# GREENVILLE BOROUGH NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN

### **MERCER COUNTY**

## **COMPLIANCE AUDIT REPORT**

### FOR THE PERIOD

**JANUARY 1, 2006, TO DECEMBER 31, 2008** 



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## **ABBREVIATION**

PMRS - Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System

#### 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 <u>et seq.</u>). 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 Greenville Borough 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 15 - Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Law, Act of February 1, 1974 (P.L. 34, No. 15), as amended, 53 P.S. § 881.101 et seq.

The Greenville Borough Nonuniformed Pension Plan is a single-employer defined benefit pension plan locally controlled by the provisions of Ordinance No. 1439, adopted pursuant to Act 15. The plan is also affected by the provisions of collective bargaining agreements between the borough and its nonuniformed employees.



The Honorable Mayor and Borough Council Greenville Borough Mercer County Greenville, PA 16125

We have conducted a compliance audit of the Greenville Borough 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 finding and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our finding and 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. The Greenville Borough Nonuniformed Pension Plan participates in the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System (PMRS), which is an agent multiple-employer public employee retirement system that acts as a common investment and administrative agent for participating municipal pension plans. PMRS issues a separate Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, copies of which are available from the PMRS accounting office. PMRS's 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 an internal control structure to provide reasonable assurance that the Greenville Borough 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 borough's internal control structure as it relates to the borough'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 Greenville Borough Nonuniformed Pension Plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies, except as noted in the following finding further discussed later in this report:

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 Greenville Borough and, where appropriate, their responses have been included in the report.

June 18, 2009

JACK WAGNER Auditor General

Finding – Incorrect Data On Certification Form AG 385 Resulting In An Underpayment Of State Aid

#### GREENVILLE BOROUGH NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN STATUS OF PRIOR FINDING

### Compliance With Prior Audit Recommendation

Greenville Borough has complied with the prior audit recommendation concerning the following:

· Incorrect Data On Certification Form AG 385 Resulting In An Overpayment Of State Aid

The borough reimbursed \$2,123 to the Commonwealth for the overpayment of state aid.

#### GREENVILLE BOROUGH NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION

#### <u>Finding – Incorrect Data On Certification Form AG 385 Resulting In An Underpayment Of</u> <u>State Aid</u>

<u>Condition</u>: The borough failed to certify 1 eligible nonuniformed employee and understated payroll by \$23,338 on the 2008 Certification Form AG 385.

<u>Criteria</u>: Pursuant to Act 205, at Section 402(e)(2), an employee who has been employed on a full-time basis for at least six consecutive months and has been participating in a pension plan during the certification year is eligible for certification.

<u>Cause</u>: Plan officials were unaware of the applicable Act 205 guidelines for the certification of eligible employees.

<u>Effect</u>: The data submitted on this certification form is used, in part, to calculate the state aid due to the municipality for distribution to its pension plans. Because the borough's state aid allocation was based on pension costs, the borough received an underpayment of state aid as identified below:

Normal	Payroll			State Aid		
Cost	Understated		Cost Understated U		Un	derpayment
7.00576%	\$	23,338	\$	1,635		

Although the borough will be reimbursed for the underpayment of state due to the borough's certification error, the full amount of the 2008 state aid allocation was not available to be deposited timely and therefore was not available to pay operating expenses or for investment.

<u>Recommendation</u>: We recommend that, in the future, plan officials comply with the instructions that accompany Certification Form AG 385 to assist them in accurately reporting the required pension plan data.

Management's Response: Municipal officials agreed with the finding without exception.

#### GREENVILLE BOROUGH NONUNIFORMED 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, except for distressed pension plans, for which annual reporting was required through January 1, 2003. The historical information, beginning as of January 1, 2003, is as follows:

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
						Unfunded
			Unfunded			(Assets in
		Actuarial	(Assets in			Excess of)
		Accrued	Excess of)			Actuarial
	Actuarial	Liability	Actuarial			Accrued
Actuarial	Value of	(AAL) -	Accrued	Funded	Covered	Liability as a %
Valuation	Assets	Entry Age	Liability	Ratio	Payroll	of Payroll
Date	(a)	(b)	(b) - (a)	(a)/(b)	(c)	[(b-a)/(c)]
01-01-03	\$ 1,984,857	\$ 1,744,880	\$ (239,977)	113.8%	\$ 692,050	(34.7%)
01-01-05	2,168,313	2,079,011	(89,302)	104.3%	757,074	(11.8%)
01-01-07	2,452,271	2,234,874	(217,397)	109.7%	760,545	(28.6%)

#### GREENVILLE BOROUGH NONUNIFORMED 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.

Trends in unfunded (assets in excess of) actuarial accrued liability and annual covered payroll are both affected by inflation. Expressing the unfunded (assets in excess of) actuarial accrued liability as a percentage of annual covered payroll (Column 6) approximately adjusts for the effects of inflation and aids analysis of the plan's progress made in accumulating sufficient assets to pay benefits when due. Generally, where there is an unfunded actuarial accrued liability, the smaller this percentage, the stronger the plan. However, when assets are in excess of the actuarial accrued liability, the higher the bracketed percentage, the stronger the plan.

## GREENVILLE BOROUGH NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (UNAUDITED)

## SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS FROM EMPLOYER AND OTHER CONTRIBUTING ENTITIES

Year Ended December 31	Annual Required Contribution	Percentage Contributed
2003	\$ 27,902	100.0%
2004	18,252	100.0%
2005	19,203	100.0%
2006	19,680	230.3%
2007	41,720	100.1%
2008	36,423	103.2%

### GREENVILLE BOROUGH NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION NOTES TO SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULES (UNAUDITED)

The information presented in the required 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, 2007
Actuarial cost method	Entry age normal
Amortization method	N/A
Remaining amortization period	N/A
Asset valuation method	Fair value
Actuarial assumptions:	
Investment rate of return	6.0%, net of expenses
Projected salary increases *	4.5%
* Includes inflation at	3.0%
Cost-of-living adjustments	3.0%, where applicable

#### GREENVILLE BOROUGH NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN REPORT DISTRIBUTION LIST

This report was initially distributed to the following:

#### The Honorable Edward G. Rendell Governor Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

#### Greenville Borough Nonuniformed Pension Plan Mercer County 125 Main Street Greenville, PA 16125

The Honorable Richard H. Miller	Mayor
Mr. Pete Longiotti	Council President
Mr. Ryan T. Eggleston	Borough Manager
Ms. Tracey Vale	Treasurer
Mr. Benjamin F. Mader	Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System

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