



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State



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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Board of Directors
Hardin County Tourist and Convention Bureau
Hardin County
225 S. Detroit Street
Kenton, Ohio 43326

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, to which the management of the Hardin County Tourist and Convention Bureau, Hardin County (the Bureau) agreed, solely to assist the Bureau in evaluating whether it recorded all lodging taxes it received from Hardin County and the City of Kenton, and to help evaluate whether the Bureau disbursed these lodging taxes for allowable purposes described below for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007. The Bureau is responsible for disbursing lodging taxes for allowable purposes. We followed the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants' attestation standards for agreed-upon procedures engagements and applicable attestation engagement standards included in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. The sufficiency of the procedures is solely the responsibility of the Bureau. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

Cash Receipts

1. We confirmed with Hardin County and the City of Kenton the lodging taxes it paid to the Bureau during the years ending December 31, 2008 and 2007. The County and City confirmed the following amounts:

<u>Year Ended</u>	<u>Amount</u>
December 31, 2008	\$26,103
December 31, 2007	\$25,292

2. We compared the amounts from step 1. to amounts recorded as lodging tax receipts on the Bureau's Transaction Detail By Account Report . We found no exceptions.

Cash Disbursements

1. We inquired of management regarding sources describing allowable purposes or restrictions related to the Bureau's disbursements of lodging taxes. We listed these sources and summarized significant related restrictions below:

Source of Restrictions

- a. The Bureau's Articles of Incorporation
- b. The Bureau's 501(c)(6) Tax Exemption
- c. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5739.09(A)(2)

The Bureau's tax exemption prohibits it from disbursements supporting a candidate's election.

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5739.09(A)(2) restricts the Bureau to spending lodging tax "specifically for promotion, advertising, and marketing of the region in which the county is located ."

Auditor of State Bulletin 2003-005 deems any disbursement of public funds (e.g. lodging taxes) for alcohol to be improper.

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Cash Disbursements (Continued)

2. We haphazardly selected forty disbursements of lodging taxes from the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007 in addition to all disbursements exceeding \$1,000, and compared the purpose for these disbursements as documented on vendor invoices or other supporting documentation to the sources of restrictions listed in *Cash Disbursements Step 1.* above.

We found one exception: The Bureau issued Check No. 3497 for \$1,345.83 to pay for hotel accommodations for entertainers at Gene Autry Days. The detailed invoice for this expense was not maintained therefore we could not determine if all the costs on the bill (room service, etc.) were allowable.

We were not engaged to, and did not examine the Bureau's lodging tax receipts and disbursements for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, the objective of which would have been to opine on lodging tax receipts and disbursements. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that we would have reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Bureau and is not intended to be, and should not be used by anyone else.



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March 15, 2010



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HARDIN COUNTY TOURIST AND CONVENTION BUREAU

HARDIN 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.

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

**CERTIFIED
MAY 6, 2010**