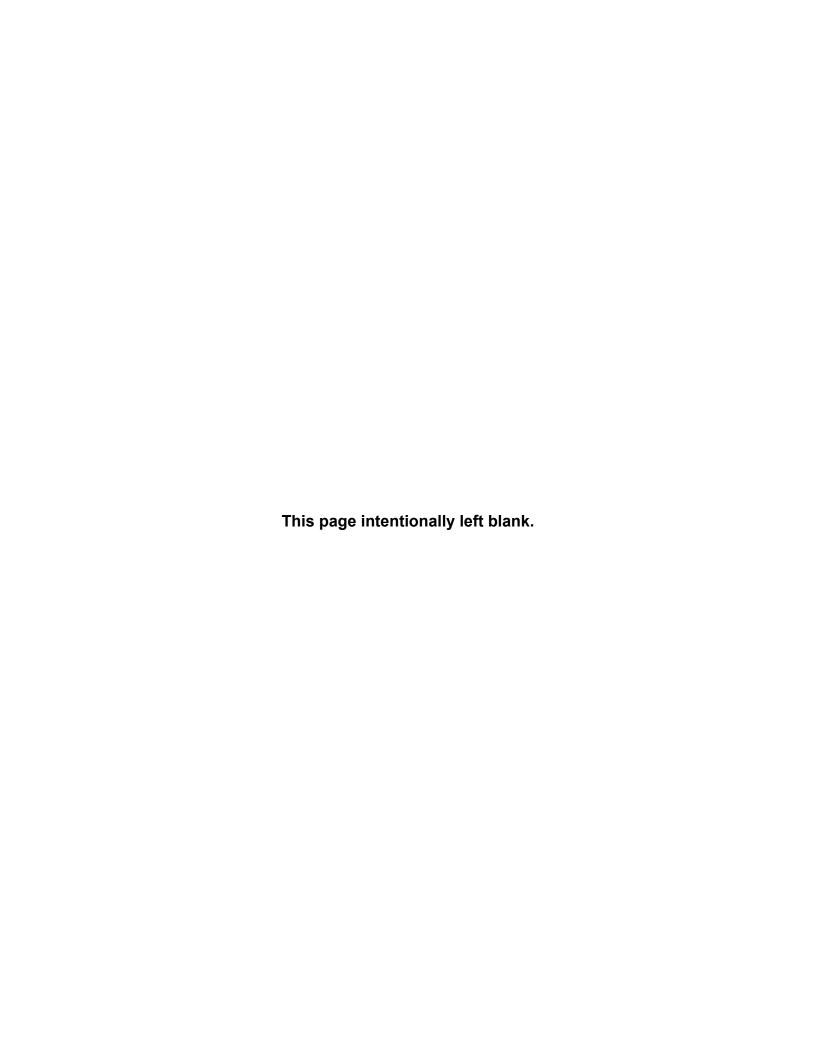




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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Village of New Riegel Seneca County 13 W. Findlay St., P.O. Box 8 New Riegel, OH 44853-0008

To the Village Council:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Village of New Riegel, Seneca County (the Village) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Village's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 1, the Village prepares its financial statements on the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances and reserves for encumbrances of the Village of New Riegel, Seneca County, as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated March 17. 2003 on our consideration of the Village's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audits.

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Village of New Riegel Seneca County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

Butty Montgomery

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, Village Council, and other officials authorized to receive this report under § 117.26, Ohio Revised Code, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

March 17, 2003

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002

	Governmental Fund Types			
	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)	
Cash Receipts:				
Property Tax and Other Local Taxes	\$160,544		\$160,544	
Intergovernmental Receipts	60,930	\$9,907	70,837	
Charges for Services	25,540		25,540	
Fines, Licenses, and Permits	7,196		7,196	
Earnings on Investments	4,345	1,583	5,928	
Miscellaneous	1,806		1,806	
Total Cash Receipts	260,361	11,490	271,851	
Cash Disbursements:				
Current: Security of Persons and Property	80,693		80,693	
Public Health Services	898		898	
Leisure Time Activities	5,997		5,997	
Basic Utility Services	37,585		37,585	
Transportation	258	9,441	9,699	
General Government	67,229	0,111	67,229	
Capital Outlay	23,865		23,865	
Total Cash Disbursements	216,525	9,441	225,966	
Total Receipts Over Disbursements	43,836	2,049	45,885	
Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements):				
Sale of Bonds or Notes	39,717		39,717	
Transfers-Out	(21,000)		(21,000)	
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	18,717		18,717	
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over Cash Disbursements				
and Other Financing Disbursements	62,553	2,049	64,602	
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	384,668	40,117	424,785	
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$447,221	\$42,166	\$489,387	
Reserves for Encumbrances, December 31	\$95,890	\$32,983	\$128,873	

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ENTERPRISE FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002

	Proprietary Fund Type
	Enterprise
Operating Cash Disbursements: Personal Services Contractual Services	\$18 6,486
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	6,504
Operating Loss	(6,504)
Transfers-In	21,000
Net Receipts Over Disbursements	14,496
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	195_
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$14,691
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	\$5,519

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001

	Governmental Fund Types			
	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)	
Cash Receipts:				
Property Tax and Other Local Taxes	\$153,333		\$153,333	
Intergovernmental Receipts	65,440	\$10,528	75,968	
Charges for Services	24,087		24,087	
Fines, Licenses, and Permits	9,214		9,214	
Earnings on Investments	10,142	4,010	14,152	
Miscellaneous	6,748		6,748	
Total Cash Receipts	268,964	14,538	283,502	
Cash Disbursements: Current:				
Security of Persons and Property	63,248		63,248	
Public Health Services	1,200		1,200	
Leisure Time Activities	4,101		4,101	
Transportation	360	13,300	13,660	
General Government	65,276	. 0,000	65,276	
Debt Service:	,			
Principal Payments	12,500		12,500	
Capital Outlay	92,606		92,606	
Total Cash Disbursements	239,291	13,300	252,591	
Total Receipts Over Disbursements	29,673	1,238	30,911	
Other Financing Disbursements:				
Transfers-Out	(675)		(675)	
Total Other Financing Disbursements	(675)		(675)	
Excess of Cash Receipts Over Cash Disbursements				
and Other Financing Disbursements	28,998	1,238	30,236	
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	355,670	38,879	394,549	
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$384,668	\$40,117	\$424,785	
Reserves for Encumbrances, December 31	\$3,989		\$3,989	

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ENTERPRISE FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001

	Proprietary Fund Type
	<u>Enterprise</u>
Operating Cash Disbursements: Contractual Services	\$8,230
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	8,230
Operating Loss	(8,230)
Transfers-In	675
Net Disbursements Over Receipts	(7,555)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	7,750
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$195</u>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	\$200

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

The Village of New Riegel, Seneca County (the Village) is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Village is directed by a publicly-elected six-member Council. The Village provides park operations and police services. The Village appropriates general fund money to support a volunteer fire department.

The Village's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Village is financially accountable.

B. Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

C. Cash

Certificates of deposit are valued at cost.

D. Fund Accounting

The Village uses fund accounting to segregate cash that is restricted as to use. The Village classifies its funds into the following types:

1. General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

2. Special Revenue Fund

These funds are used to account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Village had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

Street Construction, Maintenance and Repair Fund - This fund receives gasoline tax and motor vehicle tax money for constructing, maintaining and repairing Village streets.

State Highway Improvement Fund - This fund receives gasoline tax and motor vehicle tax money for constructing, maintaining and repairing Village streets.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

3. Enterprise Funds

These funds account for operations that are similar to private business enterprises where management intends that the significant costs of providing certain goods or services will be recovered through user charges. The Village had the following significant Enterprise Fund:

Sewer Improvement Fund - This fund received transfers from the General Fund to finance a mandated sewer project.

E. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

1. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Council must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

2. Estimated Resources

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus unencumbered cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must also approve estimated resources.

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Village to reserve (encumber) appropriations when commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be reappropriated. The Village did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2002 and 2001 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Property, Plant and Equipment

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH

The Village maintains a cash pool used by all funds. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits. The carrying amount of cash at December 31 was as follows:

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

	2002	2001
Demand deposits	\$504,078	\$374,980
Certificates of deposit		50,000
Total deposits	\$504,078	\$424,980

Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, or (2) collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Village.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2002 and 2001 follows:

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$282,701	\$300,078	\$17,377
Special Revenue	9,624	11,490	1,866
Enterprise	21,000	21,000	
Total	\$313,325	\$332,568	\$19,243

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	<u> </u>		
	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$359,476	\$333,415	\$26,061
Special Revenue	45,000	42,424	2,576
Enterprise	13,759	12,023	1,736
Total	\$418,235	\$387,862	\$30,373

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$248,861	\$268,964	\$20,103
Special Revenue	13,089	14,538	1,449
Enterprise		675	675
Total	\$261,950	\$284,177	\$22,227

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	_
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$331,250	\$243,955	\$87,295
Special Revenue	48,000	13,300	34,700
Enterprise	8,379	8,430	(51)
Total	\$387,629	\$265,685	\$121,944

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

4. COMPLIANCE

The Village did not certify funds as required by Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41 (D).

Records were disposed of contrary to Ohio Revised Code § 149.351.

5. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by Village Council. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. Homestead and rollback amounts are then paid by the State, and are reflected in the accompanying financial statements as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to make semiannual payments, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the Village.

Tangible personal property tax is assessed by the property owners, who must file a list of such property to the County by each April 30.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the Village.

6. LOCAL INCOME TAX

The Village levies a municipal income tax of one percent on substantially all earned income arising from employment, residency, or business activities within the Village as well as certain income of residents earned outside of the Village.

Employers within the Village withhold income tax on employee compensation and remit the tax to the Village either monthly or quarterly, as required. Corporations and other individual taxpayers pay estimated taxes quarterly and file a declaration annually.

7. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2002 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
Ohio Water Development Authority Loan	\$40,125	5.65%

The Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) loan relates to a sewer plant project that was mandated by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. The OWDA has approved up to \$92,008 in loans to the Village for this project. The loan will be repaid in one balloon payment due July 1, 2007. The Village has agreed to set utility rates sufficient to cover OWDA debt service requirements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

8. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Village's employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. This plan provides retirement benefits, including postretirement healthcare, and survivor and disability benefits to participants as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code.

Contribution rates are also prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. For 2002 and 2001, OPERS members contributed 8.5% of their wages. The Village contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries for 2002 and 2001. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2002.

9. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Village belongs to the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan (the Plan), an unincorporated non-profit association with over 600 governmental entity members providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services.

Pursuant to § 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Plan is deemed a separate legal entity. The Plan provides property, liability, errors and omissions, law enforcement, automobile, excess liability, crime, surety and bond, inland marine and other coverages, modified for each member's needs. The Plan pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the member's deductible.

The Plan uses conventional insurance coverages and reinsures these coverages 100%, rather than using a risk pool of member funds to pay individual and collective losses. Therefore, the individual members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts which vary from member to member.

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Village of New Riegel Seneca County 13 W. Findlay St., P.O. Box 8 New Riegel, OH 44853-0008

To the Village Council:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Village of New Riegel, Seneca County (the Village) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, and have issued our report thereon dated March 17, 2003. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Village's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audits and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2002-30574-001 and 2002-30574-002. We also noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Village in a separate letter dated March 17, 2003.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audits, we considered the Village's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving

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Village of New Riegel Seneca County Independent Accountants' Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Required by *Government Auditing Standards* Page 2

the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we noted other matters involving the internal control over financial reporting that do not require inclusion in this report, that we have reported to management of the Village in a separate letter dated March 17, 2003.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, and Village Council, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

Betty Montgomeny

March 17, 2003

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS

FINDING NUMBER 2002-30574-001

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(D) states that no subdivision shall make any contract or give any order involving the expenditure of money unless there is attached thereto a certificate of the fiscal officer of the subdivision. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required to meet such a commitment has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance.

The following exceptions to this basic requirement are provided by statute:

- A. Then and Now Certificate: This exception provides that, if the fiscal officer can certify that both at the time that the contract or order was made and at the time that he is completing his certification, sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any previous encumbrance, the taxing authority can authorize the drawing of a warrant. The taxing authority has 30 days from the receipt of such certificate to approve payment by resolution or ordinance. If approval is not made within 30 days, there is no legal liability on the part of the subdivision or taxing district.
- B. Amounts of less than \$1,000 may be paid by the fiscal officer without such affirmation of the taxing authority upon completion of the "then and now" certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful. This does not eliminate any otherwise applicable requirement for approval of expenditures by the taxing authority.

Fiscal officers may prepare so-called "blanket" certificates not exceeding \$5,000 against any specific line item account over a period not exceeding 3 months or running beyond the current fiscal year. The blanket certificates may, but need not, be limited to a specific vendor. Only one blanket certificate may be outstanding at one particular time for any one particular line item appropriation.

In addition to regular blanket certificates, a subdivision's fiscal officer may also issue a so-called "super blanket" certificates for any amount for expenditures and contracts from a specific line-item appropriation account in a specified fund for most professional services, fuel, oil, food items and any other specific recurring and reasonably predictable operating expense. This certification is not to extend beyond the fiscal year.

For approximately sixty-two percent of the expenditures we tested, the Purchase Order was not certified by the Clerk/Treasurer. For approximately seventeen percent of the expenditures tested, prior certification was not obtained nor was a then and now certificate utilized. We also noted several instances in which the super blanket certificate extended beyond fiscal year end.

We recommend that fiscal officer certification be obtained prior to making purchase commitments and all super blanket certificates/blanket certificates be closed at year end, unless they apply to an outstanding encumbrance.

Village of New Riegel Seneca County Schedule of Findings Page 2

FINDING NUMBER 2002-30574-002

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Revised Code § 149.351 states all records are the property of the public office concerned and shall not be removed, destroyed, mutilated, transferred, or otherwise damaged or disposed of, in whole or in part, except as provided by law or under the rules adopted by the records commission provided for under § 149.39 of the Revised Code. Such records shall be delivered by outgoing officials and employees to their successors and shall not be otherwise removed, transferred, or destroyed unlawfully. The Village was unable to locate the majority of Purchase Orders/Blanket Certificates for FY 2001 as well as several Purchase Orders/Blanket Certificates for FY 2002.

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND DECEMBER 31, 2001

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid;
2000-30574-001	Noncompliance Citation Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41 (B)	Yes	



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VILLAGE OF NEW RIEGEL SENECA COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED APRIL 10, 2003