



**DISTRICT COURT 17-3-03
SNYDER COUNTY
EXAMINATION REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2010 TO DECEMBER 31, 2012**

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE - AUDITOR GENERAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL



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EUGENE A. DePASQUALE
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 District Court 17-3-03, Snyder County, Pennsylvania (District Court), for the period January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2012, pursuant to the requirements of Section 401(c) of *The Fiscal Code*, 72 P.S. § 401(c). This Statement is the responsibility of the District Court'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(c) of *The Fiscal Code* to audit the accounts of each district court 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(c) 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 District Court as it pertains to receipts made on behalf of the Commonwealth for the period January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2012, 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 District Court'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 District Court's Statement that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the District Court's internal control. We consider the deficiency described in the finding below to be a significant deficiency in internal control over the reporting on the Statement:

- Bank Deposit Slips Were Not Validated.

Independent Auditor's Report (Continued)

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 District Court's internal control. Our consideration of the internal control over reporting on the Statement would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be significant deficiencies and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also considered to be material weaknesses. We consider the significant deficiency described above to be a material weakness.

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 District Court and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.



September 11, 2013

EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE
Auditor General

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DISTRICT COURT 17-3-03
 SNYDER COUNTY
 STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
 FOR THE PERIOD
 JANUARY 1, 2010 TO DECEMBER 31, 2012

Receipts:

Department of Transportation		
Title 75 Fines	\$	437,376
Motor Carrier Road Tax Fines		475
Commercial Driver Fines		1,090
Littering Law Fines		1,150
Child Restraint Fines		1,244
Department of Revenue Court Costs		178,284
Crime Victims' Compensation Bureau Costs		19,633
Crime Commission Costs/Victim Witness Services Costs		14,121
Domestic Violence Costs		5,347
Department of Agriculture Fines		2,614
Emergency Medical Service Fines		100,677
CAT/MCARE Fund Surcharges		331,742
Judicial Computer System Fees		94,618
Access to Justice Fees		25,231
Criminal Justice Enhancement Account Fees		3,621
Judicial Computer Project Surcharges		16,491
Constable Service Surcharges		6,431
Miscellaneous State Fines and Costs		6,709
		<hr/>
Total receipts (Note 2)		1,246,854
Disbursements to Commonwealth (Note 3)		<hr/> (1,246,854)
Balance due Commonwealth (District Court) per settled reports (Note 4)		-
Examination adjustments		<hr/> -
Adjusted balance due Commonwealth (District Court) for the period January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2012	\$	<hr/> <hr/> -

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

DISTRICT COURT 17-3-03
SNYDER COUNTY
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2010 TO DECEMBER 31, 2012

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 traffic, non-traffic, civil, and criminal cases filed with the District Court.

3. Disbursements

Total disbursements are comprised as follows:

District Court checks issued to:

Department of Revenue	\$ 1,246,854
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4. Balance Due Commonwealth (District Court) For The Period January 1, 2010 To December 31, 2012

This balance reflects the summary of monthly transmittal reports as settled by the Department of Revenue.

5. Magisterial District Judges Serving During Examination Period

John T. Robinson served at District Court 17-3-03 for the period January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2011.

John H. Reed served at District Court 17-3-03 for the period January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012.

DISTRICT COURT 17-3-03
SNYDER COUNTY
FINDING AND RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2010 TO DECEMBER 31, 2012

Finding - Bank Deposit Slips Were Not Validated

Our examination of the district court's accounting records disclosed that the office copy of the bank deposit slip was not validated by the bank in 45 of the 45 deposits tested. The office received a validated receipt from the bank, but this only confirmed the total amount deposited and not the actual make up of the deposit (i.e. cash and check mix).

Good internal accounting controls require that the amount of each check and the total amount of cash deposited are identified on the deposit slip. The office copy of each deposit should be brought to the bank to be validated. If the bank cannot validate the deposit slip, the office should obtain a deposit ticket from the bank that validates total cash and the total deposit. After the office receives the validation from the bank, it should be reconciled to the receipts by someone other than the person preparing or making the deposit.

Without a good system of internal control over funds received by the office, the possibility of funds being lost or misappropriated increases significantly.

This condition existed because the bank refused to validate the deposit slip.

Recommendations

We recommend that the office obtain a validation from the bank as to the mix of cash and checks deposited. We further recommend that the validation is reconciled to receipts by someone other than the person preparing or making the deposit.

Management's Response

The Magisterial District Judge responded as follows:

The deposits made by this office are made each day in a consistent manner and have proven to be uniformly accurate. The deposit slips separately list cash and checks along with the total, which figures can be confirmed by audit through the receipt issued by the bank and the referenced drawer number.

Auditor's Conclusion

Although we acknowledge the court's point of view for the accuracy of deposits, it is necessary that the bank validate the court's copy of the deposit slip to verify that the mix of cash and checks is correct. We are confident that if the court contacts the bank's branch manager he will make arrangements to comply with the recommendation.

DISTRICT COURT 17-3-03
SNYDER COUNTY
REPORT DISTRIBUTION
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2010 TO DECEMBER 31, 2012

This report was initially distributed to:

The Honorable Daniel P. Meuser
Secretary
Pennsylvania Department of Revenue

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

The Honorable John H. Reed

Magisterial District Judge

The Honorable Joseph E. Kantz

Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners

Ms. Kelly J. Heeter

District Court Administrator

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at <http://www.auditorgen.state.pa.us>. Media questions about the report can be directed to the Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General, Office of Communications, 231 Finance Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120; via email to: news@auditorgen.state.pa.us.