

County of Lehigh Allentown, Pennsylvania



Office of the Controller 2013 Annual Report



Glenn Eckhart, County Controller

I, Glenn Eckhart, do solemnly swear that I will support, obey, and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of this Commonwealth and that I will discharge the duties of the office of the controller of Lehigh County with fidelity.







County Of Lehigh Office Of The Controller Glenn Eckhart, County Controller Table of Contents



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County Of Lehigh Office Of The Controller Mission Statement



The mission of the office of the controller, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania is to:



- > examine the propriety of internal control,
- > assess compliance with statutory requirements,
- > evaluate operating procedures,
- ➤ audit the accuracy and completeness of records and files pertaining to the receipt and disbursement of County funds by all officers, agents, and employees of the County.

The controller's office conducts assessments of management performance and program results of any county department or agency to evaluate the efficiency and economy of the agency's or department's use of taxpayer funds.



County Of Lehigh Office Of The Controller Staff & Credentials as of December 31, 2013





Glenn Eckhart **County Controller**

John A. Falk **Deputy Controller** BA, MBA, CPA, CIA, CFE, CGFM, CFF, CGMA

David A. Joseph **Senior Auditor BA, CGFM**

Robert M. Fenstermaker Auditor BS

Thomas F. Schweyer **Senior Auditor** BA, CIA

Stephen E. Berndt Auditor **BBA, CFE**

Cindy J. Achey **Assistant Operations Manager**

MBA - Masters in Business Administration CGMA – Charter Global Management Accountant CFF – Certified in Financial Forensics CGFM - Certified Governmental Financial Manager BS - Bachelor of Science **BBA** – Bachelor in Business Administration

CPA – Certified Public Accountant CIA - Certified Internal Auditor CFE - Certified Fraud Examiner BA - Bachelor of Arts



County Of Lehigh Office of the Controller Auditing Standards











The office of the controller performs an internal auditing function. Internal auditing is an independent appraisal function established within an organization to examine and evaluate the activities of the organization. A general statement of purpose, authority and responsibility for the office of the controller is included in the county home rule charter and administrative code.

The *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, provides auditing guidelines for financial and performance audits. Professional standards are also promulgated by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and several other authoritative accounting & auditing organizations.

Compliance to the *Government Auditing Standards* include minimum continuing professional education requirements for the staff and management of the office of the controller. The Government Auditing Standards require 80 hours every two years with 24 hours in government - related courses. Certified public accountants are subject to the AICPA required 120 hours every three years (minimum 20 hours per year) and the PICPA requirement of 80 hours every two years. The Institute of Internal Auditors, the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, and the Association of Government Accountants each have similar requirements to maintain their respective certifications.

Every three years, the work product of the Office of the Controller is subject to an independent peer review as is required by the *Government Auditing Standards*. A peer review of the internal quality control system was last performed in 2011 by the Association of Local Government Auditors (ALGA) for the years 2008 through 2010. The ALGA peer review team concluded the Office of the Controller internal quality control system was suitably designed and operating effectively to provide reasonable assurance of compliance to the *Government Auditing Standards*.

A peer review for 2011-2013 is scheduled for 2014.

County Of Lehigh Office Of The Controller Introduction



You're going to be audited...

Audit Plans are Based on Risk Assessment.

Relax! You are not being singled out for something you did or didn't do. All county activities are subject to audit. Generally, we select audits based upon a number of risk factors. We look at things such as the time since your last audit, the size of your operation, system changes and turnover of key staff. Various factors are weighed to determine our audit plan.

What is an Audit?

An audit is an independent review of county operations and financial activities. During an audit we evaluate your internal control system and may suggest ways to improve the operational effectiveness and profitability of your area. We look at the degree of risk – the risk of your organization not meeting its objectives – also we evaluate the risk of fraud in your organization. We realize you are busy and having us around can be disruptive. We try to minimize interruptions of your regular work, and keep open communication with you about the audit.

Who are the Auditors?

We are a team comprised of experienced individuals. We have varied business experiences. Many of us have professional certifications such as Certified Government Financial Manager, Certified Public Accountant, Certified Internal Auditor and Certified Fraud Examiner.

Who is the Controller?

The County Controller, Glenn Eckhart, is an elected official, independent of the administrative, legislative and judicial branches of Lehigh County Government. Audit reports are issued to the auditee management, the County Executive and the Board of Commissioners and any other parties in charge of governance. All audit reports are a matter of public record and are available on the County of Lehigh website under the Office of the Controller. Reports issued by the Office of the Controller are available on the internet at:

http://www.lehighcounty.org Select Departments, Controller, Reports by Year (2008 to the present)

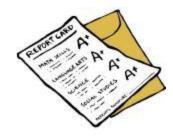
County Of Lehigh Office Of The Controller Audit Effectiveness Questionnaire

Beginning in late 1998, the office of the controller sent an audit effectiveness questionnaire to the audited management after each audit was completed. Our questionnaire topics included audit planning, fieldwork and reporting. Ratings from 1 (inadequate) to 5 (excellent) were requested for each of 13 questions related to our audit performance. Other written comments were also requested from the audited management.

The average of the responses received rated our performance as 4.9 in 2012. The following are the ratings for the last five years:



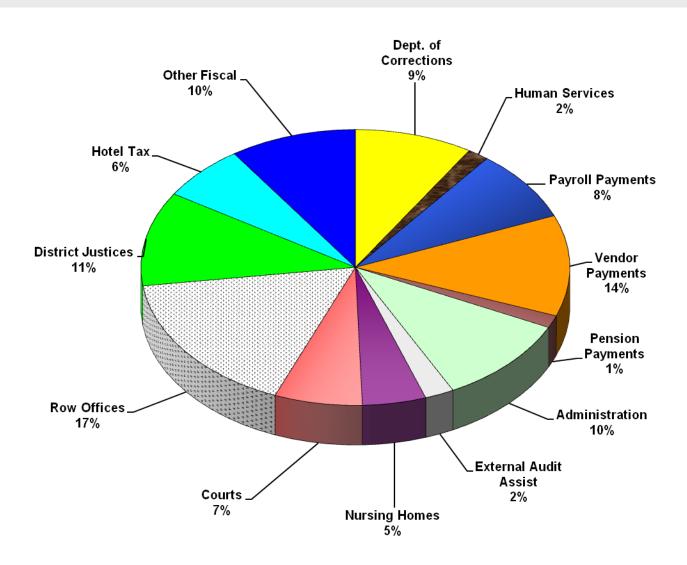
4.8 in 20134.9 in 2012
4.6 in 2011
4.6 in 2010
4.3 in 2009



The questionnaire describes a 4 rating as "very good" and a 5 as "excellent."

The questionnaire is helpful to gauge the effectiveness of our audits and the degree of customer satisfaction. The input received helps us in the planning and performance of future audits. We thank all who took the time to respond to the questionnaire.

(percentages rounded)



County Of Lehigh Office Of The Controller Risk-Based Auditing



Audit Plans are Based on Risk Assessment:

We classify our audit population into three categories.

Class one audits are those audits we have to do because of statutory requirement (county or state.) These class one audits include what we classify as "Continuous Audits" – the verification of monthly reported revenue for row offices and magisterial district court offices, weekly vendor payment reviews, bi-weekly payroll reviews, monthly pension payment reviews and other periodic disbursements made by the county.

Class two audits are generally discretionary and are scheduled based on individual priority and staff time availability. This is an ongoing list to be expanded as we identify changing risk factors and additional audit areas. We refer to these audits as "**Periodic Risk-based Audits**" – involving financial / attestation / performance audits requiring analytical review, substantive detail testing , tests of internal control, and management effectiveness & efficiency.

Class three audits are "**High Priority**" (fraud, ethics hotline, or special request) audits. This work is generally not known ahead of time. Class three audits require immediate focus and attention and are given priority over class one and two audit work.

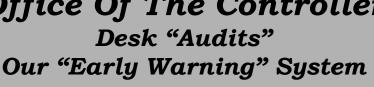
The next page shows our 2013 budget costs (\$711,792) allocated among the types of audits described above using the **program based budgeting** approach. Costs were allocated to audit areas based on a weighted average of actual auditor hours (7.44 full time equivalent FTE) for the period 2011 & 2012. Our audit cycle is best viewed from looking at worked performed over a two to three year period.

County of Lehigh Office of the Controller Program Based Budgeting Results



Lehigh County, Pennsylvania - Program Based Budgeting - For 2013 Program Inventory - 2013 Budget \$711,792 \$ 656,540 \$ 55,252 Controller's Office - Employee FTE **DEPARTMENT** DIVISION PROGRAM NAME PROG. # Personnel Non-Personnel **DOB** Related Related Controller's Continuous **Bid Control** 10700 9133 1,851 0.02 1,707 144 Office **Audits** Controller's Continuous 10700 Cash Count Audits 9134 19,574 0.20 \$ 18,055 \$ 1,519 Office **Audits** Magisterial District Controller's Continuous \$ \$ 10700 **Court Monthly** 9135 49,114 0.51 45,301 3,812 Office Audits Reports **Pension Board** Controller's Continuous 10700 9136 1,851 0.02 \$ 1,707 \$ Investment 144 Office Audits Oversight Routine Disbursement Controller's Continuous 10700 Reviews 9137 \$ 158,730 1.66 146,408 12,321 Office **Audits** (Continuous Audits) **Row Office** Controller's Continuous 10700 9138 30,678 0.32 \$ 28,297 \$ 2,381 Office **Audits** Reports Ad Hoc Controller's **High Priority** \$ 10700 Performance 9139 19,574 18,055 \$ 0.20 1,519 Office **Audits** Audits Controller's **High Priority** 10700 **Ethics Hotline** 9140 10,748 0.11 \$ 9,914 \$ 834 Office **Audits** Controller's **High Priority** Fraud \$ \$ 10700 9141 19,574 0.20 18,055 1,519 Office **Audits** Investigations Periodic Risk Controller's Periodic Risk-10700 Based Audits -9142 26,052 0.27 \$ 24,029 \$ 2,022 Office based Audits Cedarbrook Periodic Risk Controller's Periodic Risk-10700 Based Audits -9143 43,704 0.46 \$ 40,312 \$ 3,392 Office based Audits Corrections Periodic Risk-Controller's Periodic Risk-10700 Based Audits -9144 145,917 1.53 \$ 134,591 \$ 11,327 Office based Audits **County Admin** Periodic Risk-Controller's Periodic Risk-10700 Based Audits -9145 85,913 0.90 79,244 6,669 Office based Audits Courts Periodic Risk-Controller's Periodic Risk-\$ 10700 Based Audits -9146 57,513 0.60 53,048 4,464 Office based Audits **Row Offices** Periodic Risk-Controller's Periodic Risk-10700 40,999 \$ **Based Audits** 9147 0.43 37,817 3,183 Office based Audits **Human Services**

County Of Lehigh Office Of The Controller





What is a Desk Audit?

A desk audit is not really an audit at all. It is a spot check clerical review of monthly reports which acts as an early warning system intended to provide ongoing oversight for cash handling offices. If anything unusual is noted during a desk audit, the auditors look into the matter immediately. These monthly clerical reviews serve to highlight any unusual situation in a timely manner that requires our attention. Ultimately, full financial or performance audits are performed based on our risk assessment on a cyclical basis.

2013 Desk Audits:

<u>Row Offices</u> – Monthly desk audits of row office reports for the period January 2013 through December 2013 (continuous monitoring).

Register of Wills Division *
Recorder of Deeds Division*
Clerk of Courts Criminal Division*
Clerk of Courts Civil Division*
Orphans Court Office
Coroner's Office
Sheriff's Office



^{*} These offices are part of the Clerk of Judicial Records Office.

<u>Magisterial District Judges</u> - Monthly desk audits of 14 Magisterial District Court offices' reports for the period January 2013 through December 2013 (continuous monitoring).

<u>Purpose of Audits</u> – **For the row offices**: to verify sequential receipt usage; to verify reported revenue matches bank deposits and actual receipt of funds by the office of fiscal affairs; and to verify bank reconciliations are performed on a timely basis.

For the magisterial district court offices: to verify the county share of costs & fines collected and remitted; to verify escrow balance control; and to verify monthly bank account reconciliations.

County Of Lehigh Office Of The Controller 2013 Hotel Room Rental Tax Audits





Hotel Tax - Summary Compilation of: 2012 Hotel Tax Audits / Fiscal Office Operations - Report #13-45

Purpose of Audits – To verify the accuracy of the amounts remitted by Lehigh County hotel operators for hotel room rental tax and to determine compliance to the "Hotel Room Rental Tax Rules and Regulations" for the calendar year ending December 31, 2012. Audit Type: Agreed-Upon-Procedures (Financial/Attestation). *We continue to reduce the number of audits due to manpower constraints*. Individual hotel audits performed in 2013 were:

Allenwood Motel	No Audit	Homewood Suites Altwn West	13-36
Best Western / Altwn Inn & Suites	13-34	Homewood Sts Airport	13-42
Comfort Inn	No Audit	Hotel Traylor	No Audit
Comfort Suites of Allentown	13-29	Howard Johnson Inn	13-32
Courtyard by Marriott	13-24	Iron Run Motel	No Audit
Days Inn/America's Best Value Inn	No Audit	Knight Inn and Suites	13-41
Dockside Bed and Breakfast	No Audit	Lehigh Motor Inn	No Audit
Econo Lodge Allentown	13-26	Quality Inn	13-38
Egyptian Sands Motel	No Audit	Ramada Inn	No Audit
Executive Inn	No Audit	Red Carpet Inn	No Audit
Fairfield Inn Bethlehem	No Audit	Red Roof Inn	No Audit
Fine Lodging	No Audit	Residence Inn by Marriot	13-25
Four Points Sheraton (Marshall)	No Audit	Rodeway Inn and Conf. Center	No Audit
Four Points Sheraton (3400)	No Audit	Royal Motel	No Audit
Four Points Sheraton (SKYP)	No Audit	Saucon Valley Country Club	13-21
Glasbern	13-23	Scottish Inn - Catasauqua Road	No Audit
Hamilton Tower	No Audit	Scottish Inn - Center Valley	No Audit
Hampton Inn	13-37	Sleep Inn	No Audit
Hawthorn Suites	13-39	Staybridge Suites - Airport	No Audit
Hilton Garden Inn - Airport	13-27	Staybridge Suites - Altwn West	No Audit
Hilton Garden Inn - Altwn West	13-40	Stone House Inn & Spa	13-33
Holiday Inn Allentown - Ctr City	13-31	Super 8 Motel - Airport Road	13-35
Holiday Inn Conference Center	13-30	Super 8 Motel - Golden Key Road	No Audit
Holiday Inn Express Hotel	No Audit	Wingate by Wyndham	No Audit

County Of Lehigh Office Of The Controller 2013 Magisterial District Court Audits



Magisterial District Court Audits – 14 Offices

Financial Audits - For the Years Ended December 31, 2010 & 2011 * Purpose of Audit

To examine the detail records supporting the monthly Magisterial District Justice reports and fees remitted to Lehigh County.

		Report #
District Court: 31-3-02	Michael Faulkner	#13-01
District Court: 31-1-07	Robert C. Halal	#13-03
District Court: 31-1-08	Anthony G. Rapp, Jr.	#13-04
District Court: 31-1-08	Michael J. Pochron	#13-05
District Court: 31-1-01	Patricia M. Engler	#13-06
District Court: 31-2-02	Jacob E. Hammond	#13-07
District Court: 31-2-03	Donna R. Butler	#13-08
District Court: 31-3-01	Rod R. Beck	#13-09
District Court: 31-1-06	Wayne Maura	#13-10
District Court: 31-1-05	Michael D. D'Amore	#13-11
District Court: 31-2-01	Karen C. Devine	#13-12
District Court: 31-1-04	David M. Howells, Jr.	#13-14
District Court: 31-1-04	David M. Howells, Jr.	#13-15
District Court: 31-1-02	Maryesther S. Merlo	#13-17
District Court: 31-1-02	Maryesther S. Merlo	#13-18
District Court: Magister	ial District Court Summary	#13-22





* Magisterial District Court Audits Issued in 2012:

Magisterial District Court # 31-01-03 Ronald S. Manescu Report #12-34 Magisterial District Court # 31-03-03 David B. Harding Report #12-35

County Of Lehigh Office Of The Controller 2013 Disbursement Audits



2012 Year-End Vendor Payment Audit – Report #13-16

Compliance Audit – For the Calendar Year Ended December 31, 2012

Approximately 42,000 vendor payments amounting to \$201 million were issued by the Office of Fiscal Affairs during calendar year 2012.

Purpose of Audit

To evaluate compliance to the County of Lehigh Home Rule Charter and the Administrative code for vendor payments during 2012.

2012 Year-End Pension Payment Audit – Report #13-20

Compliance Audit – For the Calendar Year Ended December 31, 2012

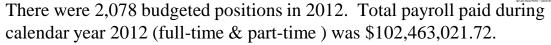
Active County of Lehigh pension participants rose from 1,352 at December 31, 2011 to 1,421 at December 31, 2012. The Office of Fiscal Affairs processed approximately 17,000 pension payments totaling over \$22 million during calendar year 2012.

Purpose of Audit

To evaluate compliance to the County of Lehigh Home Rule Charter and the Administrative code for pension payment processing during 2012.

2012 Year-End Payroll Audit - Report # 13-44

Performance Audit - For the Year Ended December 31, 2012



Purpose of Audit

To review year-end external payroll reports and procedures and compile internal management reports on overtime, part-time employees, excessive compensatory time, excessive vacation time, inactive employees, and other payroll & human resources performance issues.



Compliance to Tax Delinquent/Unpaid Rent Provisions of Section 801.2: (B),(C),(D),(E) of the County of Lehigh Administrative Code - Report # 13-46

Compliance Audit – For the Year Ended December 31, 2012

Purpose of Audit

Audit of compliance to the tax delinquent / unpaid rent provisions of the county Administrative Code.



Real Estate Tax Collections – Office of Fiscal Affairs – Report #13-48

Financial Audit – For the Tax Year Ended December 31, 2012

Purpose of Audit

To audit the 2012 county real estate taxes reported by the county Fiscal Officer as collected (or turned over) to the county tax claim bureau.



Bureau of Collections – Office of Fiscal Affairs – Report #13-28

Financial Audit – For the Year Ended December 31, 2012

<u>Purpose of Audit</u>

To audit the 2012 collection of criminal court costs, fines, restitution and other costs due from inmates released from Lehigh County Prison.





Real Estate Tax Collections - Office of Fiscal Affairs - Report #13-19

Compliance Audit – For the Years 2009, 2010, 2011

Purpose of Audit

To audit compliance to the county vehicle policy as described in Lehigh County Ordinance #1995-143 "Revising the Vehicle Policy for the County of Lehigh".



Collection of Forfeited Bail Bonds (Bonding Agents / Insurance Companies) - Department of Law - Report #13-52



Financial Audit – For the Period January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2012 Purpose of Audit

To audit case monitoring and collection efforts for forfeited bail covered by bonding agents and insurance companies.

Examination of Computer Equipment Inventory – Office of Information Technology – Report #13-47



Compliance Audit – Inventory as of February 8, 2012

<u>Purpose of Audit</u>

To audit compliance to Lehigh County Administrative Notice #2006-01 -

"Computer Equipment & Software" and to verify county IT equipment was properly monitored.



Clerk of Judicial Records – Civil Division – Report #13-49

Financial Audit – For the Years Ended December 31, 2010, 2011, 2012 <u>Purpose of Audit</u>

To verify the amounts reported as receipts and disbursements, and to determine the adequacy of internal control over cash handling for civil case activity in Lehigh County.

Clerk of Judicial Records – Criminal Division – Report #13-53



Financial Audit – For the Years Ended December 31, 2010, 2011, 2012 <u>Purpose of Audit</u>

To verify the amounts reported as receipts and disbursements, and to determine the adequacy of internal control over cash handling for criminal case activity in Lehigh County.

Nursing Home Fund – Cedarbrook Nursing Home – Report #13-51

Financial Audit – For the Year Ended December 31, 2012 <u>Purpose of Audit</u>

To verify the amounts reported as receipts and disbursements, and to determine the adequacy of internal control over cash handling for resident trustee accounts, gift shop and craft sale activity, and investment advisory account activity.

Community Corrections Center-Department of Corrections - Report #13-50

Financial Audit – For the Years Ended December 31, 2011, 2012 <u>Purpose of Audit</u>

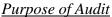
To verify the amounts reported as receipts and disbursements, and to determine the adequacy of internal control over cash handling for inmate work release payroll and subsequent payment of inmate room & board, costs and fines, domestic relations obligations and other inmate disbursements.

INMATES



Confidential Independent Integrity in Government ETHICS HOTLINE ACTIVITY- (610) 782-3999

See Summary Report #13-13 (2012Activity)



A confidential telephone message system available to employees and the general public to report suspected fraud, waste and abuse. This report summarizes the prior year activity.





Office of Aging and Adult Services, Time Reporting Procedures Special Investigation – Report #13-43

Compliance Audit – for the Period March - May 2013 <u>Purpose of Audit</u>

To investigate potential time reporting irregularities reported on ethics hotline call E13-06.





All cases of suspected fraud, waste or abuse should be reported to the Controller Office.

County Of Lehigh Office Of The Controller

Other Duties and Responsibilities



- •Lost, Missing, Stolen Property Reporting Liaison
- County Officials' Bonds Depository
- •Bail Forfeiture Monitoring
- •Review of Bureau of Collections Check Disbursements



- •Review of Work Release Check Disbursements
- •Monitor Check Sequences for HealthChoices Checks, Worker's Compensation
- •Review all Check and Direct Deposit Disbursements
- District Attorney Drug Forfeiture Reporting
- •Audit Planning County-Wide Risk Assessment
- County Pension Policy Issues
- •Payments by the County to Bail Bondsmen

EXTERNAL AUDITOR ASSISTANCE - Audit of Cash - Office of Fiscal Affairs – For the Calendar Year 2012

<u>Purpose Of Audit</u>

Audit of existence, recording and classification of all County cash amounts as of December 31, 2012. This audit work reduces county cost by providing external audit assistance.

County Of Lehigh Office Of The Controller Other Duties and Responsibilities



SURPRISE CASH COUNTS

The office of the controller also performs random, unannounced cash counts of offices that maintain a change fund or petty cash fund. Every office that handles cash is subject to surprise cash counts.

BID CONTROL

Receive and secure advertised bids and requests for proposals issued by the office of purchasing. Open bids and monitor bid tabulation.

LEHIGH COUNTY PENSION BOARD

The Controller, Glenn Eckhart, serves as Secretary of the Lehigh County Pension Board.

People think its hard to do the right thing...

It's not hard to do the right thing. It's hard to know what the right thing is. And once you know what is right...It's hard not to do it.

Author Unknown – from the film "Sling Blade" released in 1996

ETHICS HOTLINE - (610) 782-3999

Confidential Independent Integrity in Government





Glenn Eckhart, Controller

Report Prepared by John A. Falk, Deputy Controller

County of Lehigh Office of the Controller



General Office 610-782-3082

Contact Information



Name	Title	Phone	E-mail
Glenn Eckhart	Controller	610-782- 3178	glenneckhart@lehighcounty.org
John Falk	Deputy Controller	610-782- 3083	johnfalk@lehighcounty.org
Cindy Achey	Assistant Operations Manager	610-782- 3082	cindyachey@lehighcounty.org
David Joseph	Senior Auditor	610-782- 3914	davidjoseph@lehighcounty.org
Thomas Schweyer	Senior Auditor	610-782- 3912	thomasschweyer@lehighcounty.org
Robert Fenstermaker	Auditor	610-782- 3913	robertfenstermaker@lehighcounty.org
Stephen Berndt	Auditor	610-782- 3915	stephenberndt@lehighcounty.org

Copies of the completed audit reports are available on the Lehigh County website under the Office of the Controller or call our office at 610-782-3082.