

# COMPLIANCE AUDIT

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## Doylestown Borough Non-Uniformed Pension Plan Bucks County, Pennsylvania For the Period January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2018

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December 2019



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Department of the Auditor General

Eugene A. DePasquale • Auditor General



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**EUGENE A. DePASQUALE  
AUDITOR GENERAL**

The Honorable Mayor and Borough Council  
Doylestown Borough  
Bucks County  
Doylestown, PA 18901

We have conducted a compliance audit of the Doylestown Borough Non-Uniformed Pension Plan for the period January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2018. We also evaluated compliance with some requirements subsequent to that period when possible. The audit was conducted pursuant to authority derived from Section 402(j) of Act 205 and in accordance with the standards applicable to performance audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our conclusions based on our audit objective. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our conclusions based on our audit objective.

The objective of the audit was 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 objective identified above. To determine whether the pension plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies, our methodology included the following:

- We determined whether state aid was properly determined and deposited in accordance with Act 205 requirements by verifying the annual deposit date of state aid and determining whether deposits were made within 30 days of receipt for all years within the period under audit.
- We determined whether annual employer contributions were calculated and deposited in accordance with the plan's governing document and applicable laws and regulations by examining the municipality's calculation of the plan's annual financial requirements and minimum municipal obligation (MMO) and comparing these calculated amounts to amounts actually budgeted and deposited into the pension plan as evidenced by supporting documentation.

- We determined whether annual employee contributions were calculated, deducted, and deposited into the pension plan in accordance with the plan's governing document and applicable laws and regulations by testing total members' contributions on an annual basis using the rates obtained from the plan's governing document in effect for all years within the period under audit and examining documents evidencing the deposit of these employee contributions into the pension plan.
- We determined whether retirement benefits calculated for the plan member who retired during the current audit period represent payments to all (and only) those entitled to receive them and were properly determined and disbursed in accordance with the plan's governing document, applicable laws and regulations by recalculating the amount of the monthly pension benefit due to the retired individual and comparing this amount to supporting documentation evidencing the amount determined and actually paid to the recipient. We also determined whether retirement benefits calculated for the plan member who elected to vest during the current audit period represent payments to all (and only) those entitled to receive them and were properly determined in accordance with the plan's governing document, applicable laws and regulations by recalculating the amount of the pension benefit due to the retired individual and comparing this amount to supporting documentation evidencing the amount determined.
- We determined whether the January 1, 2015 and January 1, 2017 actuarial valuation reports were prepared and submitted by March 31, 2016 and 2018, respectively, in accordance with Act 205 and whether selected information provided on these reports is accurate, complete, and in accordance with plan provisions to ensure compliance for participation in the state aid program by comparing selected information to supporting source documentation.

Doylestown Borough contracted with an independent certified public accounting firm for annual audits of its basic financial statements which are available at the borough's offices. Those financial statements were not audited by us and, accordingly, we express no opinion or other form of assurance on them.

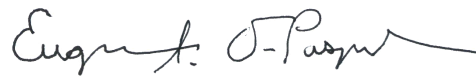
Borough officials are responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that the Doylestown Borough Non-Uniformed Pension Plan is administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies. In conducting our audit, we obtained an understanding of the borough's internal controls as they relate to the borough's compliance with those requirements and that we considered to be significant within the context of our audit objective, and assessed whether those significant controls were properly designed and implemented. Additionally and as previously described, we tested transactions, assessed official actions, performed analytical procedures, and interviewed selected officials to provide reasonable assurance of detecting instances of noncompliance with legal and regulatory requirements or noncompliance with provisions of contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies that are significant within the context of the audit objective.

The results of our procedures indicated that, in all significant respects, the Doylestown Borough Non-Uniformed Pension Plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies.

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

The contents of this report were discussed with officials of Doylestown Borough and, where appropriate, their responses have been included in the report. We would like to thank borough officials for the cooperation extended to us during the conduct of the audit.

November 15, 2019

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eugene A. DePasquale". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE  
Auditor General

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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.

Annual state aid allocations are provided from a 2 percent foreign (out-of-state) casualty insurance premium tax, a portion of the foreign (out-of-state) 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 Doylestown Borough Non-Uniformed Pension Plan is also governed by implementing regulations adopted by the former 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 37 - The Borough Code, Act of April 18, 2014 (P.L. 432, No. 37), as amended, 8 Pa. C.S. § 1105 et seq.

The Doylestown Borough Non-Uniformed Pension Plan is a single-employer defined benefit pension plan locally controlled by the provisions of Ordinance No. 2011-15, adopted pursuant to Act 37. The plan is also affected by the provisions of collective bargaining agreements between the borough and its non-uniformed employees. The plan was established on January 1, 1962. Active members are not required to contribute to the plan. As of December 31, 2018, the plan had 27 active members, 6 terminated members eligible for vested benefits in the future, and 13 retirees receiving pension benefits from the plan.

## **BACKGROUND – (Continued)**

As of December 31, 2018, selected plan benefit provisions are as follows:

### Eligibility Requirements:

- |                   |                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Normal Retirement | Age 65 and 5 years of service.                                                                                                                                        |
| Early Retirement  | Voluntary at age 62 or with 24 years of service, involuntary after 8 years of service. Benefits will be actuarially reduced for each year prior to normal retirement. |
| Vesting           | A member is 100% vested after 5 years of service.                                                                                                                     |

### Retirement Benefit:

The monthly pension shall be 1.25% credit for each year of service times the average monthly compensation over the participant's final 36 months of employment.

### Survivor Benefit:

If the participant is eligible to retire at the time of death, the beneficiary receives the present value of the participant's accrued benefit. At retirement, the participant may select a survivor benefit option.

### Service Related Disability Benefit:

A 50% disability benefit is provided to a participant who is unable to perform gainful employment regardless of age or service. The benefit shall be offset by available Workers' Compensation benefits.

### Non-Service Related Disability Benefit:

Upon attainment of 10 years of credited service, a 30% disability benefit is provided to a participant who is unable to perform gainful employment. The benefit shall be offset by available Worker's Compensation benefits.

DOYLESTOWN BOROUGH NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
(UNAUDITED)

The supplementary information contained on Pages 3 through 5 reflects the implementation of GASB Statement No. 67, *Financial Reporting for Pension Plans*. The objective of this statement is to improve financial reporting by state and local governmental pension plans.

SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE NET PENSION  
LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, AND 2018

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
Total Pension Liability					
Service cost	\$ 77,535	\$ 78,353	\$ 81,879	\$ 87,917	\$ 91,653
Interest	260,490	254,492	267,061	280,893	299,197
Differences between expected and annual experience	-	(240,181)	-	23,211	-
Changes in assumptions	-	-	-	62,006	-
Benefit payments, including refunds of employee contributions	<u>(152,315)</u>	<u>(204,935)</u>	<u>(132,635)</u>	<u>(120,623)</u>	<u>(119,540)</u>
Net Change in Total Pension Liability	185,710	(112,271)	216,305	333,404	271,310
Total Pension Liability – Beginning	<u>3,471,818</u>	<u>3,657,528</u>	<u>3,545,257</u>	<u>3,761,562</u>	<u>4,094,966</u>
Total Pension Liability – Ending (a)	<u>\$ 3,657,528</u>	<u>\$ 3,545,257</u>	<u>\$ 3,761,562</u>	<u>\$ 4,094,966</u>	<u>\$ 4,366,276</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position					
Contributions – employer	\$ -	\$ 51,238	\$ 52,837	\$ 59,788	\$ 121,767
Net investment income	201,399	(84,769)	235,730	518,961	(299,636)
Benefit payments, including refunds of employee contributions	<u>(152,315)</u>	<u>(204,935)</u>	<u>(132,635)</u>	<u>(120,623)</u>	<u>(119,540)</u>
Net Change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position	49,084	(238,466)	155,932	458,126	(297,409)
Plan Fiduciary Net Position – Beginning	<u>3,583,347</u>	<u>3,632,431</u>	<u>3,393,965</u>	<u>3,549,897</u>	<u>4,008,023</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position – Ending (b)	<u>\$ 3,632,431</u>	<u>\$ 3,393,965</u>	<u>\$ 3,549,897</u>	<u>\$ 4,008,023</u>	<u>\$ 3,710,614</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position – Ending (a-b)	<u>\$ 25,097</u>	<u>\$ 151,292</u>	<u>\$ 211,665</u>	<u>\$ 86,943</u>	<u>\$ 655,662</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	99.3%	95.7%	94.4%	97.9%	85.0%
Estimated Covered Employee Payroll	\$ 1,639,441	\$ 1,716,680	\$ 1,750,595	\$ 1,686,310	\$ 1,813,555
Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll	1.5%	8.8%	12.1%	5.2%	36.2%



DOYLESTOWN BOROUGH NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN  
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
 (UNAUDITED)

Sensitivity Of The Net Pension Liability To Changes In The Discount Rate

The following presents the net pension liability of the borough as of December 31, 2014, 2015, and 2016 calculated using the discount rate of 7.5%, as well as what the borough's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage-point lower or 1 percentage-point higher than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (6.5%)	Current Discount Rate (7.5%)	1% Increase (8.5%)
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/14	\$ 409,018	\$ 25,097	\$ (301,863)
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/15	\$ 542,518	\$ 151,292	\$ (182,371)
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/16	\$ 615,909	\$ 211,665	\$ (133,019)

In addition, the following presents the net pension liability of the borough as of December 31, 2017 and 2018 calculated using the discount rate of 7.25%, as well as what the borough's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage-point lower or 1 percentage-point higher than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (6.25%)	Current Discount Rate (7.25%)	1% Increase (8.25%)
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/17	\$ 523,114	\$ 86,943	\$ (286,156)
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/18	\$ 1,103,418	\$ 655,662	\$ 272,881

DOYLESTOWN BOROUGH NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN  
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
 (UNAUDITED)

SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Year Ended December 31	Actuarially Determined Contribution	Actual Contributions	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Covered- Employee Payroll*	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered- Employee Payroll
2009	\$ 68,388	\$ 68,388	\$ -	\$ 1,578,149	4.33%
2010	73,749	73,769	(20)	1,578,149	4.67%
2011	86,066	86,106	(40)	1,656,516	5.20%
2012	-	-	-	1,656,516	0.00%
2013	-	-	-	1,572,877	0.00%
2014	-	-	-	1,639,441	0.00%
2015	51,238	51,238	-	1,716,680	2.98%
2016	52,837	52,837	-	1,750,595	3.02%
2017	59,788	59,788	-	1,686,310	3.55%
2018	121,767	121,767	-	1,813,555	6.71%

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENT RETURNS

Annual Money-Weighted Rate of Return, Net of Investment Expense:

2018	(7.58%)
2017	14.86%
2016	7.09%
2015	(2.11%)
2014	6.11%

DOYLESTOWN BOROUGH NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN  
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
 (UNAUDITED)

SCHEDULE OF FUNDING PROGRESS

Historical trend information about the plan is presented herewith as supplementary information. It is intended to help users assess the plan’s funding status on a going-concern basis, assess progress made in accumulating assets to pay benefits when due, and make comparisons with other state and local government retirement systems.

The actuarial information is required by Act 205 biennially. The historical information, beginning as of January 1, 2013, is as follows:

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Actuarial Valuation Date	Actuarial Value of Assets (a)	Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) - Entry Age (b)	Unfunded (Assets in Excess of) Actuarial Accrued Liability (b) - (a)	Funded Ratio (a)/(b)
01-01-13	\$ 3,583,128	\$ 3,285,712	\$ (297,416)	109.1%
01-01-15	3,632,431	3,417,347	(215,084)	106.3%
01-01-17	3,549,897	3,846,779	296,882	92.3%

Note: The market value of the plan’s assets at 01-01-13 has been adjusted to reflect the smoothing of gains and/or losses over a four-year averaging period. This method will lower contributions in years of less than expected returns and increase contributions in years of greater than expected returns. The net effect over long periods of time is to have less variance in contribution levels from year to year.

DOYLESTOWN BOROUGH NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
(UNAUDITED)

The comparability of trend information is affected by changes in actuarial assumptions, benefit provisions, actuarial funding methods, accounting policies, and other changes. Those changes usually affect trends in contribution requirements and in ratios that use the actuarial accrued liability as a factor.

Analysis of the dollar amount of the actuarial value of assets, actuarial accrued liability, and unfunded (assets in excess of) actuarial accrued liability in isolation can be misleading. Expressing the actuarial value of assets as a percentage of the actuarial accrued liability (Column 4) provides one indication of the plan's funding status on a going-concern basis. Analysis of this percentage, over time, indicates whether the system is becoming financially stronger or weaker. Generally, the greater this percentage, the stronger the plan.

DOYLESTOWN BOROUGH NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
NOTES TO SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULES  
(UNAUDITED)

The information presented in the supplementary schedules was determined as part of the actuarial valuation at the date indicated. Additional information as of the latest actuarial valuation date follows:

Actuarial valuation date	January 1, 2017
Actuarial cost method	Entry age normal
Amortization method	Level dollar
Remaining amortization period	15 years
Asset valuation method	Fair value
Actuarial assumptions:	
Investment rate of return	7.25%
Projected salary increases	4.25%
Cost-of-living adjustments	3.0%

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