



**County of Chester
Office of the Controller
Internal Audit Department**

**Management Letter
For the Year Ended
December 31, 2014**

***County of Chester
Magisterial District Court
15-3-07***

Management Letter

Norman MacQueen, Controller

To: Magisterial District Judge Nancy A. Gill

Introduction

On November 30, 2015, Internal Audit completed an audit of Magisterial District Court 15-3-07 (*District Court*). Pat Lenzi was the auditor-in-charge. Internal Audit is required by County Code to review district courts annually to ensure compliance with policies and procedures mandated by the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts and/or District Justice Administration and to assess their overall internal control structure. The scope of our audit included a review of the following:

- Cash and Petty Cash
- Undisbursed Funds
- Cash Receipts
- Manual Receipts
- Cash Disbursements
- Voided Transactions
- Escheats/Stale Dated Checks

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* published by the Comptroller of the United States. We have also issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters concurrent with this management letter. Disclosures and other information in that Report (also dated November 30, 2015) should be considered in conjunction with this Management Letter.

Executive Summary

The management and staff of the *District Court* are, in all material respects, in compliance with policies and procedures set forth by the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts and directives imposed by District Justice Administration. Internal Audit noted no significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in the overall internal control structure.

Internal Audit did, however, note a matter of a lesser significance involving internal controls and compliance with policies and procedures. This matter has been included within this management letter. Based on Internal Audit's testing and observations, it is our opinion that these deficiencies are not the result of negligence or deliberate misconduct, but are instead the consequence of one or more of the following:

- Oversight
- Human error

We want to thank the management and staff of the *District Court* for their cooperation and assistance during the course of this audit. We have provided herein a copy of our "Audit Findings and Recommendations" for your review and comment.

Please feel free to contact our office at (610) 344-6797 should you have any questions or concerns.

COUNTY OF CHESTER

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT 15-3-07

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

Cash and Petty Cash

Cash is reconciled and cash adjustments are reviewed at 100%. Petty cash is counted during the course of the on-site fieldwork.

There were no internal control or procedural weaknesses noted within our sample.

For the following areas, transactions are reviewed on a sample basis according to risk. The current year risk assessment is based on prior year audit results.

Undisbursed Funds

The sample size tested for the year ended 12/31/14 was determined to be 10; however, there was only a total population of 4 cases which were greater than or equal to 90 days.

There were no internal control or procedural weaknesses noted within our sample.

Cash Receipts

The sample size tested for the year ended 12/31/14 was determined to be 20 out of a population of 7,230 receipts issued during the year.

There were no internal control or procedural weaknesses noted within our sample.

Manual Receipts

There were 4 manual receipts used and tested for the year ended 12/31/14.

There were no internal control or procedural weaknesses noted within our sample.

Cash Disbursements

The sample size tested for the year ended 12/31/14 was determined to be 20 out of a population of 529 checks issued during the year.

There were no internal control or procedural weaknesses noted within our sample.

COUNTY OF CHESTER

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT 15-3-07

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

Voided Receipts

The sample size tested for the year ended 12/31/14 was determined to be 15 out of a population of 67 receipts voided during the year.

There were no internal control or procedural weaknesses noted within our sample.

Voided Disbursements

The sample size tested for the year ended 12/31/14 was determined to be 10 out of a population of 16 disbursements voided during the year.

There were no internal control or procedural weaknesses noted within our sample.

Escheat/Stale Dated Checks

Escheats were reviewed at 100% for timeliness. In addition, a sample of escheated items was tested for compliance with escheat/stale dated check procedures. This sample was determined to be 10; however, there was only a population of 8 escheated items for 2014.

Finding 1: Escheats

Internal Audit noted that in two (2) instances, a check was not escheated in a timely manner.

Recommendation

Internal Audit recommends that the *District Court* staff adhere to the stale-dated check procedures as outlined in the District Judge Automated Office Clerical Procedures Manual.

Auditee Response

In District Court 15-3-07 escheats are handled by the office manager. The issue with the two (2) checks that were found not to be escheated in a timely manner began during the period of time when the Court was without an office manager. When the new manager came on board she waited for the bank statement before escheating the checks. Since that time, the new office manager has read the procedures thoroughly and developed a tracking system to ensure that such an oversight does not occur again in the future.

COUNTY OF CHESTER

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT 15-3-07

SUMMARY OF EXIT CONFERENCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

An exit conference was not warranted for the audit of Magisterial District Court 15-3-07. Magisterial District Judge Nancy A. Gill chose to accept the report as presented.