



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

**Audit Report
For the Year Ended
December 31, 2010**

***Magisterial District Court
15-3-05***

**Annual Financial Statement
Audit**

Valentino F. DiGiorgio, III, Controller

COUNTY OF CHESTER
MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT 15-3-05
ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

District Justice Administration
201 West Market Street
West Chester, PA 19380

COUNTY OF CHESTER
MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT 15-3-05
ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010
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COUNTY OF CHESTER OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER

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VALENTINO F. DIGIORGIO, III
Controller

February 7, 2012

District Justice Administration
201 West Market Street
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Internal Audit has audited the accounts of Magisterial District Court 15-3-05 (*District Court*) as of December 31, 2010, and has compiled the attached Statement of Assets and Liabilities and the related Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements, and Cash Balance for the year then ended. It is Internal Audit's responsibility to annually audit the accounts of every magistrate or district judge within the County and to report the results of such audits to the Chester County Commissioners, the Chester County Court of Common Pleas, the Auditor General of Pennsylvania, and to the governing body of each political subdivision which is entitled to receive funds collected on its behalf by the *District Court*. It is management's responsibility to maintain, update, and reconcile these accounts on a continuous basis.

Our audit was conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit in a manner that will provide *reasonable assurance* that the accounts are free of material misstatement and that amounts are properly supported and approved.

As described in Note 1, the accompanying financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. Accordingly, the statements referred to above are not intended to present the financial position and results of operations of the *District Court* in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the accounts of the *District Court* are stated fairly as of December 31, 2010. Consequently, the corresponding financial statements prepared by Internal Audit present fairly, in all material respects, the assets and liabilities of the *District Court* as of December 31, 2010, and the cash receipts, disbursements, and cash balance for the year then ended.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, Internal Audit has also issued a report dated February 7, 2012, on our evaluation of the *District Court's* internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, policies and/or procedures. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and is to be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

Valentino F. DiGiorgio III
Controller

COUNTY OF CHESTER
MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT 15-3-05
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
DECEMBER 31, 2010

ASSETS

Cash – Checking Account	\$ 26,093
Cash – Petty Cash/Change Fund	<u>150</u>
 Total Assets	 <u>\$ 26,243</u>

LIABILITIES

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	\$ 4,958
County of Chester	8,911
East Nottingham Township	256
Lower Oxford Township	558
New London Township	165
Penn Township	171
Upper Oxford Township	19
West Nottingham Township	3,879
Oxford Borough	1,753
Oxford School District	463
Bail, Restitution, and Collateral	4,960
Due to County – Petty Cash	<u>150</u>
 Total Liabilities	 <u>\$ 26,243</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

COUNTY OF CHESTER

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT 15-3-05

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CASH BALANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Receipts	
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	\$ 331,012
County of Chester	114,899
East Nottingham Township	4,777
Elk Township	475
Lower Oxford Township	13,983
New Garden Township	300
New London Township	2,519
Penn Township	4,845
Upper Oxford Township	1,477
West Nottingham Township	26,803
Oxford Borough	31,358
Oxford School District	4,215
Bail, Restitution and Collateral	<u>120,839</u>
Total Receipts	<u>657,502</u>
Disbursements	
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	329,890
County of Chester	114,442
East Nottingham Township	4,759
Elk Township	475
Lower Oxford Township	13,928
New Garden Township	300
New London Township	2,855
Penn Township	5,807
Upper Oxford Township	1,472
West Nottingham Township	24,800
Oxford Borough	30,802
Oxford School District	3,871
Bail, Restitution and Collateral	<u>128,505</u>
Total Disbursements	<u>661,906</u>
Cash Decrease	(4,404)
Beginning Balance	<u>30,497</u>
Ending Balance	<u>\$ 26,093</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

COUNTY OF CHESTER
MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT 15-3-05
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Principles

Background and Reporting Entity

The financial statements of the *District Court* include only those transactions handled directly by the *District Court*. These transactions include the collection of costs, fines, bail, and restitution, as well as the subsequent disbursement of these funds to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to related political subdivisions, and to citizens served by the *District Court*. As such, the *District Court* acts as a conduit for the Commonwealth, local municipalities, and constituents it serves. Consequently, the *District Court's* cash balance at any point in time represents undisbursed funds to one (or all) of these parties. For financial statement purposes, these undisbursed funds are included as a liability of the *District Court*.

The actual operating expenses of the *District Court* are paid by the County of Chester, except for the Magisterial District Judge's salary which is paid by the Commonwealth. These costs include the salaries and wages of district court employees, fringe benefits, postage, telephone, office supplies, computer/LAN use, and furniture and equipment. These costs are not included in the audited Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements, and Cash Balance.

Basis of Accounting

The books and records of the *District Court* are maintained on the cash basis of accounting. Consequently, receipts are recognized when received rather than when assessed or otherwise due, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when the obligation is incurred. Accordingly, the accompanying statements do not present the assets, liabilities, receipts, disbursements, and cash balance in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Note 2 - Legal Matters

Our audit disclosed no pending litigation involving the *District Court* or its Magisterial District Judge for the year ended December 31, 2010.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

COUNTY OF CHESTER

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT 15-3-05

SCHEDULE OF COUNTY OF CHESTER REVENUES AND DIRECT EXPENDITURES

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010 and 2009
(Unaudited)

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Revenues:		
County Fines and Costs	<u>\$ 116,004</u>	<u>\$ 115,940</u>
Direct Expenditures:		
Salaries and Wages	\$ 178,177	\$ 176,881
Fringe Benefits	78,834	72,827
Electric	8,866	9,232
Postage	12,025	10,902
Water / Sewer	444	403
Fuel	2,483	4,382
Other Professional Expenses	6,573	6,546
Office Supplies	4,760	2,922
Telephone/Data Lines	3,207	4,934
Equipment Rental	270	360
Travel and Mileage	204	541
Other General Expenses	0	51
Training and Staff Development	<u>0</u>	<u>225</u>
Total Direct Expenditures	<u>\$ 295,843</u>	<u>\$ 290,206</u>

Note 1: The revenue figure per the County of \$116,004 differs from the amount disbursed to the County by the District Court of \$114,442. This results from the use of the cash basis of accounting by the District Court and the modified accrual basis of accounting by the County. The District Court recognizes the disbursement as of the check date, while the County recognizes the revenue in the year the fines and costs are collected by the District Court.

COUNTY OF CHESTER
MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT 15-3-05

GENERAL INFORMATION

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010 and 2009
(Unaudited)

(1) A comparison of the case load between 2010 and 2009 is as follows:

<u>Docket Description</u>	<u>Case Load</u>	
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Traffic	2,681	3,000
Non-traffic	1,725	1,829
Civil	417	370
Criminal	<u>412</u>	<u>418</u>
Total cases docketed for the year	<u>5,235</u>	<u>5,617</u>

(2) The *District Court's* support staff was comprised of four (4) full-time individuals during 2010.



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February 7, 2012

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Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters

In planning our audit of the financial statements of District Court 15-3-05 (*District Court*) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2010, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the *District Court's* internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the *District Court's* internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the *District Court's* internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses and therefore, there can be no assurance that all significant deficiencies or material weaknesses have been identified.

A *deficiency* in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the *District Court's* financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the *District Court's* financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws and regulations, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters

We noted certain matters that we reported to management of the *District Court* in a separate letter dated February 7, 2012. They included the following:

- Reconciliation with respect to cash adjustments and the petty cash/change fund, and
- Compliance with district court procedures/policies with respect to cash disbursements, voided transactions and overall compliance.

This report is intended for the information of the Chester County Commissioners, the Chester County Court of Common Pleas, the Auditor General of Pennsylvania, and all other political affiliates served by the *District Court*. This report is, however, a matter of public record, and its distribution is not limited.



Valentino F. DiGiorgio III
Controller

COUNTY OF CHESTER

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT 15-3-05

SUMMARY OF EXIT CONFERENCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

District Justice Administration indicated through a written confirmation, that an exit conference would be waived for this year. District Justice Administration has accepted the audit report and management letter as presented.