

**MASONTOWN BOROUGH NONUNIFORMED UNION PENSION PLAN**

**FAYETTE COUNTY**

**COMPLIANCE AUDIT REPORT**

**FOR THE PERIOD**

**JANUARY 1, 2009, TO DECEMBER 31, 2011**





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ABBREVIATION

ERISA - Employee Retirement Income Security Act



## 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 Masontown Borough Nonuniformed Union 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.

As further described in the Letter from the Auditor General included in this report, the borough's nonuniformed union employees participate in the Southwestern Pennsylvania and Western Maryland Area Teamsters and Employers Pension Fund. The plan is also affected by the provisions of collective bargaining agreements between the borough and its nonuniformed union employees. Active members are not required to contribute to the plan. The agreement between the municipality and the Southwestern Pennsylvania and Western Maryland Area Teamsters and Employers Pension Fund provides for the following required contributions:

Effective 1-1-2009	\$93 per week per employee
Effective 1-1-2010	\$98 per week per employee
Effective 1-1-2011	\$103 per week per employee





The Honorable Mayor and Borough Council  
Masontown Borough  
Fayette County  
Masontown, PA 15461-1819

We have conducted a compliance audit of the Masontown Borough Nonuniformed Union Pension Plan for the period January 1, 2009, to December 31, 2011. 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 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. The borough's nonuniformed union employees participate in the Southwestern Pennsylvania and Western Maryland Area Teamsters and Employers Pension Fund, a Taft-Hartley Act collectively bargained, jointly trustee, multi-employer pension plan, which is governed primarily by the Federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ERISA provides for substantial federal government oversight of the operating and reporting practices of employee benefit plans subject to its provisions. Accordingly, the scope of our audit was restricted to the activities of the Masontown Borough Nonuniformed Union Pension Plan and did not extend to the activities of the multi-employer pension plan.

Borough officials are responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that the Masontown Borough Nonuniformed Union 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, we tested transactions, assessed official actions, performed analytical procedures and interviewed selected officials to the extent necessary to satisfy the audit objective.

The results of our tests indicated that, in all significant respects, the Masontown Borough Nonuniformed Union 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 and, accordingly, express no form of assurance on it.

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

July 23, 2012

JACK WAGNER  
Auditor General

MASONTOWN BOROUGH NONUNIFORMED UNION PENSION PLAN  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
(UNAUDITED)

SCHEDULE OF STATE AID  
AND EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS

Year Ended December 31	State Aid Deposited	Employer Contributions
2006	\$ 8,178	\$ 23,490
2007	1,561	33,527
2008	6,976	29,949
2009	6,137	35,452
2010	2,069	42,775
2011	41,581	5,552



MASONTOWN BOROUGH NONUNIFORMED UNION PENSION PLAN  
REPORT DISTRIBUTION LIST

This report was initially distributed to the following:

The Honorable Tom Corbett  
Governor  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Masontown Borough Nonuniformed Union Pension Plan  
Fayette County  
1 East Church Avenue  
Masontown, PA 15461-1819

The Honorable Toni Petrus	Mayor
Mr. Harry S. Lee	Council President
Ms. Donna Weimer	Office Supervisor

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](http://www.auditorgen.state.pa.us).