

CLERK OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

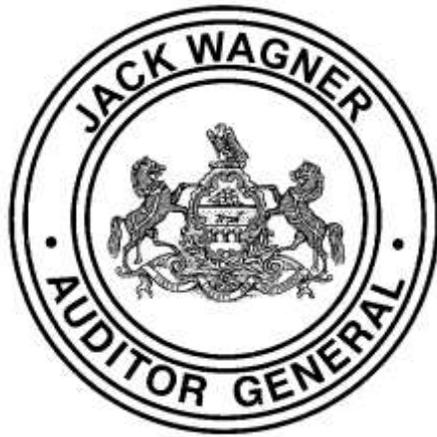
MONTGOMERY COUNTY

EXAMINATION REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD

JANUARY 1, 2008 TO DECEMBER 31, 2009





CLERK OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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**Department of the Auditor General  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120-0018**

**JACK WAGNER  
AUDITOR GENERAL**

Independent Auditor's Report

The Honorable Daniel P. Meuser  
Secretary  
Pennsylvania Department of Revenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17128

We have examined the accompanying statement of receipts and disbursements (Statement) of the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania (County Officer), for the period January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2009, pursuant to the requirements of Section 401(b) of *The Fiscal Code*, 72 P.S. § 401(b). This Statement is the responsibility of the county office's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this Statement based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. An examination includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the Statement and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our examination provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

We are mandated by Section 401(b) of *The Fiscal Code* to audit the accounts of each county officer to determine whether all moneys collected on behalf of the Commonwealth have been correctly assessed, reported and promptly remitted. *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States include attestation engagements as a separate type of audit. An attestation engagement performed pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards* involves additional standards that exceed the standards provided by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Accordingly, this attestation engagement complies with both *Government Auditing Standards* and Section 401(b) of *The Fiscal Code*.



### Independent Auditor's Report (Continued)

In our opinion, the Statement referred to above presents, in all material respects, the operations of the County Officer as it pertains to receipts made on behalf of the Commonwealth for the period ended December 31, 2009, in conformity with the criteria set forth in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we are required to report findings of significant deficiencies in internal control, violations of provisions of contracts or grant agreements, and abuse that are material to the Statement and any fraud and illegal acts that are more than inconsequential that come to our attention during our examination. We are also required to obtain the views of management on those matters. We performed our examination to express an opinion on whether the Statement is presented in accordance with the criteria described above and not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the internal control over reporting on the Statement or on compliance and other matters; accordingly, we express no such opinions.

A control deficiency 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 misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the County Officer's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report data reliably in accordance with the applicable criteria such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the County Officer's Statement that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the County Officer's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency or combination of significant deficiencies that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the Statement will not be prevented or detected by the County Officer's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control over reporting on the Statement was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses, as defined above, in internal control over reporting on the Statement.

Independent Auditor's Report (Continued)

The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue, the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts, and the County Officer and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack Wagner", with a stylized flourish at the end.

June 21, 2011

JACK WAGNER  
Auditor General



CLERK OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS  
FOR THE PERIOD  
JANUARY 1, 2008 TO DECEMBER 31, 2009

Receipts:

Department of Transportation		
Title 75 Fines	\$	218,448
Department of Revenue Court Costs		206,928
Crime Victims' Compensation Costs		510,912
Crime Commission Costs/Victim Witness Services Costs		326,012
Domestic Violence Costs		41,595
Emergency Medical Services Fines		34,952
DUI - ARD/EMS Fees		80,939
CAT/MCARE Fund Surcharges		346,435
Judicial Computer System/Access to Justice Fees		151,189
Offender Supervision Fees		1,706,492
Constable Service Surcharges		854
Criminal Laboratory Users' Fees		344
Probation and Parole Officers' Firearm Education Costs		45,224
Substance Abuse Education Costs		377,209
Office of Victims' Services Costs		14,907
Miscellaneous State Fines and Costs		<u>406,080</u>
 Total receipts (Note 2)	 \$	 4,468,520
 Disbursements to Commonwealth (Note 3)		 <u>(4,468,520)</u>
 Balance due Commonwealth (County) per settled reports (Note 4)		 -
 Examination adjustments		 <u>-</u>
 Adjusted balance due Commonwealth (County) for the period January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2009	 \$	 <u><u>-</u></u>

Notes to the Statement of Receipts and Disbursements are an integral part of this report.

CLERK OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS  
FOR THE PERIOD  
JANUARY 1, 2008 TO DECEMBER 31, 2009

1. Criteria

The Statement of Receipts and Disbursements provides a summary of receipts and disbursements by category. The categories and the amounts of fines, costs, fees, and surcharges assessed are based on Pennsylvania laws and regulations.

The Statement was prepared in accordance with reporting requirements prescribed by the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue. Under this method, only the Commonwealth portion of cash receipts and disbursements are presented, revenues are recognized when received, and expenditures are recognized when paid.

2. Receipts

Receipts are comprised of fines, costs, fees, and surcharges collected on behalf of the Commonwealth. These fines, costs, fees, and surcharges represent collections made on summary and criminal cases filed with the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas' Office.

3. Disbursements

Total disbursements are comprised as follows:

Clerk of the Court checks issued to:

Department of Revenue	\$ 4,461,266
Office of the Attorney General	6,626
Office of the Inspector General	98
State Police	214
Department of Transportation	117
State Correctional Institute - Graterford	199
Total	\$ 4,468,520

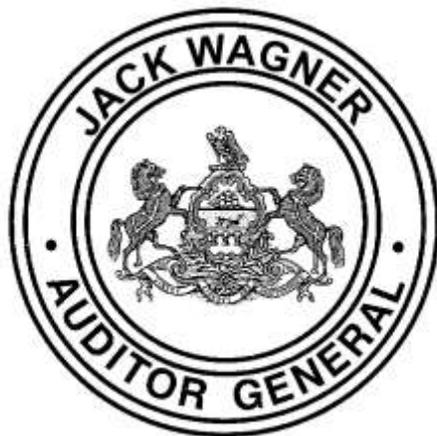
4. Balance Due Commonwealth (County) For The Period January 1, 2008 To December 31, 2009

This balance reflects a summary of monthly transmittal reports as settled by the Department of Revenue. The balance also reflects a summary of any receipts disbursed directly to other state agencies.

CLERK OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS  
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5. County Officer Serving During Examination Period

Ann Thornburg Weiss served as the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas for the period January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2009.



CLERK OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
REPORT DISTRIBUTION  
FOR THE PERIOD  
JANUARY 1, 2008 TO DECEMBER 31, 2009

This report was initially distributed to:

The Honorable Daniel P. Meuser  
Secretary  
Pennsylvania Department of Revenue

Mr. Thomas J. Dougherty  
Director  
Division of Grants and Standards  
Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole

The Honorable Zygmunt Pines  
Court Administrator of Pennsylvania  
Supreme Court of Pennsylvania  
Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts

The Honorable Ann Thornburg Weiss	Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas
The Honorable Diane Morgan	Controller
The Honorable William J. Furber	President Judge
The Honorable James R. Matthews	Chairman of the Board of Commissioners

This report is a matter of public record. Copies of this report may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General, Office of Communications, 318 Finance Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120. To view this report online or to contact the Department of the Auditor General, please access our web site at [www.auditorgen.state.pa.us](http://www.auditorgen.state.pa.us).