

SUMMIT TOWNSHIP NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN

ERIE COUNTY

COMPLIANCE AUDIT REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD

JANUARY 1, 2006, TO DECEMBER 31, 2008



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BACKGROUND

On December 18, 1984, the Pennsylvania Legislature adopted the Municipal Pension Plan Funding Standard and Recovery Act (P.L. 1005, No. 205, as amended, 53 P.S. § 895.101 et seq.). The act established mandatory actuarial reporting and funding requirements and a uniform basis for the distribution of state aid to Pennsylvania's public pension plans. Section 402(j) of Act 205 specifically requires the Auditor General, as deemed necessary, to make an audit of every municipality which receives general municipal pension system State aid and of every municipal pension plan and fund in which general municipal pension system State aid is deposited.

Pension plan aid is provided from a 2 percent foreign casualty insurance premium tax, a portion of the foreign fire insurance tax designated for paid firefighters and any investment income earned on the collection of these taxes. Generally, municipal pension plans established prior to December 18, 1984, are eligible for state aid. For municipal pension plans established after that date, the sponsoring municipality must fund the plan for three plan years before it becomes eligible for state aid. In accordance with Act 205, a municipality's annual state aid allocation cannot exceed its actual pension costs.

In addition to Act 205, the Summit Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan is also governed by implementing regulations adopted by the Public Employee Retirement Commission published at Title 16, Part IV of the Pennsylvania Code and applicable provisions of various other state statutes including, but not limited to, the following:

Act 69 - The Second Class Township Code, Act of May 1, 1933 (P.L. 103, No. 69), as reenacted and amended, 53 P.S. § 65101 et seq.

The Summit Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan is a single-employer defined contribution pension plan locally controlled by the provisions of an adoption agreement effective January 1, 2001. Active members are not required to contribute to the plan; however, voluntary contributions are permitted. The municipality is required to annually contribute a flat dollar amount per full-time member, as noted below:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2008	\$ 4,167
2007	\$ 3,969
2006	\$ 3,780



Board of Township Supervisors
Summit Township
Erie County
Erie, PA 16509

We have conducted a compliance audit of the Summit Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan for the period January 1, 2006, to December 31, 2008. The audit was conducted pursuant to authority derived from Section 402(j) of Act 205 and in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* applicable to performance audits issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform our audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our conclusions based on our audit objectives.

The objectives of the audit were:

1. To determine if municipal officials took appropriate corrective action to address the finding contained in our prior audit report; and
2. To determine if the pension plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies.

Our audit was limited to the areas related to the objectives identified above.

Township officials are responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure to provide reasonable assurance that the Summit Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan is administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies. To assist us in planning and performing our audit, we obtained an understanding of the township's internal control structure as it relates to the township's compliance with those requirements. Additionally, we tested transactions, assessed official actions, performed analytical procedures and interviewed selected officials to the extent necessary to satisfy the audit objectives.

The results of our tests indicated that, in all significant respects, the Summit Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies. However, we did note a matter that has been included in the following observation further discussed later in this report:

Observation – Failure To Prepare Financial Statements

The accompanying supplementary information is presented for purposes of additional analysis. We did not audit the information and, accordingly, express no form of assurance on it.

The contents of this report were discussed with officials of Summit Township and, where appropriate, their responses have been included in the report.

April 1, 2009

JACK WAGNER
Auditor General

SUMMIT TOWNSHIP NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN
STATUS OF PRIOR FINDING

Status Of Prior Audit Recommendation

· Failure To Prepare Financial Statements

The status of the prior audit recommendation is addressed in the Observation discussed later in this report.

SUMMIT TOWNSHIP NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
(UNAUDITED)

SCHEDULE OF STATE AID
AND EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS

Year Ended December 31	State Aid Deposited	Employer Contributions
2003	\$ 34,733	\$ 46,191
2004	37,848	43,166
2005	35,121	49,193
2006	37,062	44,191
2007	38,477	30,232
2008	38,236	34,487

SUMMIT TOWNSHIP NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN
OBSERVATION

Observation – Failure To Prepare Financial Statements

Plan officials have not prepared financial statements or required notes to the financial statements for the nonuniformed pension plan for the years ended December 31, 2006, 2007 and 2008.

Financial reporting assists in fulfilling a municipality's duty to be publicly accountable and should enable users to assess accountability. Guidance for the form and content of annual financial statements and notes to the financial statements can be found in Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statements No. 25 (GASB 25), as amended by No. 50 (GASB 50), and No. 3 (GASB 3), as amended by No. 40 (GASB 40).

Plan officials should consider establishing and implementing procedures to ensure the preparation of annual financial statements, which include note disclosures required by GASB 25, as amended by GASB 50, and GASB 3, as amended by GASB 40, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.



SUMMIT TOWNSHIP NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN
REPORT DISTRIBUTION LIST

This report was initially distributed to the following:

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell
Governor
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Summit Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan
Erie County
8900 Old French Road
Erie, PA 16509

Mr. Christopher R. Gradler Chairman, Board of Township Supervisors

Ms. Christene S. Yeast Secretary

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, Room 318 Finance Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120. If you have any questions regarding this report or any other matter, you may contact the Department of the Auditor General by accessing our website at www.auditorgen.state.pa.us.