Beaver County
Ambridge District Court
36-1-01

Audit Report
For the Period January 2004 through December 2005

Richard W. Towcimak
Beaver County Controller

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RICHARD W. TOWCIMAK
CONTROLLER

County of Beaver
Office of Controller

VINCENT LaVALLE
DEPUTY CONTROLLER

ROBERT LEWIS, JR.
SOLICITOR

BEAVER COUNTY COURTHOUSE
THIRD STREET – BEAVER, PENNSYLVANIA 15009-2196
TELEPHONE: Area Code 724-728-5700

March 12, 2007

Mr. Harry E. Knafelc
District Court 36-1-01
650 11th Street
Ambridge, PA 15003

Dear Mr. Knafelc:

We have audited the financial records of District Court 36-1-01 in the county of Beaver of the state of Pennsylvania for the period January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2005. Based upon the audit we have issued our report thereon dated March 12, 2007.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted governmental auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

Based upon our review of the financial records, in our opinion, the statement of revenues and expenditures is fairly stated in all material aspects.

Richard W. Towcimak
Beaver County Controller

AUDIT SCOPE:

The scope of this audit encompasses the period from January 1, 2004 to December 31, 2005.

AUDIT OBJECTIVES:

Through the completion of internal control questionnaires, control tests, substantive tests, and observation, the following audit objectives were accomplished for this audit:

- Prepare a financial statement for each year reviewed
- Evaluate controls over the District Court checking account and change fund
- Ensure that funds are deposited on the same day received
- Ensure that funds received are disbursed to the proper payees
- Ensure that funds held in escrow are adequate
- Ensure that funds receipted are applied to the proper case
- Ensure that costs and fines are properly split upon receipt
- Ensure that reports and funds due to the Commonwealth were correct and remitted in a timely manner
- Ensure that proper documentation was maintained in the case file
- Evaluate the controls over cash
- Evaluate the controls over purchasing and the administration of the budget
- Evaluate controls over general office procedures

DISTRICT COURT 36-1-01
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2004

Beginning cash balance (1/1/2004)		**$ 14,115.48**
Receipts:		
Traffic	$ 154,445.51	
Non-Traffic	58,379.03	
Collateral	54,592.91	
Criminal, Civil, etc.	45,076.08	
Total receipts		312,493.53
Disbursements:		
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	$ 147,141.40	
Beaver County	46,089.42	
Restitution & Refund Bail / Collateral	38,329.59	
Ambridge Boro	28,999.08	
Harmony Township	20,252.26	
Server Fees	17,692.70	
Baden Boro	11,888.08	
Ambridge Area School District	383.08	
Chippewa Township	300.00	
Aliquippa Boro	50.00	
Total disbursements		(311,125.61)
Adjustments:		
Adjustment for void checks		135.27
Ending cash balance (12/31/2004)		**$ 15,618.67**

DISTRICT COURT 36-1-01
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2005

Beginning cash balance (1/1/2005)		**$ 15,618.67**
Receipts:		
Traffic	$ 173,326.84	
Non-Traffic	55,741.01	
Criminal, Civil, etc.	48,712.51	
Collateral	35,662.63	
Total receipts		313,442.99
Disbursements:		
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	$ 162,562.11	
Beaver County	47,828.40	
Ambridge Boro	28,381.92	
Restitution & Refund Bail / Collateral	23,077.02	
Harmony Township	21,704.80	
Server Fees	15,482.12	
Baden Boro	13,843.14	
Ambridge Area School District	686.55	
Total disbursements		(313,566.06)
Adjustments:		
Adjustment for void checks		252.80
Ending cash balance (12/31/2005)		**$ 15,748.40**

DISTRICT COURT 36-1-01
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2004 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2005

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - District Court 36-1-01 reports on the cash basis of accounting. Under the cash basis of accounting revenues are recognized when received and expenses recognized when the disbursement is made.

Note 2: Traffic Receipt/Disbursement Categories -Transactions resulting from summary proceedings for offenses arising under the Pennsylvania Motor Vehicle Code and violations of local parking ordinances.

Note 3: Non-Traffic Receipt/Disbursement Categories -Transactions resulting from non-traffic summary proceedings initiated by a police officer or private citizen.

Note 4: Criminal, Civil, etc. Receipt Categories -Transactions resulting from misdemeanor and/or felony charges brought by a police officer or private citizen. Transactions resulting from Landlord-Tenant actions or, civil actions filed for tortious conduct or contractual issues.

Note 5: Collateral Receipt Categories - Miscellaneous funds and funds deposited in escrow.

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March 12, 2007

Mr. Harry E. Knafelc
District Court 36-1-01
650 11th Street
Ambridge, PA 15003

Report on Internal Control Structure

We have audited the accompanying statement of account of the District Court 36-1-01, Beaver County, Pennsylvania, for the period January 1, 2004 to December 31, 2005, and have issued our report thereon dated March 12, 2007.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

In planning and performing our audit of the District Court 36-1-01, Beaver County, Pennsylvania, for the period January 1, 2004 to December 31, 2005, we considered the office's internal control structure to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and the office's compliance with applicable regulations and not to provide assurance on the internal control structure.

The management of the District Court is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure. In fulfilling this responsibility, estimates and judgments by management are required to assess the expected benefits and related costs of internal control structure policies and procedures. The objectives of an internal control structure are to provide management with

reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, and that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly to permit the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with prescribed policies. Because of inherent limitations in any internal control structure, errors or irregularities may nevertheless occur and not be detected. Also, future reliance on any evaluation of the structure, past or current, is subject to the risk that procedures may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the effectiveness of the design and operation of policies and procedures may deteriorate.

For the internal control structure we obtained an understanding of the design of relevant policies and procedures and whether they have been placed in operation. Additionally, we assessed control risk for the internal control structure. Compliance with applicable laws and regulations was considered when assessing control risk for the internal control structure.

We noted no matters involving the internal control structure and its operation that we consider reportable conditions under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control structure that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the office's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements.

A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the specific internal control structure elements does not reduce, to a relatively low level, the risk that material errors or irregularities affecting the financial statements being audited may occur and not be timely detected by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions.

Our consideration of the internal control structure would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control structure that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are considered to be material weaknesses as defined above. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider material weaknesses.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Office of the Controller, management, and others within the administration. This restriction is not intended to limit the distribution of this report, which is a matter of public record.

Richard W. Towcimak
Beaver County Controller

An exit conference was held on March 12, 2007 at District Court 36-1-01 for the purpose of discussing the items presented in this report. Those in attendance were:

District Court 36-1-01

Harry Knafelc - District Justice

Donna Platz - Office Manager

Beaver County Controller's Office

Cheryl Spagnola - Auditor

The results of the audit were discussed in their entirety during this conference.

As a part of the Office of the Controller's normal reporting procedure, a copy of this report will be distributed to the Beaver County Court Administrator and will be posted in the Controller's section of the Beaver County website.