCAL
YEAR 2022
ANNUAL
REPORT

#### **OBLIGATION RECOVERY CENTER 2022**

The Accounts Receivable Management industry has experienced a roller coaster of trends over the past 2 years, the latest being a reduction in payments on bad debt. Inflation has created an increase in prices that have caused consumers to either stop paying their debt, or lower their payment amount, in order to manage expenses. During 2020 and 2021, the ARM industry noticed a spike in debtor payments due primarily to stimulus checks. Since the stimulus checks have stopped, that trend has reversed. Additionally, the student loan payment pause will be reinstated in January 2023, which could adversely affect the ARM industry further. In 2023, we continue to anticipate uncertainty and hope the economy stabilizes later in the year.



-Margie Brickner, President & CEO of Reliant Capital Solutions

#### OBLIGATION RECOVERY CENTER 2022

Our approach to managing the ORC is focused on improving outcomes for both the citizens of South Dakota and State Government. The team includes members with substantial experience managing state collection operations. They are consistently reviewing the results and looking for improvement opportunities. The continuous improvement approach has resulted in tangible outcomes that include:

Customer service provided during a call

Training State Agencies on new approaches to debt collection

Sharing results with referring entities and identifying areas where process improvements can be made

Monthly reviews are conducted to track progress on improvement initiatives. The goal is to leverage our decades of experience to improve performance.



-Stan Farmer, President, Government Performance Solutions, LLC

	FY22 Collection	Summary		
<u>Agency</u>	<u>Collections</u>	Outstanding Balance	Outstanding Accounts	
Unified Judicial System	\$ 1, <del>4</del> 69,393	\$ 79,616,181	127,375	
Revenue	258,977	16,639,952	2,144	
University of South Dakota	254,839	3,601,640	1,347	
South Dakota State	236,827	4,268,301	1,286	
SE Technical Institute	184,973	1,216,097	637	
Black Hills State	139,869	1,671,622	717	
Corrections	111,946	7,468,566	3,769	
Dakota State Univ.	70,364	1,177,322	584	
Western Dakota Tech	56,749	701,768	443	
School of Mines	56,349	534,953	186	
Social Services	54,182	3,159,549	2,206	
Northern State Univ.	35,086	675,122	403	
Mitchell Technical Institute	20,650	136,663	92	
Game, Fish and Parks	13,139	427,973	203	
Transportation	10,782	588,222	245	
SD Retirement System	2,750	77,687	I	
Environment/Natural Res.	1,625	2,280	9	
Labor & Regulation	250	958	5	
All others	\$ 0	<u>\$ 171,754</u>	27	
TOTAL	<u>\$ 2,978,752</u>	<u>\$ 122,136,610</u>	141,679	

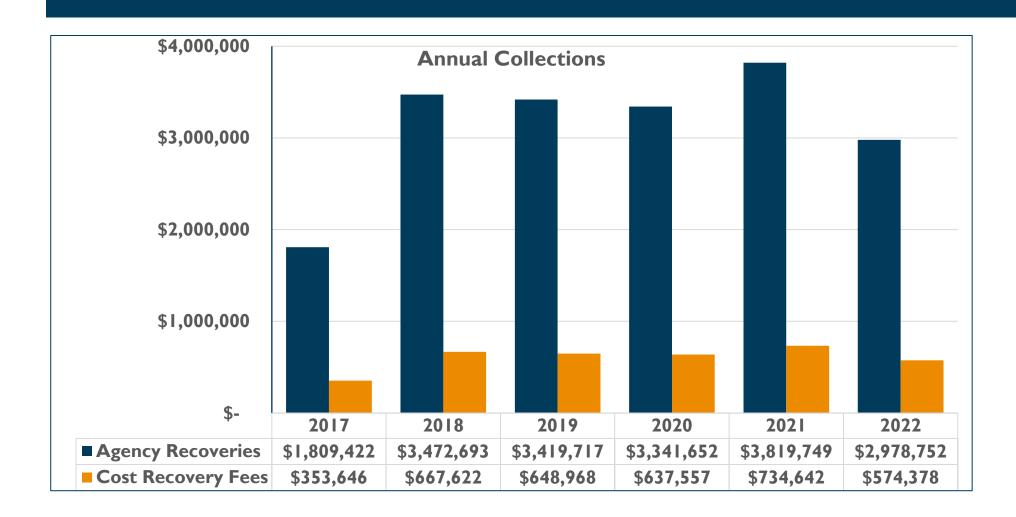
### COLLECTION SUMMARY

FY22 COLLECTIONS FOR ALL AGENCIES TOTALED \$2,978,752.

AT THE END OF FY22 A TOTAL OF 141,679 ACCOUNTS WERE BEING COLLECTED BY THE ORC.

THOSE ACCOUNTS HAD AN OUTSTANDING BALANCE OF \$122,136,610

#### YEAR OVER YEAR PERFORMANCE



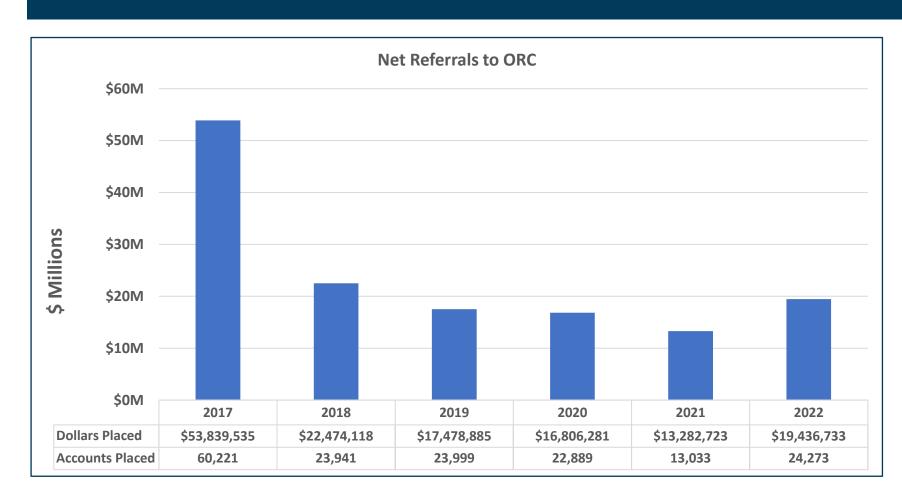
Agency Recoveries reflect the amount collected on behalf of the State and returned to each agency by the ORC.

The Cost Recovery Fee is the additional amount collected to offset the cost of recovery.

#### ANNUAL COLLECTIONS

		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
UJS	\$	895,799	\$ 1,292,073	\$ 1,480,754	\$ 1,518,552	\$ 1,783,365	\$ 1,469,393
Revenue		153,914	380,427	416,154	432,535	383,093	258,977
Regents		270,177	1,302,486	1,170,154	934,266	1,004,370	793,334
Technical Colleges		-	-	_	161,233	324,512	262,373
Corrections		464,353	451,460	262,434	180,091	172,316	111,946
All Others	\$	25,179	<u>\$ 46,247</u>	\$ 90,232	\$ 114,97 <u>5</u>	<u>\$ 152,093</u>	<u>\$ 82,729</u>
Net Back to Agencies	I,	,809,422	3,472,693	3,419,727	3,341,652	3,819,749	2,978,752
Cost Recovery Fees		353,646	<u>667,622</u>	<u>648,968</u>	<u>637,557</u>	<u>734,642</u>	<u>574,378</u>
Total Collections	\$ 2	,163,068	<u>\$ 4,140,315</u>	<u>\$ 4,068,695</u>	<u>\$ 3,979,209</u>	<u>\$ 4,554,391</u>	<u>\$ 3,553,130</u>

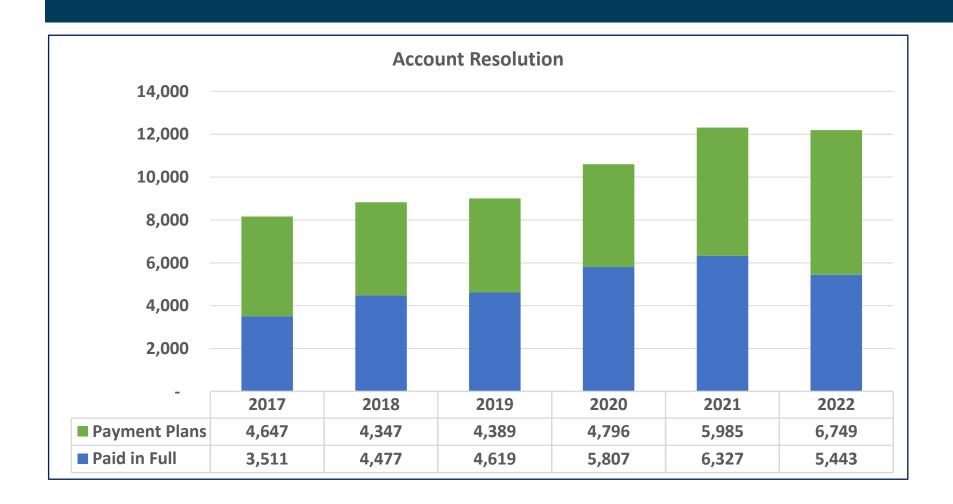
#### REFERRALS



Referrals to the ORC increased in FY22, possibly reflecting increasingly difficult economic conditions for customers.

The average account balance of all referrals was \$844.

#### PAYMENT PLAN STRATEGY



This chart shows the number of accounts paid-in-full during the fiscal year and the total of all active payment plans throughout the year.

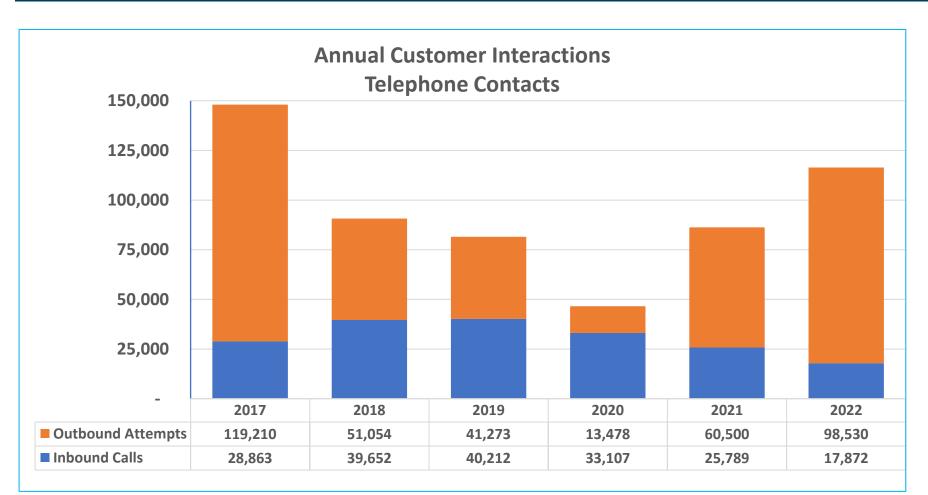
Payment in full becomes more difficult when the economy is challenging.

Payment plans help keep customers engaged in achieving compliance without an undue burden.

#### PAYMENT PLAN STRATEGY

- When payment in full is not achievable what does the ORC do?
- ORC approach to establishing & maintaining payment plans
  - Customers who can continue to live their life have a greater chance of becoming fully compliant
  - Educating customers is the key
  - Checking in at least every 12 months allows changes based on present financial situation
  - Customers can call in any time to request changes if their situation changes
- What is the value to the State and the Customer?
  - Compliance means more money for the state agencies and more customers taking advantage of their opportunities
  - Everyone pays their fair share

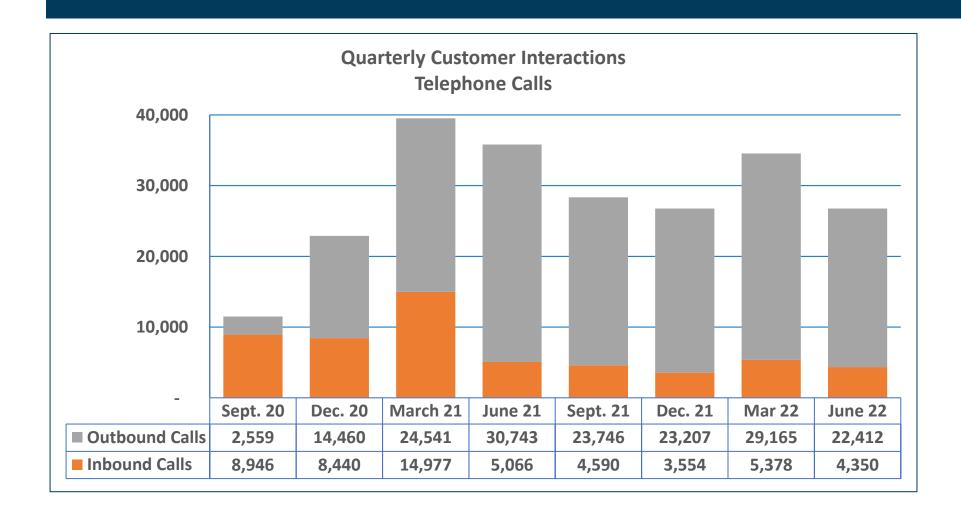
#### CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY



Outbound call trends reflect a proactive strategy to engage with the customer to help them manage and pay off their debt in the most efficient way.

This is demonstrated by the increasing number of outbound calls and reduced volume of inbound calls to the ORC.

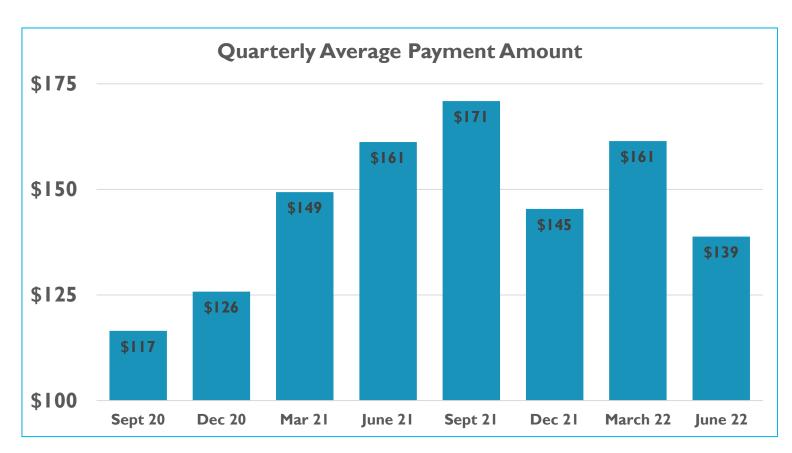
#### CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY



Our personal experience working in state government and understanding of seasonal trends enables us to accurately gauge when debtors are most capable of addressing their debts. Call activities in the quarters when debtors were receiving their tax refunds and COVID stimulus checks demonstrate this strategy is effective.

This is also shown by the corresponding Average Payment data on the next slide.

#### PERFORMANCE MEASURES



Results during this reporting period were likely impacted by macroeconomic forces.

The availability of various forms of fiscal stimulus increased household income and likely resulted in improved collections. The end of those programs has made collection more difficult.

Income tax refunds have a seasonal impact in the March quarter of each year.

Average payment amount equals collections divided by number of payments.

#### CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

- Focus on outbound calling
- Improves:
  - Customer Service: by offering the customer the ability to immediately ask questions to an expert
  - Collection Performance: by immediately discovering a way to bring the customer into compliance
  - <u>Customer Outcomes</u>: by educating the customer and offering reasonable payment plans (See Payment Plan Strategy)
- Why is this important and valuable?
  - <u>Customers</u>: Fewer customers are affected by adversarial actions (such as revoking a license)
  - State Agencies: More customers are attending school, maintaining jobs, and paying taxes
  - For everyone: A realization that everyone is paying their fair share

#### FY23 INITIATIVES

Goal: Improve collection results and the Customer Experience.

Strategy: Actively manage and continuously improve collection processes.

Create solutions that enhance our ability to provide value added service in our changing business and community environment.

Actions: Regular Portfolio Analysis and Operational Evaluation

Assess Portfolio Collectability

Work with State Agency to develop strategy for successfully collecting and/or closing accounts

Prioritize and organize specific collection projects

## QUESTIONS