

UPPER LEACOCK TOWNSHIP NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN

LANCASTER COUNTY

COMPLIANCE AUDIT REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD

JANUARY 1, 2010, TO DECEMBER 31, 2011

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE - AUDITOR GENERAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE 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 <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 Upper Leacock 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.

The Upper Leacock Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan is a single-employer defined contribution pension plan locally controlled by the provisions of Resolution No. 2007-09. Active members are not required to contribute to the plan. The municipality is required to contribute 10 percent of each member's compensation.





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EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE AUDITOR GENERAL

Board of Township Supervisors Upper Leacock Township Lancaster County Leola, PA 17540

We have conducted a compliance audit of the Upper Leacock Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan for the period January 1, 2010, to December 31, 2011. 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 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. Our methodology addressed determinations about the following:

- Whether state aid was properly determined and deposited in accordance with Act 205 requirements.
- Whether employer contributions are determined and deposited in accordance with the plan's governing document and applicable laws and regulations.
- Whether employee contributions are required and, if so, are determined, deducted and deposited into the pension plan and are in accordance with the plan provisions and applicable laws and regulations.

- Whether benefit payments, if any, represent payments to all (and only) those entitled to receive them and are properly determined in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.
- Whether obligations for plan benefits are accurately determined in accordance with plan provisions and based on complete and accurate participant data; and whether actuarial valuation reports are prepared and submitted to the Public Employee Retirement Commission (PERC) in accordance with state law and 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.

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

Township officials are responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that the Upper Leacock Township Nonuniformed 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 township's internal controls as they relate to the township's compliance with those requirements and that we considered to be significant within the context of our audit objectives, 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 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 objectives.

The results of our tests indicated that, in all significant respects, the Upper Leacock Township 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:

Finding – Receipt Of State Aid In Excess Of Entitlement

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 Upper Leacock Township and, where appropriate, their responses have been included in the report.

February 28, 2013

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EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE Auditor General



UPPER LEACOCK TOWNSHIP NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN STATUS OF PRIOR FINDING

Compliance With Prior Audit Recommendation

Upper Leacock Township has complied with the prior audit recommendation concerning the following:

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

During the current audit period, municipal officials established adequate internal control procedures to ensure compliance with the instructions that accompany Certification Form AG 385 and accurately reported the required pension data.

UPPER LEACOCK TOWNSHIP NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION

Finding - Receipt Of State Aid In Excess Of Entitlement

<u>Condition</u>: The township received an allocation of state aid in 2011 in excess of the plan's defined contribution pension costs as illustrated below:

Municipal pension costs	\$ 95,810
Less: Employee forfeitures available	 (5,386)
Adjusted municipal pension costs	\$ 90,424
State aid allocation	\$ 95,901
Less: Adjusted municipal pension costs	 (90,424)
Excess state aid	\$ 5,477

Criteria: Section 402(f)(2) of Act 205 states:

No municipality shall be entitled to receive an allocation of general municipal pension system state aid in an amount which exceeds the aggregate actual financial requirements of any municipal pension plan for police officers, paid firefighters or employees other than police officers or paid firefighters maintained by the municipality, less the amount of any aggregate annual member or employee contributions during the next succeeding plan year, as reported in the most recent complete actuarial report filed with the commission.

In addition, Resolution No. 2007-09, Article IX, states, in part:

Effective January 1, 2004, forfeitures shall be applied to reduce the Employer contribution and will be applied in the Plan Year after a Member ceases to be employed by the Employer.

<u>Cause</u>: Plan officials failed to establish adequate internal control procedures to reconcile the township's annual state aid allocation and any available employee forfeitures with the plan's annual defined contribution pension costs and reimburse any excess state aid received to the Commonwealth.

UPPER LEACOCK TOWNSHIP NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION

Finding – (Continued)

<u>Effect</u>: It is this department's opinion that, since the entire proceeds of the insurance premium tax on foreign casualty insurance companies are distributed annually to each eligible recipient municipality, it is inappropriate to use state aid in one year to offset pension costs in other years. Consequently, the overpayment of state aid received in the year 2011, in the total amount of \$5,477, must be returned to the Commonwealth for redistribution.

In addition, due to the fact that the entire amount of the 2011 state aid allocation was deposited into the pension plan, the municipality can withdraw \$3,780 from the plan to reimburse the township's general fund for the plan's administrative expenses paid by the township in 2011.

<u>Recommendation</u>: We recommend that the municipality reimburse the \$5,477 of excess state aid received in the year 2011 to the Commonwealth from the nonuniformed pension plan. A check in this amount, with interest compounded annually from date of receipt to date of repayment, at a rate earned by the plan, should be made payable to: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and mailed to: Department of the Auditor General, Municipal Pension & Fire Relief Programs Unit, 11 Stanwix Street, Suite 1450, Pittsburgh, PA 15222. A copy of the interest calculation must be submitted along with evidence of payment.

In addition, we recommend that the municipality withdraw \$3,780 from the nonuniformed pension plan to reimburse the township's general fund for the plan's administrative expenses paid by the township in 2011.

Furthermore, we recommend that in the future, plan officials reconcile the township's annual state aid allocation and any available employee forfeitures with the plan's annual defined contribution pension costs and reimburse any excess state aid received to the Commonwealth.

<u>Management's Response</u>: Municipal officials agreed with the finding and recommendation without exception.

UPPER LEACOCK TOWNSHIP NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (UNAUDITED)

SCHEDULE OF STATE AID AND EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS

Year Ended December 31	State Aid Deposited	Employer Contributions
2006	\$ 43,239	\$ 21,100
2007	51,302	31,722
2008	50,981	34,739
2009	56,304	25,669
2010	58,227	35,170
2011	95,901	3,128

UPPER LEACOCK TOWNSHIP NONUNIFORMED PENSION PLAN REPORT DISTRIBUTION LIST

This report was initially distributed to the following:

The Honorable Tom Corbett Governor Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Upper Leacock Township Nonuniformed Pension Plan Lancaster County 36 Hillcrest Avenue Leola, PA 17540

Mr. Ronald Simmons	Chairman, Board of Township Supervisors
Mr. Michael Morris	Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Barb Dagen	Secretary/Bookkeeper

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.