

County of Chester
Office of the Controller
Internal Audit Department

Audit Report For the Year Ended December 31, 2010

## Magisterial District Court 15-4-02

Annual Financial Statement Audit

# COUNTY OF CHESTER AUDIT OF MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT 15-4-02 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Magisterial District Judge Jeffrey J. Valocchi District Court 15-4-02 Valley Run Shoppes 47 N. Bailey Road Thorndale, PA 19372-1060

#### **MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT 15-4-02**

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

AUDITOR'S REPORT	1
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	2
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Cash Balance	3
Notes to Financial Statements	4
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION	
Schedule of County of Chester Revenues and Direct Expenditures	5
General Information	6
AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS	7
SUMMARY OF EXIT CONFERENCE	9



# COUNTY OF CHESTER OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER

313 WEST MARKET STREET, SUITE 6302, PO BOX 2748, WEST CHESTER, PA 19380-0991 TELEPHONE: (610) 344-6155 FAX: (610) 344-6750

January 31, 2012

Magisterial District Judge Jeffrey J. Valocchi District Court 15-4-02 Valley Run Shoppes

47 N. Bailey Road

Thorndale, PA 19372-1060

Internal Audit has audited the accounts of Magisterial District Court 15-4-02 (*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 January 31, 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

Valet O. Giggio III

Controller

#### **MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT 15-4-02**

#### STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

#### **DECEMBER 31, 2010**

#### **ASSETS**

Cash – Checking Account	\$ 41,939
Cash – Petty Cash/Change Fund	 150
Total Assets	\$ 42,089

#### **LIABILITIES**

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	\$ 3,985
County of Chester	13,020
Caln Township	4,021
East Brandywine Township	2,239
Coatesville Area School District	35
Coatesville City	30
Bail, Restitution, and Collateral	18,609
Due to County – Petty Cash/Change Fund	 150
Total Liabilities	\$ 42,089

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

#### **MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT 15-4-02**

#### STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CASH BALANCE

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Receipts	
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	\$ 441,594
County of Chester	204,170
Caln Township	79,613
East Brandywine Township	44,574
Coatesville Area School District	958
Coatesville City	282
Bail, Restitution, and Collateral	136,383
Total Receipts	907,574
Disbursements	
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	443,417
County of Chester	207,829
Caln Township	81,643
East Brandywine Township	44,857
Coatesville Area School District	950
Coatesville City	320
Bail, Restitution, and Collateral	182,587
Total Disbursements	961,603
Cash Decrease	(54,029)
Beginning Balance	95,968
Ending Balance	<u>\$ 41,939</u>

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

#### **MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT 15-4-02**

#### 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, office rent, 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 (Jeffrey J. Valocchi) for the year ended December 31, 2010.



#### **MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT 15-4-02**

#### SCHEDULE OF COUNTY OF CHESTER REVENUES AND DIRECT EXPENDITURES

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

		<u>2010</u>		2009
Revenues				
County Fines and Costs	\$	204,001	<u>\$</u>	208,799
Direct Expenditures				
Salaries and Wages	\$	164,178	\$	175,960
Fringe Benefits		73,483		71,860
Office Rent		77,067		77,067
Postage		14,097		13,236
Office Supplies		3,934		2,738
Telephone/Data Lines		2,840		6,564
Electric		10,168		10,004
Employee Travel & Mileage		0		2,164
Training & Staff Development		0		225
Other General Expenses		17		0
Equipment Rentals		540		540
Other Professional Services		261		284
Total Direct Expenditures	<u>\$</u>	346,585	<u>\$</u>	360,642

Note 1: The revenue figure per the County of \$204,001 differs from the amount disbursed to the County by the *District Court* of \$207,829. 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*.

#### **MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT 15-4-02**

#### **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:

<b>Docket Description</b>	Case Load		
	2010	<u>2009</u>	
Traffic	4,658	5,346	
Non-traffic	752	881	
Civil	649	822	
Criminal	<u>295</u>	_ 340	
Total cases docketed for the year	<u>6,354</u>	<u>7,389</u>	

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



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January 31, 2012

Magisterial District Judge Jeffrey J. Valocchi District Court 15-4-02 Valley Run Shoppes 47 N. Bailey Road Thorndale, PA 19372-1060

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

In planning our audit of the financial statements of District Court 15-4-02 (*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 January 31, 2012, regarding cash adjustments and undisbursed funds.

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

Valet O. Grafio III

Controller

#### **MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT 15-4-02**

#### **SUMMARY OF EXIT CONFERENCE**

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

An exit conference was not warranted for the audit of Magisterial District Court 15-4-02. Magisterial District Judge Jeffrey J. Valocchi accepted the audit report and management letter as presented.